

Dear NPSOT Members –

*Ready for a multi-faceted look at Texas native plants?
Want to see where four of the regions of Texas converge?
Experience “Convergence and Diversity: Native Plants of South Central Texas”
at the 2006 NPSOT Symposium in San Antonio, October 19-22!*



Talking about gardening or conservation or native plants in Bexar County is like being a blind man describing an elephant—unless you know that South Central Texas’ four ecoregions converge here. We’ll show you what we mean when you get here.

This year the Symposium will be headquartered at the San Antonio Marriott Northwest hotel at the intersection of I-10 and Loop 410 on the northwest side of San Antonio. The hotel is beautiful and we have a block of rooms reserved for you at a discount.

We have provided you with a variety of opportunities associated with native plants, including GPS, bioengineering, art, cooking, restoration, riparian areas, landowner restoration, and weeds. We’ve planned activities both at the hotel as well as those requiring a bit of a drive. Most events are easy walking but a few are more challenging.

For you early birds, the Boerne Chapter of NPSOT will offer a Thursday activity at the Cibolo Nature Center in Boerne with guided tours, refreshments, and a presentation on preserving native plant communities in deer country. Come enjoy this opportunity to socialize with old friends.

Friday morning presentations will orient you to the area before you leave for field trips in the afternoon. Some field trips have a limited enrollment that is noted on the schedule. The field trips are led by experts with intimate knowledge of their particular landscapes and extensive knowledge and education in their fields. It won’t be the same going alone!

Saturday morning’s speakers discuss human interactions with the environment, and the afternoon includes NPSOT business necessary to keep us strong and effective. Workshops will also be offered for those of you working in formal or informal education or just for your own personal enjoyment. The day closes with the annual Awards Banquet at the Marriott. Sunday morning “going home” field trips will send you off happy.

As always we will have the silent auction and vendors offering enticing wares and plants for sale. Please contribute some must-have goodie to the auction. This year we have also invited non-profits to exhibit and share their work with you.

Teachers’ professional development credit is available through the Center for Science and Mathematics Education at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio. Master Naturalists will receive credit for advanced training. Master Gardeners, architects, landscape architects, and Professional Tour Guides can also receive continuing education credit by contacting your professional organization.

Y’all come, now, y’hear.



San Antonio Chapter of Native Plant Society of Texas