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**Phenology Days: A Celebration of Partnership, the Natural World, and Science.**

**TUCSON, Arizona (August 26, 2014)** – The USA National Phenology Network (USA-NPN) and Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation along with UA's Pima Cooperative Extension's Tucson Village Farm, Urban Horticulture Program, Water Resources Research Center, UA Science Biosphere 2; the Tucson Audubon Society's Mason Center; Tucson Botanical Garden; Oracle State Park; Empire Ranch Foundation; Make Way for Monarchs; and the Sam Hughes and Rincon Heights Neighborhood Associations are uniting to celebrate the second annual "Phenology Days" during the week of September 27 – October 4, 2014. The "capstone event" held on Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 9:00 am until noon at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park at the Visitor Center will include a phenology walk where participants can make observations for *Nature's Notebook*, a demonstration of the *Nature's Notebook* online program, milkweed plantings, activities for children, information about phenology at the sponsoring organizations locations, a keynote address by Gary Nabhan, food, a raffle, prizes, and much more.

Phenology Days will educate participants about phenology, or the study of seasonal life cycle events in plants and animals, their timing and relationship to the surrounding environment. Nearly all of us frequently take note of phenological events without knowing it. We note when seeds germinate, flowers bloom, birds migrate and leaves change color. Such events are wonderful indicators of seasonal changes as well as of long-term shifts in climate. The USA-NPN sponsors an interactive professional and citizen science program, *Nature's Notebook* ([www.nn.usanpn.org](http://www.nn.usanpn.org)), an online "nature tracking" system. Phenology monitoring is used in research, management and engagement in all of the Phenology Days' sponsoring organization programs. For more specific details about the event, visit the Tucson Phenology Trail website ([www.usanpn.org/tucson-phenology-trail](http://www.usanpn.org/tucson-phenology-trail)). You will find a schedule for the lecture series, site sponsored events, and what to expect at the capstone event. For more information contact the event organizer, LoriAnne Barnett by phone at 520-622-0363 or email [lorianne@usanpn.org](mailto:lorianne@usanpn.org).

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