

Pima County Natural Resources October 2009 Programs (ALL PARKS)

Twilight Nature Walk

What: Take a relaxing, naturalist-guided stroll through the park and experience the quiet of the desert at dusk. One-hour guided walks on paved and gravel paths are open to all ages and abilities.

Date: Friday, October 2

Time: 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Where: Pima County Feliz Paseos Park, 1600 N. Camino de Oeste

On Camino de Oeste, ½ mile north of Speedway/Gates Pass Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Camouflage – Hide and Seek in the Desert

What: Have you ever wondered why a bobcat has spots or why female hummingbirds are so drab? Animals come in all sorts of colors to help them survive. Learn about how animals use colors and patterns to blend in. Then, create your own desert “hide-and-seek” game. Activity is best suited for children ages 5-12 accompanied by adults.

Date: Saturday, October 3

Time: Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Where: Woods Memorial Branch Library, 3455 N. First Ave., 85719

Cost/Age: free, ages 5-12 accompanied by adults

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

The Secret Lives of Bobcats and Mountain Lions

What: Wildlife ecologists Kathie Schroeder and Jessica Lamberton will give a digital slide presentation about Tucson area bobcats and mountain lions; how they affect our lives and how we affect theirs. Following the slide presentation there will be a chance to see a live bobcat.

Date: Saturday, October 3

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Brown Canyon Botany Hike

What: Join esteemed local ethnobotanist Dan Austin for a day-long hike through Brown Canyon in the Baboquivari Mountains, a location know for its rich biodiversity. The hike will be 3 to 4 total miles, with some moderately steep areas. Registered participants will car pool from a designated area. **Reservations required. Fee \$10.**

Date: Friday, October 9

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Where: 3770 S. Mission Rd.

Cost/Age: \$10, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations required.

Sonoran Desert Kids Club: Nature Discovery Tools

What: Join us as we explore the diversity of wildlife at Agua Caliente Park through activities and tools included in our brand new nature packs. Each club member will receive a discovery guide with tips for more outdoor excursions in Pima County parks. Children ages 8-12. **Reservations required.**

Date: Saturday, October 10

Time: 9:30 a.m. – noon

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, children ages 8-12

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations required.

Nature Stories at Agua Caliente Park

What: Listening to stories is a wonderful way for children to learn about the natural world around them. Join us for a story reading at the park, followed by a craft activity. This program is a partnership between Pima County Natural Resources and Tucson Audubon Society.

When: Friday, October 9

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Ages: free, younger children and their parents

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Historical Tour of Agua Caliente Park

What: Enjoy a guided tour of the historic buildings and landscape to understand how the year-round presence of water from the spring shaped the lives of people and how people shaped the land.

Date: Saturday, October 10

Time: 11:00 a.m. - noon

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Wednesday Sonoran Desert Weedwackers

What: Join the Sonoran Desert Weedwackers and do your part in restoring the health of the desert. The Weedwackers work to eradicate buffelgrass and fountain grass in Tucson Mountain Park and may require hiking and pulling buffelgrass on steep slopes. For meeting location, call 520-615-7855 or email eeducation@pima.gov.

Date: Wednesday, October 14

Time: 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Tucson Mountain Park at 2020 N. Kinney Road - **call for meeting location.**

Cost/Age: free, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: If you plan to attend, contact eeducation@pima.gov or call 520-615-7855.

Birds and Botany of Feliz Paseos Park

What: Join a Pima County naturalist on easy walking trails to learn about common desert birds and plants. We are sure to see verdins, Gambel's quail, cactus wrens and curve-billed thrashers among the stands of saguaros and cholla cacti, palo verde and ironwood trees.

Date: Wednesday, October 14

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Feliz Paseos Park, 1600 N. Camino de Oeste

On Camino de Oeste, ½ mile north of Speedway/Gates Pass Road

Cost/Age: free, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Home is Where the Hole is

What: Have you ever noticed a hole in the ground and wondered what animal made it? Holes, depressions and burrows in the ground are a little investigated phenomenon that presents a fascinating look into the lives of our wildlife neighbors. Pinau Merlin, a naturalist and author of several books including *The Field Guide to Desert Holes*, will lead this walk. Best for ages 12 and up. **Reservations required. Fee \$10.**

Date: Thursday, October 15

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Pima County Tucson Mountain Park

Cost/Age: \$10, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations required.

Saturday Sonoran Desert Weedwackers

What: Join the Sonoran Desert Weedwackers and do your part in restoring the health of the desert. The Weedwackers work to eradicate buffelgrass and fountain grass in Tucson Mountain Park. For meeting location, call 520-615-7855 or email eeducation@pima.gov.

Date: Saturday, October 17

Time: 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Tucson Mountain Park at 2020 N. Kinney Road - **call for meeting location.**

Cost/Age: free, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: If you plan to attend, contact eeducation@pima.gov or call 520-615-7855.

Life in the Pond

What: The palm-lined ponds at Agua Caliente Park are more than just pretty sights. They are freshwater communities containing diverse life forms, from native ducks to exotic fish and turtles. Come and explore how the many pond species are interconnected, and how this desert oasis supports life that otherwise wouldn't survive in the Sonoran Desert.

Date: Saturday, October 17

Time: 11:00 a.m. - noon

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Butterflies of Honeybee Canyon

What: Local naturalist Jeff Babson will lead a 2 to 3 mile easy hike through Honeybee Canyon in the Tortolita Mountains. He will identify local butterflies along the way and discuss their ecology and life histories. **Reservations required. Fee \$10.**

Date: Friday, October 23

Time: 9:00 a.m. - noon

Where: 13880 N Rancho Vistoso Blvd, Oro Valley

Cost/Age: \$10, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations required.

Nature Stories at Agua Caliente Park

What: Listening to stories is a wonderful way for children to learn about the natural world around them. Join us for a story reading at the park, followed by a craft activity. This program is a partnership between Pima County Natural Resources and Tucson Audubon Society.

When: Friday, October 23

Time: 10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Ages: free, younger children and their parents

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Outdoor Family Day: Go Batty!

What: Learn about the fascinating lives of bats while working as a team to net bat replicas, take measurements and look for other clues to identify the bats. Then the teams discuss the results and compare data from actual bat research in the Sonoran desert. Families with children ages 5-12.

Reservations required.

Date: Saturday, October 24

Time: 10:00 a.m. - noon

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, families with children ages 5-12

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations required.

The Wonderful World of Bats

What: As the world's only flying mammals, bats eat tons of mosquitoes, some prey on scorpions, and others drink nectar. Bats play very important roles in the environment, but their lives are shrouded in mystery and misunderstanding. Activity is best suited for children ages 5-12 accompanied by adults.

Date: Saturday, October 24

Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Where: Mission Branch Library, 3770 S. Mission Road, 85713

Cost/Age: free, ages 5-12 accompanied by adults

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Birds and Botany of Feliz Paseos Park

What: Join a Pima County naturalist on easy walking trails to learn about common desert birds and plants. Verdins, Gambel's quail, cactus wrens and curve-billed thrashers are commonly seen among the saguaro and cholla cacti, palo verde and ironwood trees.

Date: Wednesday, October 28

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Feliz Paseos Park, 1600 N. Camino de Oeste

On Camino de Oeste, ½ mile north of Speedway/Gates Pass Road

Cost/Age: free, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Wednesday Sonoran Desert Weedwackers

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Date: Wednesday, October 28

Time: 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Tucson Mountain Park at 2020 N. Kinney Road - **call for meeting location.**

Cost/Age: free, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: If you plan to attend, contact eeducation@pima.gov or call 520-615-7855.

Home is Where the Hole is

What: Have you ever noticed a hole in the ground and wondered what animal made it? Holes, depressions and burrows in the ground are a little investigated phenomenon that presents a fascinating look into the lives of our wildlife neighbors. Pinau Merlin, a naturalist and author of several books including *The Field Guide to Desert Holes*, will lead this walk. Best for ages 12 and up. **Reservations required. Fee \$10.**

Date: Thursday, October 29

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Pima County Tucson Mountain Park

Cost/Age: \$10, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations required.

Brown Mountain Cactus Hike

What: Pima County naturalist Meg Quinn will lead a 5-mile moderately steep hike on Brown Mountain. She will identify the common local cacti and discuss their ecology and uses. **Reservations required.**

Date: Friday, October 30

Time: 9:00 a.m. - noon

Where: 2020 N. Kinney Rd

Cost/Age: free, ages 12 and up

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations required.

The Wonderful World of Bats

What: As the world's only flying mammals, bats eat tons of mosquitoes, some prey on scorpions, and others drink nectar. Bats play very important roles in the environment, but their lives are shrouded in mystery and misunderstanding.

Date: Saturday, October 31

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages

For more information contact: If you plan to attend, contact eeducation@pima.gov or call 520-615-7855.

Reservations not required.

Wake Up with the Birds

What: Desert meets water at this unique crossroads for migratory and resident birds. Spot wetland birds, hummingbirds, songbirds and raptors nestled among the mesquites and palm trees. Binoculars are available for use or bring your own.

Date: Every Thursday in October

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Reservations not required.

Agua Caliente Park Ranch House Gallery

What: *Out West* with Michael Lundquist, includes wildlife, landscapes, skies, western scenes and more, both studio and plein air works in oils and watercolors.

Date: September 18 – October 28, 2009

Agua Caliente Park Ranch House Hours: May – October: Tuesday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Agua Caliente Park Ranch House Gallery

What: *Visions of Abstraction and Realism*, Vonda Watson-Bostick: Ceramics and photography and Gwen Sossong: Collage

Date: October 30 – December 9

Agua Caliente Park Ranch House Hours: November - April: Wednesday – Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Tucson's River of Words 2009 Youth Poetry and Art Traveling Exhibit

What: See how local children express their understandings of watershed and share their view of the natural world in this exhibition of award winning poetry and mixed media art.

Date: September 9 – October 8

Time: Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Where: Pima County Juvenile Court, 2225 E. Ajo Way

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov

Tucson's River of Words 2009 Youth Poetry and Art Traveling Exhibit

What: See how local children express their understandings of watershed and share their view of the natural world in this exhibition of award winning poetry and mixed media art.

Date: October 9 – November 20

Time: Mon-Thu 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Fri 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sat 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Sun 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Where: Mission Branch Library, 3770 South Mission Rd.

Cost/Age: free, all ages welcome

For more information contact: 520-615-7855 or eeducation@pima.gov