

WILDLIFE TRACKS

CLUES FOR NATURE DETECTIVES

OVERVIEW

Wildlife is a magnificent part of this riparian habitat along the river. We can increase our awareness and appreciation of them by looking for signs of their presence. Remember that you are a visitor in their environment and never approach a wild animal.

A NEW WORLD NEXT DOOR

Tracking sharpens awareness of your surroundings as you look for signs of wildlife such as tracks, trails, or **scat**, which is animal waste. Keep your eyes and ears open to make discoveries. Trained naturalists use tracking to learn more about the wildlife in the area. If you are interested in helping with flora and fauna counts, contact the Riverside Nature Center.

Please stay on the trail and always respect wildlife.



RED-EARED SLIDER

IMAGE SOURCE: Robert Pitzer, Natures



WILD TURKEY OR RIO GRANDE TURKEY

Turkey Tracks



WHITE-TAILED DEER



LOOK FOR DEER TRACKS IN DRIED MUD ALONG THE GUADALUPE RIVER



BEAVER CAN BE SUBMERGED FOR 15 MINUTES

Deer Tracks



Beaver Tracks



LESSER GOLDFINCH IN SYCAMORE TREE



BIRD TRACKS IN MUD

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

The nonpoisonous diamondback water snake looks similar to the poisonous water moccasin or cottonmouth. For this reason sometimes this common water snake is killed unnecessarily. It is an important part of our riparian ecosystem. Treat all snakes with respect and keep a distance.



NONPOISONOUS DIAMONDBACK WATER SNAKE



POISONOUS WATER MOCCASIN