



Docent Guided Tree Tours are Back!

Enjoy the spring weather, see and smell the desert in bloom, and join us for an outdoor, in-person arboretum tour. Each week has a different theme. **This Sunday, May 1st is "Trees Around the World."** This and most other tours are hosted on most Sundays at the University of Arizona Memorial Fountain, west of Old Main starting at **9:30 am**. They last 60-90 minutes. Campus visitor parking is available and free on most weekends. To confirm attendance, email us at: infoarboretum@cals.arizona.edu

Schedule and info: https://arboretum.arizona.edu/tree_tours

We hope to see you there!

Tanya M. Quist, Director

Featured Tour Guide & Advisory Board Member: Hank Verbais

After retiring from the Federal Aviation Administration in 2013, Hank Verbais pursued his love of the outdoors by becoming a docent at Tohono Chul Park where he leads butterfly and wildflower tours. He is a certified master gardener, certified master naturalist, a trained local phenology leader and docent at the Watershed Management Group. He coordinates the Campus



Arboretum tour program and hosts tours along with other Pima Co. Master Gardener volunteer guides.

Hank Verbais graduated from the University of Arizona in 1975 and 1976 with bachelors and masters degrees in vocational rehabilitation. He later earned a law degree from the Santa Barbara College of Law. He is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy Reserve.

Read more:

<https://arboretum.arizona.edu/university-arizona-campus-arboretum-advisory-board>

Featured Arboretum Plant: *Cordia myxa*

- **Common Name:** Assyrian plum
- **Family Name:** Boraginaceae
- **Botanical Name:** *Cordia myxa*

Interesting facts:

This deciduous species can grow over 40 feet tall. It produces chains of small white flowers with male and female flowers growing on the same tree. When pollinated, the female flowers produce pale peach fruit that eventually turns brown becoming a sweet edible treat. Although similar to a true plum (*Prunus* species), the *Cordia* is not a relative. Partially ripened fruit can be used to make paper, glue. When pickled the fruit is used to treat indigestion, while both the bark and the roots can be used medicinally to treat coughs and sore throat.



Read more: <https://apps.cals.arizona.edu/arboretum/taxon.aspx?id=385>

Campus Arboretum Tree Tours

Experiencing the campus landscape will change the way you think about urban deserts. Visit campus to explore the landscape on a self-guided tour.

[Click here to view the available](#)

[mobile tours](#)

Join the Pima Co. Master Gardeners for a
Guided tour of the Campus trees.

[In-Person Tours Resume Spring 2022](#)



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Promote stewardship and conservation of urban trees in Arizona.

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