







### **NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK**

# Bats, Birds, Butterflies and Bees – Celebrate National Pollinator Week with Us!

Along with Bat Conservation International, the Pollinator Partnership and Tucson Audubon Society, Tohono Chul Park in Tucson invites you to celebrate National Pollinator Week June 21 to 27, 2010. Beginning Monday, June 21, finalists in the "Pollinators in Action" digital photography contest will be on display in the Education Center through July 5.

<u>Free admission to Tohono Chul Park on Saturday, June 26 (9am to 4pm)!</u> Visit the Sonoran Seasons Garden and Children's Ramadas at Tohono Chul Park to learn more about pollination and talk with representatives of local "pollinator and plant" organizations like Tucson Audubon Society, Bat Conservation International, Sky Island Alliance, Arizona Department of Game and Fish, Friends of the Ironwood Forest. For the week's schedule, see below; <u>to register for any lecture or workshop, call 742-6455 ext. 228</u>. Walk-ins to lectures are fine, pending availability of space.

#### **Hummingbirds: More than Just Eye Candy**

#### Thu., June 24 / 7pm

Don't let the Disney-esque public image fool you: There's a lot more going on behind a hummingbird's glittering façade than most people realize. Sheri L. Williamson, author, hummingbird researcher, and director of the Southeastern Arizona Bird Observatory, will share amazing facts about these tiny dynamos, including their unique adaptations, continent-spanning travels, and intricate relationships with plants and other animals. Free

### Sonoran Desert Bees: Trouble in Paradise? Fri., June 25 / 7pm

The University of Arizona's Dr. Stephen Buchmann, scientist, author and photographer, opens our eyes to the diverse world of bees in the Sonoran Desert. Describing their natural history, he introduces us to miners, leafcutters, masons and cuckoos, from the world's smallest bee to gentle giant carpenter bees. A leader in The Pollinator Partnership, Dr. Buchmann explains the latest findings on Colony Collapse Disorder in honey bees and shines the spotlight on what is happening to our nation's bees, especially recent alarming declines in bumble bee populations. When was the last time you saw a bumble bee? Free

## Gardening for Butterflies and the Caterpillars That Become Them! Sat., June 26 / 9am

Butterflies are some of the most beautiful and graceful of all pollinators and southern Arizona is noted for its diversity of species. Author, naturalist and gardener Lynn Hassler explains butterfly life histories (and help you learn to love those hairy, voracious caterpillars) and offers tips on how to create butterfly habitat with plants that attract both adults and caterpillars. Free



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#### **Up Close and Personal:**

### Elements of Macro Photography for Pollinating Insects and Wildflowers Sat., June 26 / 10am – 11am

In this workshop, local photographer and author Dr. Stephen Buchmann (University of Arizona and The Pollinator Partnership) guides participants in the use of simple techniques to get the most out of cameras when photographing local pollinators and flowers. Short discussions on the topics of tripods, macro lenses, available light, flash and reflectors, will be followed by hands-on familiarization with camera equipment, review of prints or projected images and possibly a "walkabout" in the Park's gardens stalking our prey. Please bring a point and shoot or SLR camera, digital or film; printed handouts will be provided. Free

### Nectar-feeding Bats and Hummingbirds: Nature's Mega Pollinators Sat., June 26 / 11am

Although most flowering plants are pollinated by insects, a large number of species rely on nectar-feeding birds and bats for pollination. In the desert southwest in particular, hummingbirds and certain species of bats are responsible for helping propagate many cacti and agave species. Dr. Theodore Fleming (Universities of Arizona and Miami) discusses the role of these high-energy vertebrates in New World habitats, focusing on the costs and benefits to the plants that are associated with vertebrate pollination.

### Life in the Hothouse: How a Living Planet Survives Climate Change Sat., June 26 / 1pm

Why does the planet's warming produce stronger hurricanes, rising seas, and larger floods? Simple, says Dr. Melanie Lenart, award-winning journalist and science writer, the Earth is simply doing what comes naturally. Just as humans produce sweat to cool off on a hot day, the planet produces hurricanes, floods, wetlands and forests to cool itself off. Dr. Lenart, University of Arizona's Institute of the Environment, examines global warming with a trained eye, presenting the science in a straightforward manner in her book, *Life in the Hothouse*. Relying on the latest research in climate change, she believes that if we help sustain Earth's natural defense systems, including wetlands and forests, perhaps Mother Earth will not need to rely as much on the cooling effects of what we call "natural disasters." Copies of *Life in the Hothouse* will be available for sale and signing. Free

#### **Bird Pollinators**

#### Sat., June 26 / 3pm

Hummingbirds are not the only important bird pollinators – learn more about all the other pollinating birds with the Tucson Audubon Society's executive director Paul Green.

## "Pollinators in Action" photography contest Awards will be presented in the Performance Garden Sat., June 26th at 2pm.



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