



SAN ANTONIO
RIVER AUTHORITY
Water Brings Us Together

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News Release

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SECOND ANNUAL “GET OUTDOORS!” COMMUNITY EVENT TO BE HELD IN SAN ANTONIO ON SATURDAY, MARCH 6th

The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) and the National Park Service are hosting San Antonio’s second annual *Get Outdoors!* event on Saturday, March 6, 2010. This event is designed to get area youth outside and engaged with nature. It will take place at the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, Mission San José from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

More than fifty participating agencies, organizations and businesses will provide hands-on learning demonstrations, exhibits, presentations and information related to environmental education and outdoor activities. The first 1,500 children ages five to fifteen in attendance will receive an Explorer Backpack loaded with giveaways, including a \$10 gift certificate to Whole Earth Provision Co. Additional free environmental and outdoor giveaways and door prizes will be distributed throughout the day. Last year’s *Get Outdoors!* event drew over 4,000 attendees and more are expected this year.

“The National Park Service and San Antonio Missions National Park are excited to be teaming up with SARA again this year to host this event,” said Scott Bentley, Superintendent of San Antonio Missions National Park. “Last year’s event was a tremendous success and this year’s event is shaping up to be even better. We are thrilled to have such a great assortment of agencies and organizations lined up to educate children and their families about the many outdoor recreational opportunities in and around San Antonio.”

The location for this event, Mission San José, is located just west of the San Antonio River and is one of four missions south of downtown San Antonio. SARA is

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the project manager for the Mission Reach Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation Project, which will restore eight miles of the San Antonio River into a quality riparian woodland ecosystem and increase recreation opportunities along the San Antonio River. SARA will have a booth and two onstage demonstrations where attendees can learn more about our Mission Reach project and how it will add to the many excellent outdoor recreation opportunities in our area.

“The annual Get Outdoors event is the result of SARA’s strong relationship with the National Park Service and the partnership formed by the San Antonio River Improvements Project,” says Suzanne Scott, SARA’s General Manager. “When the Mission Reach river improvements project is complete, historical and cultural connections between the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park and the San Antonio River will be restored. This will lead to many new opportunities to get outdoors and enjoy the missions and the river.”

The City of San Antonio has played a vital role as a sponsor of this event by providing tables and chairs for the vendors. For more information about the *Get Outdoors!* event contact the San Antonio River Authority at (210) 302-3200.

The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) was created by the 45th Texas Legislature on May 5, 1937 and reorganized in 1961 to plan, manage and implement water-related programs and projects within the San Antonio River Basin. The State of Texas empowered SARA to preserve, protect and manage the resources and the ecology of the San Antonio River and its tributaries. To learn more about the SARA visit our website at www.sara-tx.org.

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