

Nature and Environmental Classes at the EEC



VETERANS OASIS PARK



2008 Valley Forward Environmental Excellence Winner - First Place Crescordia Award for Park Site Development and Landscape
2008 American Crown Community for Outstanding Leadership in Local Government for Interdepartmental Collaboration

A NOTE ABOUT EEC CLASSES OPEN TO ALL AGES

Please note the following guidelines for EEC program that are listed for "All ages". If the program is free, registration is generally not required. If the program involves a fee, then advance registration is always required. For programs with fees, children less than six years old are admitted for free and do not need to be pre-registered, as long as they are accompanied by a paid adult. All participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult; "drop-offs" are not allowed. For programs that children can attend alone, please see the pre-school, youth, and teen sections.

****All classes offered on pages 72 & 73 will be held at the Environmental Education Center.****

FREE PROGRAMS - NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

EARTH DAY & EEC 2-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – **FREE!**

Celebrate two special events with the EEC—our two-year anniversary, and Earth Day! Have fun with the family while learning more about nature, the environment, and the outdoors. Special guests will provide information booths and entertaining presentations.

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff & Guests

Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
900EE.320 Sa 4/24 9 a.m.-1 p.m. All ages

SONORAN SUNSET SERIES **FREE!**

Visit the EEC this spring for live, lakeside entertainment for the whole family! The featured performer is Daniella Lamis and her Banzai Banjo Band. S'mores, hot cocoa and other snacks will be available for a small fee. This will be the last part of the series until fall, so come join us!

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

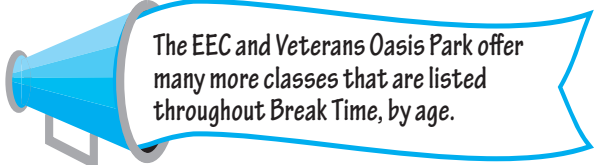
Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
901EE.340 W 3/3 6-7 p.m. All ages

GUEST SPEAKER SERIES AT THE EEC **FREE!**

Once each season, the EEC hosts a guest speaker. In April, Kate Mackay from the Arizona Wilderness Coalition will help us get ready for Earth Day by discussing the history of the American wilderness. She will also discuss efforts to preserve wilderness in Arizona.

Instructor: Kate Mackay from the Arizona Wilderness Coalition

Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
902EE.340 W 4/21 6:30-7:30 p.m. All ages



The EEC and Veterans Oasis Park offer many more classes that are listed throughout Break Time, by age.

Environmental Education Center at Veterans Oasis Park



CONTACTS & CLASS LOCATIONS

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

4050 E. Chandler Heights Rd. (on the northeast corner of Chandler Heights and Lindsay roads)
480-782-2890 • EEC@chandleraz.gov
www.chandleraz.gov/veterans-oasis

Sandra Muñoz-Weingarten, Naturalist, 480-782-2887

Matt Dawson, Assistant Naturalist, 480-782-2886

All class fees are paid during the registration process. All instructor and supply fees must be paid to your instructor at the first class.

****Pre-registration is required for all programs unless specified otherwise.****



The EEC will provide the public a FREE sampling of the types of activities that take place during our regularly-scheduled classes, programs, parties, and special events. Meet EEC staff and instructors to find out what the EEC is all about!

Instructor: EEC Staff

Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
903EE.330 Tu 4/13 5-7:30 p.m. All ages

STAR PARTY **FREE!**

The East Valley Astronomy Club will bring their telescopes to Veterans Oasis Park to allow visitors to explore Arizona's amazing night sky! Visitors may see the moon, Venus, Mars, Saturn, double stars, nebulae, and star clusters. Inside the EEC from 7-8 p.m. there will be a presentation about a special astronomy topic. Telescope viewing takes place outside at the east end of the parking lot from 8-10 p.m. Call ahead if the weather is questionable. A \$5 donation is requested for the presentation.

Instructor: East Valley Astronomy Volunteers & EEC Staff

Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
904EE.370 Sa 5/22 7-10 p.m. All ages

MONTHLY FAMILY BIRDWALK **FREE!**

The Desert Rivers Audubon Society leads guided birdwatching tours through Veterans Oasis Park. Come observe the many species of wild birds that populate central Arizona's desert and wetland habitats. Liberty Wildlife will also be on hand with captive birds that you can view up close.

Instructor: Desert Rivers Audubon Society

Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
905EE.370 Sa 3/6 8 a.m.-noon All ages

WALK WITH A NATURALIST **FREE!**

Join a naturalist for a guided walk that explores the plants and animals of the desert and wetland habitats at Veterans Oasis Park. The walks are not fast-paced, and the terrain is easy. There is a suggested \$5 donation to the EEC, and optional guidebooks will be available for sale.

Instructor: Laurie Nessel of Maricopa Audubon Society

Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
908EE.370 Sa 4/24 8:30-11:30 a.m. All ages
909EE.370 Sa 5/8 8:30-11:30 a.m. All ages

EEC & VETERANS OASIS PARK TOURS **FREE!**

Free, guided tours of the EEC and Veterans Oasis Park are offered the third Saturday of each month this spring. Tours begin inside the EEC. Come learn about the history, landscape, plants, and wildlife of this fantastic public facility.

Instructor: EEC Staff & Volunteers

Resident fee: \$0 Non-resident fee: \$0
925EE.370 Sa 3/20 9-10 a.m. All ages
926EE.370 Sa 4/17 9-10 a.m. All ages
927EE.370 Sa 5/15 9-10 a.m. All ages

Nature and Environmental Classes at the EEC

ALL AGES PROGRAMS - PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
(unless otherwise noted)

REPTILES OF ARIZONA

Join the Arizona Herpetological Association for an intriguing presentation about the fascinating reptiles that call Arizona home! The presentation features live animal demonstrations of snakes and other native reptiles.

Instructor: Arizona Herpetological Association
Resident fee: \$6 Non-resident fee: \$8

914EE.370 Sa 5/8 Noon-1 p.m. All ages

MEET THE CREATURE! (ALL AGES)

In this interactive program, participants will get up close and personal with live animals while receiving a fun lesson in wildlife rescue and conservation. Each month will feature different fascinating animals from around the world.

Instructor: Lisa Limbert of Lisa's Creatures and East Valley Wildlife
Location: Environmental Education Center

Resident fee: \$3 Non-resident fee: \$4
950EE.370 Sa 3/6 11-11:45 a.m. All ages
951EE.370 Sa 4/3 11-11:45 a.m. All ages
952EE.370 Sa 5/1 11-11:45 a.m. All ages

MOONWALK

See a presentation about the moon, explore Veterans Oasis Park on a night hike, and observe the moon through a telescope! Call ahead if the weather is questionable.

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

Resident fee: \$8 Non-resident fee: \$10
915EE.330 Tu 4/20 6-7:45 p.m. All ages

TUESDAY TELESCOPE NIGHTS (DROP-IN PROGRAM)

The EEC will set-up a powerful telescope to allow visitors to view the night sky. Call ahead if the weather is questionable. Join the program anytime. No pre-registration required.

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

Resident fee: \$5 Non-resident fee: \$7
916EE.330 Tu 3/23 7-8 p.m. All ages
917EE.330 Tu 4/27 7-8 p.m. All ages
918EE.330 Tu 5/25 7-8 p.m. All ages

NIGHT OWLS

Grab a flashlight, lace-up your hiking shoes, and join us for a fun nighttime nature hike! Participants will explore the desert at night and play games, use nocturnal senses, and discover that the night is not as scary as it seems!

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

Resident fee: \$6 Non-resident fee: \$8
919EE.350 Th 4/1 6:30-7:30 p.m. All ages
920EE.350 Th 5/6 6:30-7:30 p.m. All ages

AN EVENING AT "CAMP EEC"

Join us for an evening of camping-themed activities at the EEC. Meet some nocturnal animals, help set up "camp", take a night hike, and cook some yummy s'mores! Great for all ages. (This is not an overnight program.)

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

Resident fee: \$9 Non-resident fee: \$12
921EE.350 Th 4/15 6-7:45 p.m. All ages

NATURE WALK

Join park staff for a guided nature walk through Veterans Oasis Park. Learn about the park and try out some fun nature games that you can play on your own nature walks! Each walk is different.

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

Resident fee: \$6 Non-resident fee: \$8
910EE.370 Sa 3/6 10-10:45 a.m. All ages
911EE.370 Sa 5/29 10-10:45 a.m. All ages

CAMPSITE COOKING

Learn how to use different types of camp stoves, such as white gas, alcohol, propane/butane, and solar ovens. We'll provide ideas for yummy and simple camp dishes, such as one-pot recipes and no-cook meals. Learn water purification methods and taste foods baked by the sun!

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

Resident fee: \$8 Non-resident fee: \$10
922EE.370 Sa 3/27 Noon-1:30 p.m. All ages
923EE.370 Sa 5/15 Noon-1:30 p.m. All ages

MAKE IT A DAY AT THE EEC!

THE AMAZING RACE—COMPETITION FOR COUPLES

Grab a partner and come out for a friendly "Amazing Race" style competition at Veterans Oasis Park. A prize will be awarded to the team that completes the race first, so come ready to play! You don't have to be a couple to compete; you just need a team of two people. The Kid's Nature Fest is scheduled for the same time so your kids can have fun while you compete! (See separate listing.)

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

Resident fee: \$12 Non-resident fee: \$15
301EE.370 Sa 3/27 9:30-11 a.m. 16 yrs+

KID'S NATURE FEST

Kids will be treated to a movie, craft, and games, all with a nature theme. This program is scheduled for the same time as The Amazing Race program so that your kids can have fun while you compete! All kids are invited whether their parents are in The Amazing Race or not.

Instructor: Miss Artypants

Resident fee: \$8 Non-resident fee: \$10
101EE.370 Sa 3/27 9:30-11 a.m. 3 yrs+

OTHER EEC PROGRAMS - PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST WITH THE SNAKES

Mothers can enjoy a light breakfast with their family while sharing an experience with nature. Learn about Arizona's snakes, watch snakes eat their own breakfast, and pose for a family photo with live snakes on exhibit at the EEC! (Event takes place the day before Mother's Day.)

Instructor: Environmental Education Center Staff

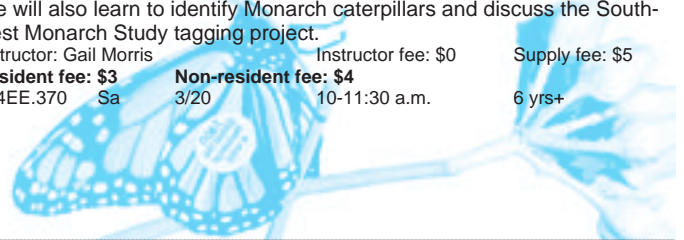
Resident fee: \$14 Non-resident fee: \$18
912EE.370 Sa 5/8 8:30-9:30 a.m. 3 yrs+
913EE.370 Sa 5/8 10-11 a.m. 3 yrs+

HOW TO CREATE A MONARCH BUTTERFLY OASIS

Learn how you can turn your yard into a "Monarch oasis" that will attract beautiful Monarch butterflies! In class, participants will begin to grow Monarch-attracting plants that they can take home to add to their yards. We will also learn to identify Monarch caterpillars and discuss the South-west Monarch Study tagging project.

Instructor: Gail Morris

Resident fee: \$3 Non-resident fee: \$4
924EE.370 Sa 3/20 10-11:30 a.m. 6 yrs+
Instructor fee: \$0 Supply fee: \$5



Featuring a unique selection of waste-free lunch items, books, plush animal puppets, and gifts for nature lovers of all ages

Located at Veterans Oasis Park on the northeast corner of Chandler Heights and Lindsay roads

Owl's Nest Nature Store

Hours of Operation

Monday and Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Shop
Chandler

Environmental Education Center
480-782-2890

