

Earth Day in Phoenix 2015

Written by Emily Glynn

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Big strides have been made since Earth Day's inception in 1970. To keep the environmental movement going strong, channel your inner tree-hugger and inspire green awareness by participating in one or more of these Valley-area events.



Scouting for Shoes

Through April 18, the Girl Scouts Arizona Cactus Pine Council and Goodwill of Central Arizona are accepting gently used footwear of all kinds. Aside from keeping perfectly wearable shoes out of Arizona landfills, the project will teach scouts about environmental stewardship, recycling and community. Help them meet their goal – at least four pairs per scout – by contacting Cristi Pontius at 602.452.7105 for information about where you can donate.



6th Annual Earth Day Phoenix 2015

Celebrate the planet and keep Phoenix beautiful on April 25 at PHX Renews on Central Ave from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. To minimize waste, everything at the event will be either recyclable or compostable, so don't expect to see many trash bins. On-site parking will also be sparse in order to encourage alternative modes of transportation. Hop on a bike, catch the light rail or #ditchyourkeys and hitch a ride with Uber. However you choose to get there, be sure to check out the ceremonial tree planting with Mayor Greg Stanton, mini-eco classes and beer garden courtesy of Sun Up Brewing Company and Brewhouse. For more information, visit earthdayphoenix.org.



Earth Day at Lorna Jane Biltmore

Green thumb or not, everyone is invited to enjoy DIY crafting and gardening at Lorna Jane at Biltmore Fashion Park on April 22. Art supplies, basil seeds and complimentary coconut water from Zico will be provided to shoppers who stop by the store between 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, visit eventbrite.com.



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Earth Day at Phoenix Zoo

On April 18, Phoenix Zoo will be transformed into an eco-friendly think tank. After donating gently used clothing at the entrance, zoo guests can peruse the many Earth Stations – booths focusing on everything from waste reduction and recycling to habitat protection for endangered wildlife. In between swapping ideas with conservation-enthusiasts, enjoy gibbon training demonstrations and three separate lady bug releases. This event runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit phoenixzoo.org.



Keep Scottsdale Beautiful Citywide Trash Pickup

Although this volunteer opportunity is available year-round, Earth Day acts as the perfect incentive to lend a hand and do some good for the community. To take part, participants must register a team in order to receive a road assignment. Upon request, the City will collect filled trash bags. Visit scottsdaleaz.gov to register and keep Scottsdale beautiful.



11th Annual Earth Day Celebration

More than 320 people turned up to last year's Earth Day Celebration to honor to planet. The party continues on Saturday April 18 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. with family-oriented learning activities and games, services projects and a special tree planting along the Beeline Drag Way Area. All attendees will be treated to a complimentary lunch, as a thank you for their efforts and dedication to making the world a better place. For more information, visit srpmic-nsn.gov.



PLANeT Celebration: Earth Day 2015 at Desert Botanical Gardens

There's no better place to celebrate the planet than at the picturesque Desert Botanical Gardens. On April 18, guests are invited to take behind-the-scenes tours, soak up eco-friendly expertise from members of the Central Arizona Conservation Alliance and enjoy presentations on permaculture, wildlife and pollination and environmental communication. Live music and nature-inspired artistic performances will round out the event, which runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit dbg.org.



Flower Child Charity Fundraiser

In honor of Earth Day, Sam Fox's newest concept, Flower Child, will donate 100 percent of proceeds to three Valley charities—the Arcadia High School garden, the Rotary Club of Arcadia and the Audobon of Arizona. Stop by on April 22 anytime between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. for organic, locally sourced cuisine and the opportunity to make an impact on the community. For more information, visit iamaflowerchild.com.
