



Park Programs Listings – December 2017

Online registration - www.pima.gov/nrpr

Program information - Phone: 520-724-5375 or Email: eeducation@pima.gov

Birding Agua Caliente Park

What: Take a guided walk through the park and along the ponds to see a variety of resident and migratory birds. Ducks should be arriving for the winter and we expect to see raptors, sparrows, and many other birds. Loaner binoculars available. All ages welcome.

Date: Every Thursday in December

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road 85749

Cost: Free with Membership, Non-Member \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Hike Richard McKee Finger Rock Trail

What: Enjoy a 2-3 mile, moderate-level hike along the Richard McKee Finger Rock Trail in the Pusch Ridge Wilderness. During the hike, learn about the Catalina Bighorn Sheep Reintroduction Project to restore bighorn sheep to their historic range in the Catalina Mountains. Ages 12 and up.

Date: Friday, December 1

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Richard McKee Finger Rock Trailhead, 7100 N. Alvernon Way 85718

Cost: Free with Membership, Non-Member \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Paint Out in the Park

What: Join Sonoran Plein Air Painters to learn some techniques for painting landscape scenes in the open air. Bring your own painting supplies. Ages 12 and up.

Date: Friday, December 1

Time: 3:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Where: Colossal Cave Mountain Park, 16721 E. Old Spanish Trail 85641

Cost: Free. Registration not required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-615-7855

Birding Tucson Mountain Park

What: Join a local birding expert for a guided walk in Tucson Mountain Park to see rufous-winged sparrows, gilded flickers, phainopeplas, and many other desert birds. Ages 12 and up.

Date: Saturday, December 2

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Tucson Mountain Park, Ironwood Picnic Area, 1500 S. Kinney Road at Hal Gras Road 85735

Cost: Free with Membership, Non-Member \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday, December 2

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Full Moon Nature Walk

What: Join a Pima County naturalist for this easy two-hour nature walk. We send off the sun and welcome the moon as we stroll the gentle trails of Maeveen Behan Desert Sanctuary. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes, bring water and a flashlight. Ages 12 and up.

Date: Sunday, December 3

Time: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Where: Maeveen Behan Desert Sanctuary at Arthur Pack Regional Park, 9101 N. Thornydale Road, 85742

Cost: Free with Membership, Non-Member \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 5

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Buffelgrass in the Sonoran Desert

What: Learn why the spread of buffelgrass is a threat to our desert and urban communities, and find out how you can join the effort to help manage, control, and eradicate this aggressive, non-native grass. All ages welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 5

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Where: Dusenberry-River Library, 5605 E. River Rd., Ste. 105, 85750

Cost: Free.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Wondering About the Wild Things

What: Naturalist Jeff Babson shares “Mistletoes: Myth and Reality” in an informative hour-long talk followed by a Q and A session on any nature topic that you may have been wondering about. If the weather is nice we will be outside, feel free to bring a lawn chair. All ages welcome.

Date: Friday, December 8

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Brandi Fenton Memorial Park Visitor Center, 3482 E. River Road 85718

Cost: Free with Membership, Non-Member \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-615-7855

Archaeological Tour of Los Morteros

What: Explore an ancient Hohokam village at Los Morteros with Pima County archaeologist Ian Miliken. We will meet at Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library, then caravan to the archaeological site for an easy, walking tour of Los Morteros, which is named for the numerous mortars on boulders and outcrops in the area that were used to grind and mill mesquite pods, corn, and seeds. Ages 12 and up.

Date: Saturday, December 9

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Wheeler Taft Abbett Sr. Library, 7800 N Schisler Drive 85743

Cost: \$5 with Membership, Non-Member \$10 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday, December 9

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Historical Tour of Agua Caliente Park

What: Enjoy a guided walk around the lush grounds and historic buildings of Agua Caliente Park and gain insights into the rich farming and ranching history of the site. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday, December 9

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road 85749

Cost: Free. Registration not required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Natural Wreath Making Workshop

What: We use natural materials such as acorns, devil's claw, pinecones, herbs, and greenery from our gardens to create unique holiday wreaths. Materials and space are limited. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday, December 9

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Where: Brandi Fenton Memorial Park Visitor Center, 3482 E. River Road 85718

Cost: Children free. Adults \$5 with Membership, Non-Member Adult \$10 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

A Night Under the Stars

What: Explore the wonder and unfold the mysteries of the night sky. Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association volunteers provide an introduction to the night sky and set up telescopes for celestial viewing. Feel free to bring your lawn chair. All ages welcome. Weather permitting.

Date: Saturday, December 9

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road 85749

Cost: Free. Registration not required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-615-7855

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 12

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Birding Colossal Cave Mountain Park

What: Join a local birding expert to explore the bountiful birdlife that inhabits the Arizona Uplands of Colossal Cave Mountain Park. All ages welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 12

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Colossal Cave Mountain Park, 16721 E. Old Spanish Trail 85641

Cost: Free with Membership. Non-member \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Restoration Tour

What: From deteriorating ruins to functional buildings: take a behind-the-scenes tour with Architectural Preservationist Simon Herbert to examine the processes and materials used in the restoration of the structures at Historic Canoa Ranch. All ages welcome.

Date: Wednesday, December 13

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Anza Tour at Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Learn about Colonel Juan Bautista de Anza and the group of Spanish colonial settlers who, in 1775, made their first stop at Canoa Ranch as they began an epic 1200-mile journey from Sonora, New Spain to colonize the port of what is now San Francisco. A 5-mile segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail extends through Historic Canoa Ranch. All ages welcome.

Date: Wednesday, December 13

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Nuts about Nature Preschool Hour at Brandi Fenton Park

What: Join us for child-friendly fun as we learn about nature through stories, crafts, and games. Explore a new nature topic each month. Children ages 3-5 with an adult companion.

Date: Wednesday, December 13

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Brandi Fenton Memorial Park Visitor Center, 3482 E. River Road 85718

Cost: Children free. Adults free with Membership, Non-Member Adult \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Nuts about Nature Preschool Hour at Agua Caliente Park

What: Join us for child-friendly fun as we learn about nature through stories, crafts, and games. Explore a new nature topic each month. Children ages 3-5 with an adult companion.

Date: Friday, December 15

Time: 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road 85749

Cost: Children free. Adults free with Membership, Non-Member Adult \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Stargazing at Whipple Observatory

What: Come before dark to enjoy a presentation followed by stargazing at Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory. Weather permitting. All ages welcome.

Date: Friday, December 15

Time: Presentation 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Stargazing 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory, 670 Mt. Hopkins Road, Amado AZ 85645

Cost: Free.

For more information: Whipple Observatory, Phone 520-879-4407, www.pima.gov/nrpr, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Sonoran Desert Weedwackers

What: Join the Sonoran Desert Weedwackers to eradicate buffelgrass and fountain grass in Tucson Mountain Park. Work requires hiking and pulling buffelgrass on steep slopes. Meeting locations change frequently. Email eeducation@pima.gov for meeting location. Ages 18 and up.

Date: Saturday, December 16

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Where: Pima County Tucson Mountain Park 85743

Cost: Free.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday, December 16

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Birding Sweetwater Wetlands

What: Roam this urban birding hotspot with a naturalist to look for wetland and desert birds as well as other wildlife. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday, December 16

Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Where: Sweetwater Wetlands, 2511 W. Sweetwater Drive 85745

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

A Night Under the Stars

What: Explore the wonder and unfold the mysteries of the night sky. Tucson Amateur Astronomy Association volunteers provide an introduction to the night sky and set up telescopes for celestial viewing. Feel free to bring your lawn chair. All ages welcome. Weather permitting.

Date: Saturday, December 16

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Tucson Mountain Park, Ironwood Picnic Area, 1500 S. Kinney Road at Hal Gras Road

Cost: Free. Registration not required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-615-7855

Duck ID Class

What: Ducks are common birds at wetlands throughout southern Arizona during the winter, however, their identification has its challenges. Join Jeff Babson to learn the intricacies of identification as we examine the ducks of southern Arizona. Ages 12 and up.

Date: Sunday, December 17

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Pima County Agua Caliente Park, 12325 E. Roger Road 85749

Cost: \$10 with Membership, Non-Member \$15 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Birding Cienega Creek

What: Join Jeff Babson on this guided walk to observe the rich birdlife in the diverse habitats of Cienega Creek Natural Preserve as we search for hawks, tanagers, warblers, sparrows, and many others. All ages welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 19

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Gabe Zimmerman Davidson Canyon Trailhead at Cienega Creek Natural Preserve, 16000 E. Marsh Station Road 85641

Cost: Free with Membership, Non-Member \$5 fee. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 19

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Tuesday, December 26

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Restoration Tour

What: From deteriorating ruins to functional buildings: take a behind-the-scenes tour with Architectural Preservationist Simon Herbert to examine the processes and materials used in the restoration of the structures at Historic Canoa Ranch. All ages welcome.

Date: Wednesday, December 27

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Anza Tour at Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Learn about Colonel Juan Bautista de Anza and the group of Spanish colonial settlers who, in 1775, made their first stop at Canoa Ranch as they began an epic 1200-mile journey from Sonora, New Spain to colonize the port of what is now San Francisco. A 5-mile segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail extends through Historic Canoa Ranch. All ages welcome.

Date: Wednesday, December 27

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Tour of Historic Canoa Ranch

What: Join a walking tour of the Canoa Ranch headquarters. Visit the historic buildings and corrals and enjoy the special exhibits of the people of Canoa. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday, December 30

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Historic Hacienda de la Canoa, 5375 S. I-19 Frontage Road, Green Valley 85622

Cost: Free. Online registration required.

For more information: www.pima.gov/canoaranch, CanoaRanch@pima.gov or 520-724-5220

Aqua Caliente Park Ranch House Gallery

What: *All in the Family*. A dynamic family of artists celebrating Southwest landscape, flora, fauna and culture in watercolor, graphite, colored pencil, oil, and photography.

Date: November 18 – December 20

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 85749

Cost: Free.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Agua Caliente Park Ranch House Gallery

What: *Double Vision – Two Artists, Two Views of the Southwest*: A southwestern native and a transplant come together to share their impressions of our desert region.

Date: December 23 – January 24

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 85749

Cost: Free.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375

Living River of Words Youth Poetry and Art

What: Local children share their view of the natural world in this exhibition of award winning poetry and mixed media art. All ages welcome.

Date: December 2 - January 8

Time: Monday-Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Sunday: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Where: Mission Library, 3770 S. Mission Road 85713

Cost: Free.

For more information: www.pima.gov/nrpr, eeducation@pima.gov or 520-724-5375