



Tres Rios Nature and Earth Festival

March 15-16, 2008 -- Saturday and Sunday 9-4 p.m.

Location for 2008!! -- B&M Wildlife Area - an Arizona Game and Fish Department Wildlife Area located on the Gila River adjacent to Phoenix International Raceway in Avondale, Arizona.

This is an opportunity to celebrate the rich heritage, ecology, history and wildlife of the Gila, Salt and Agua Fria Rivers! It is a great opportunity for the whole family to enjoy a beautiful spring day in Arizona and learn something about the place we call home and it's **FREE**.

Nature Talks: The nature talk series is at the core of the Festival experience. This is an opportunity for people of all ages to really learn about our native wildlife, culture and community. Our Nature Talks are simply amazing – it is an opportunity for kids be entertained, learn something from the experts and to have a great time!

Booths: Exhibitors, sponsors and organizations will have booths that will be sure to entice you.

Food and Drink: Food and drink will be available for purchase at several spots.

Canoe Floats: Canoe floats will be offered on the river at the Festival. This is part of the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Boater Education. Take a moment to learn a little about boating in Arizona and go for a paddle on the Gila River! Watch for more information!

Hikes: Guided hikes and self walks will be offered during the festival. Because of the increase in water this year – the hike have been changed! On the festival grounds staff from Liberty Wildlife will lead you on an interpretive nature hike! Also, the Sonoran Audubon Society is offering early morning walks (please pre-register with an email to tresriosfestival@cox.net) You can take a self guided hike to Monument Hill, which is a must do - it is located at the eastern edge of the B&M Wildlife Area – this Arizona significant site will open your eyes to the history of the area.

Bird Watching: Bird watching is one of the fastest growing forms of outdoor recreation. Come find out what it is all about! "Birders" from the local Audubon Chapters will be on site and tours will be offered throughout the day. They will provide binoculars for your birding walk. If you have your own binoculars and field guide – bring them along and add to your life list! (see the early morning hike above)

The Entertainment: Our headlining group this year is the Back Porch Band based in the Phoenix area. This bluegrass band will provide a mix of bluegrass, old-time, traditional, folk and originals. Along with them, a mix of cultural music and local performers will be sure to please.

Fishing Clinic: Free! First-come on-site registration. It's an instructional clinic for youth and adults. Learn about warm water fishing in Central Arizona: which fish are present, how to catch, clean and prepare them for the table. Fishing equipment provided, no licenses required. The clinic and river are within walking distance from the Festival! So bring yourself and have some fun! Provided by the Arizona Game & Fish Department.

Children's Area - This is an awesome, fun area where kids can get outside and have some fun. Walk a short nature trail, look at wildlife artifacts, make some crafts, get you face painted and much, much more!

For more information about the Festival, visit <http://www.tresriosnaturefestival.com/>