



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information:

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Desert Foothills Land Trust Announces Volunteer Training Opportunities

(Cave Creek/Carefree) – Desert Foothills Land Trust is pleased to offer an opportunity for North Valley community members to become personally involved in protecting the landscape they love. The Land Trust will offer an orientation session on October 7 for people interested in volunteering for the Land Trust. The Land Trust will share information about the organization and their volunteer opportunities, including assistance with special events and office activities, as well as workdays on beautiful preserved lands. Executive Director Sonia Perillo explains, “This is a great review for current volunteers, and a great overview for those considering volunteering. We really want to provide a way for the community to engage directly in conservation, and we believe our volunteer program will help us meet that goal.”

Additionally, for those particularly interested in land stewardship and management activities, the Land Trust is offering five in-depth Steward and Docent Training classes, which will cover natural history, geology, invasive species and other topics related to preserve management and outreach activities. Stewards and Docents must complete all five courses, plus the volunteer orientation session. Upon completion of the training, Stewards and Docents have the opportunity to "adopt" a preserve to assist the Land Trust with monitoring and management activities, leading guided hikes and providing preserve visitors with information.

Earlier this year, the Land Trust received a grant from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust to help them build their volunteer and land stewardship programs. "Through that generous grant, the Land Trust will be conducting more orientation sessions and providing some important and fun volunteer activities. We look forward to having volunteers from the community join us," said Perillo.

Event Details:

Volunteer Orientation Session

Thursday, October 7, 2010, 9:00 - 11:00 am

Desert Foothills Land Trust Office

7518 E. Elbow Bend, Ste. B-6

Carefree, AZ 85377

Please RSVP to Mary Warren at 480-488-6131 or mwarren@dflt.org by Oct. 5.

Steward and Docent Training

every Thursday, 9:00 am - Noon

from October 14 through November 11

Space is limited and reservations are required

Please RSVP to Stacy Fischer at 480-488-6131 or sfischer@dflt.org by Oct. 12.

About Desert Foothills Land Trust:

Desert Foothills Land Trust works with communities and partners to protect, preserve and steward sensitive land and species for the survival of the fragile Sonoran Desert. The Land Trust has permanently protected more than 600 acres in the North Valley, including Carefree, Cave Creek, North Phoenix and Far North Scottsdale. Many of these preserves are open to the public for exploration and passive recreation.

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