

PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION VOLUNTEER NEWS

ISSUE NO. 57

JANUARY 2014

JANUARY PUBLIC PROGRAMS

AGUA CALIENTE PARK

Wake Up with the Birds

Every Thursday in January, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Nature Stories at Agua Caliente Park

Friday, January 3 and 17, 11:00 a.m. – Noon

A Night with the Stars

Saturday, January 4, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Historical Tour of Agua Caliente Park

Sunday, January 5 and 19, 11:00 a.m. – Noon

History of the Tanque Verde Valley*

Sunday, January 5, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

SD Kids Club: Nature Through a Lens*

Saturday, January 11, 9:30 a.m. – Noon

Nuts about Nature Preschool Hour

Wednesday, January 15, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Ancient Native American Pottery of So. Arizona*

Sunday, January 19, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

TUCSON MOUNTAIN PARK

Tucson Mountain Park Birding Walk

Saturday, January 4, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Sonoran Desert Weedwackers*

Wednesday, January 8; Saturday, January 18; Wednesday, January 22, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Outdoor Family Days: Nature's Own Cactus Garden*

Saturday, January 18, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Yetman Trail Hike*

Wednesday, January 29, 9:00 a.m. – Noon

OUT AND ABOUT IN PIMA COUNTY

Tour of Hacienda de la Canoa*

Every Tuesday and Saturday in January, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. and Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Paint Out in the Park

Saturday, January 4, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Birding at Sweetwater Wetlands

Tuesday, January 7, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Tucson Mountains Sweetwater Preserve Hike*

Friday, January 10, 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Cienega Creek Birding Walk

Saturday, January 11, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Birding at Hacienda de la Canoa*

Tue, January, 14, Sat, January 25, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Heritage Area Structures Rehabilitation Tour*

Wednesday, January 15 and 29, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Honey Bee Canyon Park Birding Walk

Saturday, January 18, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Beat Back Buffelgrass*

Saturday, January 25, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Outdoor Family Days: Wildlife at Cienega Creek*

Saturday, January 25, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

A Night with the Stars

Friday, January 24, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

*RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: 520-615-7855



Warren Lynn, ASDM Digital Library

VOLUNTEER MEETINGS

Learning about Arizona's Wild Cats

Friday, January 17, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Brandi Fenton Memorial Park Visitor Center, 3482 E. River Road

Volunteers Pat Monahan and Doris Evans will present a program on the natural history and ecology of our region's four wild cat species: the

mountain lion, bobcat, jaguar, and ocelot. Tips for living safely in harmony with these wild felids, particularly the more common bobcat and mountain lion, will be included. After the formal talk, Bill Kaufman, Doris and Pat will use skulls, tracks and pelts to share additional information informally with the group. Doris, Pat and Bill are docents at the Wild Cat Research and Conservation Center at the University of Arizona, managed by felid biologist Lisa Haynes. Please let Meg know at meg.quinn@pima.gov if you plan to attend.

Geologic History of the Tucson Mountains

Friday, February 7, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Desert Discovery Center (former site of SASI Sonoran Arthropod Studies Institute) Tucson Mountain Park, 7798 W. Gates Pass Road

Renowned geologist Bob Scarborough will give a presentation on the *Geologic History of the Tucson Mountains* and take us on a field trip.

The group will meet at the Desert Discovery Center for a classroom presentation followed by a walk on the lower Brown Mountain Trail. This session is primarily designed as a review for the Volunteer Naturalists at the Gilbert Ray Campground but other volunteers are invited to attend. Let Meg at meg.quinn@pima.gov know if you plan to attend.

TED WALKER YOUTH DAY AT OLD TUCSON STUDIOS

This annual program serves over 3,000 Tucson school children. Volunteers are needed to assist the Environmental Education team with a Sonoran Desert wildlife table. Volunteers need only to be able to provide general interpretation on local wildlife to elementary and middle school students. Ted Walker Youth Day is scheduled on Thursday, January 30 at Old Tucson Studios. Volunteers may sign up for either the morning shift, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., or the afternoon shift 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lunch is provided to all volunteers at the event. Please call or

**Interested in Volunteering? Email us at eeducation@pima.gov
Call us at Environmental Education Office 520-615-7855**

e-mail Steve Russell 615-7855 x101, steve.russell@pima.gov if you would like to volunteer.



NEW HISTORY LECTURE SERIES AT GREEN VALLEY LIBRARY

This winter, in addition to our popular history lecture series at Agua Caliente Park, we're partnering with the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance to offer a series of history programs about the Santa Cruz River Valley. The programs are by reservation and will be held on the following dates at the Joyner-Green Valley Library, 601 N. La Canada Drive. For reservations contact the library at 520-594-5295, or visit their web site at www.library.pima.gov/locations/greenvalley/. We hope to see you there.

Friday, January 24, 2:00 p.m. *Beloved Land: An Oral History of Mexican Americans in Southern Arizona*, author Patricia Preciado Martin.

Tuesday, January 28, 2:00 p.m. *The Spanish Presidio of Southern Arizona*, Historian Jim Turner.

Thursday, February 13, 2:00 p.m. *Peregrino Negroes: Wandering Blacks of Early Arizona*, Dr. Michael Engs.

Tuesday, February 25, 2:00 p.m. *Canoa Ranch: The History Continues*, Architectural Preservationist Simon Herbert.

Thursday, March 6, 2:00 p.m. *The History of the Santa Cruz Valley*, Anthropologist Tom Sheridan, Ph.D.

Tuesday, March 25, 2:00 p.m. *Mission Archaeology*, Historical Archaeologist Homer Thiel.

BEAT BACK BUFFELGRASS DAY

The annual Beat Back Buffelgrass Day is a community-wide event sponsored by the Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center (SABCC). Join your friends and neighbors on Saturday, January 25 to remove buffelgrass from our roadways, washes and parks! Sign up to help by going to www.buffelgrass.org to find a site near you or, if you have a site in mind, you may want to be a designated site leader for the day. This is also an educational opportunity to let the public know about the dangers of buffelgrass infestations in our urban and natural areas. Expect to see media coverage of the event including information on why buffelgrass is viewed as a serious threat.



Key Messages about Buffelgrass

- Unlike our forests, the desert is not adapted to fire. And buffelgrass is a wildfire waiting to happen.
- Buffelgrass forms dense patches and, when dry, burns readily and far hotter than native grasses and plants. The native vegetation, unaccustomed to fire, is permanently destroyed while buffelgrass thrives.
- As buffelgrass colonizes more areas, native plants and animals are displaced and the threat of fire increases across the landscape.

PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION VOLUNTEER NEWS

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PIMA COUNTY

Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation

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