

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Winter Bird and Bat Festival Takes Flight at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park

Albuquerque, NM – Birds and bats will be featured at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park's annual Winter Bird and Bat Festival on Saturday, January 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Rio Grande Nature Center, the event focuses on bird and bat survival techniques, habitats and migration, bird conservation, as well as bird and bat identification. The Wildlife Rescue Center will also have live birds on hand.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about amazing creatures and get some fresh air and exercise in a beautiful, relaxing setting," said RGNC Park Superintendent Beth Dillingham. "There's something for everyone – adults and children of all ages, so bring the whole family for a day of fun."

The festival includes the following activities:

- Guided Bird Walks - 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m.
- Guided Nature Walk through the park – 10:30 a.m.
- Children's Activities - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Live Birds with Wildlife Rescue - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- "Bat White Nose Syndrome Table," Justin Stevenson - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- "Bird ID," Central Audubon Society – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Speakers and Presentations:

- "Learn eBird & Help Bird Conservation," Christopher Rustay – 10:30 a.m.
- "eBird Q&A Tutorial," Laurel Ladwig - 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- "Live Bats Captive Care Workshop," Laurie Wearne - 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- "Bat ID by Echolocation Signals," Claire Reardon - 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Cost for the event is \$3.00 per vehicle. The Rio Grande Nature Center State Park is located at 2901 Candelaria Road, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Contact the park at 505-344-7240 for more information.

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Conditions are Right for Adventure at Your New Mexico State Parks!

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

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