

MEDIA RELEASE

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BAT BRIDGE INTERPRETATIONS AT PIMA COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION CANCELLED

Tucson, AZ (June 27, 2014) For several years, the Desert Museum's docent corps has been conducting bat interpretations at two bridges along the Rillito River, one located at River & Campbell and the other at Pantano River Park. These interpretations have helped promote bat awareness and conservation. The interpretations have been well received by the community and attendance at the events has grown significantly over the years.

Unfortunately with increased interest and numbers of attendees, the interpretive sessions have exceeded the safety capacity at these sites, thus they have been discontinued.

For those who would like to learn more about bats, members of the community are encouraged to visit the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum during **Cool Summer Nights** to see live bats and learn about these often misunderstood creatures.

Additionally, on Saturday, August 30, the Desert Museum will host a special evening all about bats -- Go **Batty for the Museum's Birthday!** Festivities embrace everything that infuses the Museum with its unique approach to learning and loving the Sonoran Desert region. "From a complimentary photography class, to "bat talks" from experts, to listening to bats communicate with bat detectors, to bat-themed birthday cakes, this night will be a fabulous fiesta of fun," states Director of Marketing, Rosemary Prawdzik. All of the special bat activities are free with Museum admission. For more information, go to: desertmuseum.org.

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum is one of the nation's leading outdoor, living museums, featuring more than 230 animals and 1,200 varieties of desert plants. Its purpose is to inspire people to live in harmony with the natural world by fostering love, appreciation, and understanding of the bi-national, Sonoran Desert region. The Museum is located at 2021 N. Kinney Road, in Tucson Mountain Park adjacent to Saguaro National Park (West). It is open daily year round with operating hours varying by season. Call (520) 883-2702 or visit www.desertmuseum.org for more information.

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