

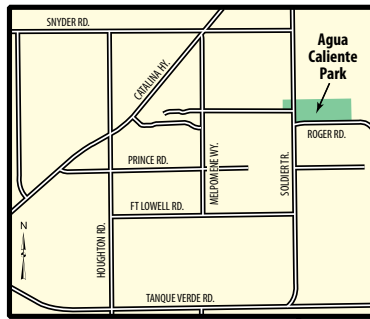
Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation offers field study programs for high school classes at three of the region's best natural resource parks, and we can bring selected programs to your schoolyard or classroom. **Agua Caliente Park** located on the east side of Tucson features a natural spring and pond that is home to an exceptionally rich mix of plants, wildlife, and archaeological and historical features. **Feliz Paseos Park** and **Tucson Mountain Park**, located on the west side of Tucson, showcase spectacular Sonoran desert scenery, outstanding geologic features, and wildlife viewing.

Read through the detailed program descriptions located inside to help you decide which location and program best suit the needs of your students.

PROGRAM LOCATIONS

| PROGRAM TITLE | TIME | AGUA CALIENTE | PASEOS | FELIZ PASSEOS | MT. PARK | TUCSON | CLASS-ROOM |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|--------|---------------|----------|--------|------------|
| Ecosystem Discovery | 2 hours | ✓ | | | | | |
| Geology of the Tucson Mountains | 2.5 hours | | | ✓ | | ✓ | |
| Invasive Species of the Sonoran Desert | 4 hour | | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Map and Compass | 2 hours | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Tucson's River of Words School Residency | TBA | | | | | | ✓ |
| Water Monitoring in Freshwater Habitats | 2.5 hours | ✓ | | | | | |

For more information or to schedule a program for your class, contact us at:
(520) 615-7855
 or eeducation@pima.gov



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HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FIELD STUDY TRIPS AND CLASSROOM PROGRAMS



PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION

The following field study trips and classroom programs are best suited for High School (9-12) students. All programs are linked to Arizona Academic Standards. There is a minimum group size of 15 students for all programs. Reservations are required for all school programs. Environmental Education lesson plans and teacher resources are available at www.pima.gov/nrpr

For information or to make reservations, call 520-615-7855 or email eeducation@pima.gov

Ecosystem Discovery

Explore the diversity of life in riparian and desert ecosystems through guided, hands-on exploration. Students use binoculars and hand-lenses to make observations and work together to understand the interrelationships between plants and animals and the environment.

Linked to Arizona Academic Standards – [Science S3, C3, HSP01; S4, C1, HSP04.](#)

Water Monitoring in Freshwater Habitats

The natural spring and pond at Agua Caliente Park are teeming with life. Students collect samples to measure water quality and identify indicator species. The data collected are used to learn the relationship between water quality and the abundance of life. Water chemistry tests conducted include pH, electrical conductivity, alkalinity, and dissolved oxygen.

Linked to Arizona Academic Standards – [Science S4, C3, HSP01-PO2; C4, HSP04, HSP06; C5, HSP02, HSP04; S5, C1, HSP02; C4, HSP02, HSP012.](#)

Geology of the Tucson Mountains

The geology of the Tucson Mountains is often described as chaotic due to the hodge-podge of geologic features seen today. Explore some of these dramatic features to understand how the Tucson Mountains and basin were formed. Use the geologic record to understand how the environment has made dramatic changes over the past 250 million years. This class trip involves relatively easy hiking over desert terrain.

Linked to Arizona Academic Standards – [Science S6, C1, HSP01-PO2; S6, C3, HSP04.](#)

Map and Compass

A fun and practical way to explore the desert is through orienteering, or the use of map and compass to find your way. Students learn how the Earth's natural magnetic field

interacts with a compass and how wildlife relies on magnetic fields to navigate. Each student will use a compass with a topographic map to determine bearing and distances to specific map points.

Linked to Arizona Academic Standards – [Math S1, C3, HSP01; S4, C3, PO7; S4, C4, PO9. Health S2, 2PA-P5, PO1. Social Studies 3SS-P1 PO1; 3SS-D1 PO5.](#)



All environmental education programs are linked to the Arizona Academic Standards. Selected programs are available for the schoolyard, classroom or field study. Check the *location table* to find out which program is best suited for your students.



Invasive Species of the Sonoran Desert

Through hands-on activities students learn to identify buffelgrass and to understand the threats this invasive plant poses to Sonoran Desert. During a community service field experience, students remove buffelgrass from a natural area. The location for the buffelgrass removal project will be identified at the time of scheduling. Activity requires 4-6 hours.

Linked to Arizona Academic Standards – [Science S3-C1: PO1-5; S3-C2: PO5; S4-C3: PO1, PO2. Social Studies S4-C2: PO1a, PO3, PO6, PO7; S4-C4: PO6, PO7; S4-C5: PO3, PO5, PO7.](#)



Tucson's River of Words Youth Poetry and Art

Tucson's River of Words Youth Poetry and Art (TROW) encourages young people to explore how water moves through the landscape and the connections that plants, animals, and people have to water. After exploring these topics children ages 5-19 have the opportunity to share their observations and understandings through their entries of poetry and visual art to Tucson's River of Words Youth Poetry and Art Contest.

The TROW School Residency inspires K-12 students to engage in outdoor learning, exploration, and artistic expression of their experiences of local watersheds, water resources, and the connections that we all share with water. Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation and the Tucson-Pima Arts Council coordinate with several community partners to offer a suite of educational opportunities that blend science, language and visual arts, and dance education.

Tucson's River of Words Youth Poetry and Art Contest entries are accepted anytime. The submission deadline for the 2012 contest is February 1, 2012. Independent entries are welcomed as well as entries from schools, home-school students, and other organized youth groups.

For a brochure with the complete description of the TROW School Residency and TROW contest entry forms and information contact (520) 615-7855, email eeducation@pima.gov or visit www.pima.gov/nrpr.