Prescott Creekside E-News

March 2020

www.PrescottCreeks.org

Hello Friend,

It's hard to believe it is March already! At the office we've been seeing the signs of spring all around us. Cottonwood buds are swelling with the promise of leaves and catkins, the wax current is in full leaf, and we're seeing lizards, spiders, darkling beetles, and other insects scurrying about.

We're excited to announce that in addition to Deb Pastor joining the Prescott Creeks staff in January, we've also welcomed four new members to the Prescott Creeks Board of Directors. We look forward to introducing you more fully to Sandy Moss, Kristy Everson, Wendy Wonderley, and Bruce McKeeman.

Some exciting things are happening with our local creeks. We hope you will read on and be inspired to get involved this spring.

Granite Creek Cleanup 18 April 2020 | 9- Noon

It's Granite Creek Cleanup time again! This family friendly annual event has made a difference in the community since the 1980s. In our 14th year hosting this event, we're looking to do our part with both trash and debris cleanup as well as several creek stewardship projects. Pre-registration is now open at www.PrescottCreeks.org - We hope you will join us!



The Cleanup would not be possible without the support of the City of Prescott and our many event sponsors. We are pleased to again welcome Mandalay Homes as our premier sponsor in 2020.



Stewardship Projects

During the time that Prescott Creeks has hosted the Granite Creek Cleanup, we've seen an overall downward trend in the amount of trash collected each year. This is a good thing! Ideally, we'd like to work ourselves out of the job imagine a day when there is no trash to clean up from the creeks. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

In anticipation of this day, we've introduced a new element in the Granite Creek Cleanup. Stewardship Projects. The projects compliment the Creek Cleanup in that they are designed to improve elements of our watershed and its creeks. This year we have offerings through a restoration project, a revegetation effort, firewise work, and invasive species control. If you'd like your volunteer service at the Cleanup to be a bit more focused this year, please consider signing up for one of these **Stewardship** Projects.



If none of those are to your liking, there is still a need to pick up trash from the creeks. Either way, we hope you will join us!

As always, registered participants will receive a free tshirt, along with snacks and coffee to boost their Cleanup energy. Contact Prescott Creeks with questions about registration or sponsorship questions.

Downtown Creek Corridor

Many may not realize that Prescott Creeks was <u>originally founded</u> on a vision for Granite Creek in downtown Prescott. This vision evolved into part of Prescott's Greenways Trail System - a network of trails that provides an alternative travel route and immersive nature-experience in the heart of Prescott.

Over time, the Granite Creek corridor through downtown has been negatively impacted by many things. Considered "dirty" and "unsafe" by some community members, the <u>City of Prescott</u> pulled together a group of planning representatives to consider the issue.

The group determined that there is support for enhancing this highly valued urban greenspace while retaining its natural functions and aesthetics that are really the foundation of the area. Funding was secured and a conceptual master plan was developed for the Granite Creek corridor in the downtown area.

The plan highlights \$1.7 million in improvements that should change perceptions of the area from "dirty & unsafe" to it being viewed as a local gem! See selected plan elements at the Prescott Creek website.







Press Conference



Please join Prescott Creeks to discuss the importance of the Miller Creek Public Restroom to surface water quality and the community. With major funding from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, this project represents an innovative approach to water quality improvement involving a diverse group of partners.

Thursday March 19th, 2020 1 - 2:30 pm 531 Madison Ave. Prescott, AZ 86301

Read the full Press Release here.

Support Creeks in many ways:



Membership



Volunteer



<u>Donate</u>

You can make a difference by contributing in one of the ways above. Please visit www.PrescottCreeks.org for more info.





Prescott Creeks is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to achieve healthy watersheds and clean waters in central Arizona for the benefit of people and wildlife through protection, restoration, education and advocacy.

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