

THE rboretum AT FLAGSTAFF

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June 2023

Happy June Everyone!

It's June and that means summer is on its way! Although we have had some early rain in May we will see if it continues into June. Otherwise, we should get ready for the warm, dry and often windy days ahead. These conditions can be challenging for some garden plants but here at The Arboretum I enjoy watching how our Colorado Plateau species come into glory in spite of the circumstances around them. The blues and purples of western blue flags and rocky mountain columbine have been lovely. The golden currents outside my office are drooping with green ripening fruit after their flowers were pollinated a few weeks ago by hawk moths. With the slightest breeze, the ponderosa pine above the currents is fulling the air and dusting the ground with golden pollen.

As these and other plants in our gardens are buzzing with activity so too is The Arboretum. Here are some of the highlights in June:

Our **Mountain Melodies Concert Series** kicked off on June 3rd. Thanks to everyone who came out and listened to Adam Bruce and Eric Caroffino. Thank you also to our sponsorships this year, Mountain Sports, Northern Arizona Healthcare and Dark Sky Brewing Company. Our next concert will be July 15th.

Our **Eco-Explorer Summer Camps** are starting on June 19th, however, there are still spaces available in Garden Growers (6/26-6/30) and Weird Science (7/3-7/7). So if you haven't registered your children or grandchildren for camps this summer, please go to this [link](#).

To celebrate Father's Day and kickoff National Pollinator Week, we are hosting our second annual **Pollinator Fest** on June 18th! This event is again sponsored by our friends at APS. This year we are also collaborating with the City of Flagstaff's Office of Sustainability to provide additional vendors and educational resources during the event. The event is included in the price of admissions and so is FREE to members! So I hope to see you there! The day will include information from organizations working on pollinator protection and awareness, activities for children, food carts, and presentations related to gardening for pollinators. We will also have pollinator friendly plants for sale. Here is the schedule of the presentations:

10 am-11:30 pm- Dr. Patrick Pynes (local beekeeper) will discuss pollinator and flowering plants interactions both "native" and "non-native"

11:30 am-12:30 pm- The City's Water Conservation Department will discuss water harvesting techniques.

12:30 pm-2pm- Nate O'Meara (The Arb's Executive Director) will discuss gardening for pollinators and other wildlife.

Finally, I am pleased to report that The Arb has had some really good press on PBS over the last year. This winter, we were featured in the show "Movable Feast". If you didn't get a chance to view the episode you can do so [here](#).

Just last week an Arizona PBS crew was out filming and interviewing our docents and Greenhouse Manager for a segment of the show "Trail Mix'd." We look forward to sharing the completed show later this year!

With gratitude,
Nate O'Meara
Executive Director

June Events at The Arb

2023 Bird Walks @ The Arb



Member: \$10 | Non-member: \$15 including admission for the day

Join Dr. Celia Holm on a morning walk through The Arboretum at Flagstaff gardens. Over 130 different species have been sighted here! Please bring water, a camera and comfortable walking shoes.

All Bird Walks begin promptly at 7:30 am.
May 20 | June 3 & 17 | July 8 & 22

Tickets required at TheArb.org.

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*Click on the flier above to purchase tickets.

2023 Pollinator Fest at The Arboretum!

In partnership
with:



Ticket included with Admission to the Arb | Free to Arb-Members

Sunday, June 18th 10 AM - 2 PM

Come kickoff National Pollinator Week and celebrate Father's Day at the Arb! Learn about pollinators from local organizations!

- Presentations on how to protect pollinators at home
- Pollinator friendly plants for sale
- Kid Activities
- Food Trucks
- Local Pollinator Art Display

Sponsored by:



The Importance of Good Drainage

by Sarah Armanovs- Gardens Manager

Soil drainage is a factor that is not often given consideration until problems develop. Many native plants in our area are not likely to be found in swampy areas or wet meadows. Thus, to adapt native plants to garden conditions, care must be taken so that water does not saturate the soil around these plants for long periods of time. Also, these plants should receive longer deeper watering rather than frequent shallow watering.

The roots of most plants require oxygen which they get from the air. But when soil is saturated, the tiny gaps between the soil particles (called pore space) fill with water. Soil that has all the pore space filled with water will not be able to supply oxygen to plant roots. You can observe your yard's

drainage as the snow melts, or right after a heavy rain. If there is an area where water puddles, or where the ground stays soggy for a long period of time, the drainage should be improved in that spot. Low areas are particularly susceptible, as are places under a building dripline where snow on the roof can melt and drip on the ground for days on end.

Even when plants are dormant, they can suffer from water-logged soils. Often when a plant does not survive winter, it's assumed that it wasn't cold-hardy enough. But in fact, it may have been kept too wet. Next month, I'll discuss some ways to improve soil drainage for the soggy spots you've observed in your yard.

Botany Plants Lately?

by Gina Goegan- Greenhouse Manager

This is your friendly reminder that The Arb sells plants every day! Our nursery is fully stocked with a variety of native plants adapted to thrive in the Flagstaff area. The selection is rotating week-by-week and is dependent on weather conditions- we only want to sell you plants that will survive these cold late Spring nights!

Nursery Hours: 9am-4pm Wednesday- Sunday





Oenothera pallida



Arnica chamissonis



Geranium richardsonii

Come Volunteer with Us!

Come volunteer with us! Here are our volunteer opportunities for this season:

Visitor Center

We are looking for volunteers who would like to help out in the visitor center / gift shop on Saturdays and Sundays from 10:30am - 12:30pm. We are also looking for creative individuals to help us think up ideas for kids' crafts!

If interested in volunteering in the visitor center, please email info@thearb.org.

Events

We need volunteers for a variety of tasks at concerts, plant sales, Pumpkin Walk, Garden Party, and Pollinator Fest on June 18th! Some of these tasks include ticket checkers, beverage servers, and money takers.

If interested in volunteering during events, please email events@thearb.org.

Education

We need volunteers interested in leading or assisting in leading school groups in field trips at the Arb, and aiding camp staff in daily activities and tasks. Attending table and outreach events such as Science in the Park, STEM City, or Youth Climate Summit, and leading the table activities and interacting with the public.

If interested in volunteering in the education, please email Helena.Murray@thearb.org.

Gardens

Weeding Wednesdays are back! Wednesday from 12:00pm - 2:00pm. We will also have other opportunities for garden volunteers throughout the season.

If interested in volunteering in the gardens, please email gardens@thearb.org.

Hummingbirds

We need volunteers to refill the hummingbird feeders at the Arb!

If interested in volunteering with the hummingbirds, please email info@thearb.org.

Upcoming Events in July!



Plant Sale

July 8th

The monsoon rains
create the perfect
conditions for planting



9AM-11AM Members Only
11AM-3PM Open to Public

Free Admission All Day!
10% off plants and gift
shop purchases for members

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2023 Habitats and More! @ The Arb



Africa, Antarctica and Arizona: Species Oddities and Adaptations

JULY 8 @ 12 PM

Join Stu Tuttle, wildlife biologist and conservation planner, for an exclusive look into the various species and habitats across Africa, Antarctica, and Arizona!

Free with your admission to The Arb!





MOUNTAIN MELODIES CONCERT SERIES



July 15

5:00PM

Food Trucks & Beer

NEVIE STICKS & PISO MOJADO

Doors open at 4:30PM

Non-Members: \$25 Members: \$20

Ages 5 - 17: \$10.00 Children under 5: Free

Bring a picnic or enjoy food trucks and beer



Sponsored By:



[*Click the image to purchase tickets](#)

Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors!





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