



TOHONO CHUL
PARK

WANTED: Urban Desert Interpreters!

for the '09-'10 Docent Training Program

Prospective Docent Coffee*
Wed., Sept. 16 + 10:00 am
Desert Discovery Education Center

Tohono Chul Park is now accepting applications for its '09-'10 Docent Class. Our docents are trained, volunteer interpreters excited by the rewarding challenge of illustrating the complex interrelationships between the plants, animals, and peoples of our desert home. The "urban desert" they interpret is Tohono Chul Park, a 49-acre island in the midst of rapidly expanding northwest Tucson. Visitors to the Park come away enriched by a greater understanding and appreciation of our region – Park docents help make that visitor experience a unique one.

To prepare for this challenge, docents attend classes in plant identification and adaptations, Sonoran Desert ecology, geology, desert fauna, and interpretive techniques, as well as archaeology, Tucson history, and native peoples. In addition, field trips and hands-on lab sessions provide participants with a more interactive approach to learning.

Children are a major focus at Tohono Chul Park, and special classes constitute a large portion of the Park's educational programming – from summer library programs to yearlong enrichment programs for local school districts. Therefore, prospective docents must be willing and able to lead school tours and represent the Park in its Outreach programs to classrooms. We especially welcome those who speak Spanish or those who have made Tucson their year-round home!

+ When Oct. 7, 2008 – Mar. 3, 2010 + Wed., 9:00 am-4:00 pm

+ Cost \$125 plus Tohono Chul Park membership (memberships start at \$25)

- + Attendance docents-in-training are expected to attend each class + absences must be cleared in advance + no classes are scheduled for Nov. 25, Dec. 23, & Dec. 30

- + Assignments each docent-in-training will
 - + serve ten hours during the course as a public greeter at the Park's entrance
 - + audit one of each of the following regular public tours offered by the Park
 - Walk in the Park*
 - Birds of Tohono Chul*
 - Art in the Park*
 - Xeriscape*
 - Reptile Ramble* (scheduled April-October only)
 - Connecting Plants & People*
 - Family Ed-venture*
 - + audit two school tours of different grade levels
 - + audit one school Outreach presentation
 - + audit one of the Park's *Eco-Stations* presentations
 - + additional assignments include oral or written reports, quizzes, a written final exam, as well as evaluation meetings and practice tours with Docent Mentors

- + Commitment an average of 12 hours per month in interpretive/educational services for two years following training

- + Continuing Education 16 hours per year through scheduled docent meetings, training sessions, exhibit orientations, and/or Park lectures, workshops or field trips

- + Questions? Contact Min Johnson at 742-6455 x 235 or minjohnson@tohonochulpark.org

(*please RSVP for the Prospective Docent Coffee)



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Discover its Nature!