

Earth Day is here - take time this month to enjoy Arizona's wild places. Read about our latest successes with restoration along the Hassayampa and new reports on the positive economic benefits of quiet places.

Support AWC



April 19, 2016

Greetings!,

"For a minute, see a magnificent flower in your mind. Add the sound of a soothing waterfall and then the smell of cool mint."

These evocative words from Dr. Wayne F. Peate, physician of Iroquois heritage, are sage advice for us on Earth Day.

Earth Day is a good time to contemplate the magnificent gifts of nature, yet it's also important to put that appreciation into action. We've seen gratifying results from such action in a recently completed restoration project in the Hassayampa River Canyon Wilderness. You can **share in the sense of accomplishment through our report and the charmingly candid observations of crew leader Brian Andersen.**

The nearly twenty wilderness preservation projects completed over the past year are only possible with the support of volunteers, members and critically important foundation funders. This month we are delighted to announce a new grant of \$45,000 from the National Forest Foundation (NFF), along with a timely grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation.



As Earth Day exhorts us to preserve our environment, new research demonstrates the tangible economic benefits of preserving nature for quiet recreation. [Get the details here.](#)

We hope you'll take time this month to enjoy wild nature, [learn more about the history and lessons of Earth Day](#), and put Earth Day principles into practice. [Join us for Wilderness Stewardship and Wilderness Survey trips](#) to restore, maintain, and preserve Arizona's fantastic wild places!

Celebrating wilderness this Earth Day,



Barbara

Barbara Hawke
Executive Director



Hassayampa Hurrah

With the help of an intrepid restoration crew, volunteers, Prescott College, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Phoenix College Conservation Corps, we collectively planted **364 native trees** in the remote and challenging setting of Hassayampa River Canyon. Read more about the impressive accomplishments and warmly personal

experiences of crew leader Brian Andersen.

[Read More](#)



Stalwart Champions for the Environment

We are delighted to announce that we've been awarded a \$45,000 matching grant from the National Forest Foundation, along with a very timely grant from the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) with support from Toyota Motor Sales USA, Inc. The NEEF grant helps complete the match for our 2015 NFF

grant, providing even more dollars for stewardship. With the help of funders like these and individual donors, especially those of you who gave with wild generosity on Arizona Gives Day, we've restored or maintained nearly 20 wilderness areas over the past year.

[Help us meet our 2016 Match goal of \\$15,000!](#)

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Quiet Recreation Speaks Loudly for the Environment

Quiet recreation on BLM lands provides an estimated *\$162 million* in spending impact for Arizona, according to a new study from the Pew Charitable Trusts. These findings offer great support for the need to retain, maintain, and preserve public lands in a natural state as a foundation for hiking, birding, hunting, mountain

biking and other quiet recreation pursuits.

[Read More](#)

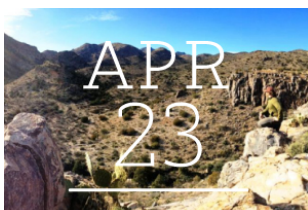
Local First AZ Earth Day Round Up

The way to ignite sustainability is through local economies, a healthy environment, and a happy community. Check out what these **Local First Arizona businesses and cities** have in store to support the Earth and have fun at the same time!

[Event Listing](#)

Join the #OurLands Campaign!

Connect with events around the country to show your support for preserving public lands in public hands, including AWC's wilderness inventory event on April 23rd.

[Learn More](#)

Documenting the Wild: Wilderness Inventory

Citizen Wilderness Inventory in the "Pothole" region near Safford. Explore a lesser-known area of Arizona that boasts a scenic canyon along the Safford-Morenci Trail, part of the long-distance Grand Enchantment Trail. This fun and educational outing offers a unique opportunity to learn more about wilderness inventory in an informal setting with friendly volunteers. For additional information and to RSVP, please contact Barbara Hawke ([email](#) or call 520-326-4300).

[Contact Barbara](#)



Chiricahua Wilderness Trail Maintenance & Sign Installation

We're heading back to the beautiful Chiricahua Wilderness for an overnight event. Volunteers are needed to install and repair signage along the Fitch Trail, as well as trail restoration to include brushing, log removal, and tread repair.

[RSVP](#)



**DONATE FOR A
WILD ARIZONA**

The Arizona Wilderness Coalition actively engages and empowers citizens like you who care about Arizona's wild lands. For more than 35 years, we have been working with volunteers to conduct wild land inventories, educate citizens about the unique attributes of Arizona's landscape, and empower our activists to build support for their lasting protection. We need your help protecting our wild lands for the future...join us today!



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