



FALL FEST



PECAN BAKE-OFF RULES AND EVENT INFORMATION

The San Antonio River Authority (River Authority) is excited to host the 2026 Fall Festival at Helton Nature Park! This FREE community event will celebrate fall with FREE activities to include hayrides, live music and more! Food trucks and shopping vendors will be onsite selling items. Attendees are encouraged to wear costumes!

Why pecans? To honor the pecan grove at Helton Nature Park that is home to some of the largest pecan trees in the state. Visit the San Antonio River Authority Website to learn more about the baking contest, car show, costume contest, and all other event details.

Timing

- Baked goods must be dropped-off between 11:00 AM – Noon
- Judging will take place from Noon – 2:00 PM
- Item pickup from 2:00 PM – 2:30 PM
- Winners will be announced at 2:30 PM, after the costume walk

Rules and Information - Submissions

- Each participant can submit one item per category, categories are
 - Bars & Brownies
 - Breads & Cakes
 - Cookies
 - Pies
- All entries are to be submitted as a whole (complete pie, complete cake, etc.) or in the quantity of a dozen
- All entries must be submitted on a disposable paper plate for judging
- Please DO NOT submit anything that requires refrigeration
- All entries must contain pecans as an ingredient
- All entries must be made in a home kitchen
- All entries must be submitted with a recipe
- No mixes allowed

Rules and Information - Judging

- Scoring will be on the following items:
 - Taste - maximum 20 points
 - Texture - maximum 10 points
 - Appearance - maximum 10 points
 - Creativity - maximum 10 points
- Each judge will complete a score sheet for each entry in the category they are judging
- A combined score from all judges will be calculated to indicate the final scoring placement

Rules and Information - Prizes

- Prizes will be awarded to the participant that has the highest overall score in each category
- Must be present to win the prize, if the contestant is not present, the prize will go to the next selected entry