



OVERVIEW

Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalist (SCVN) TRAINING PROGRAM

SCVN training is based on well-defined science. We cover elementary geology, herpetology, entomology, predator/prey relationships, natural history, pollination, and an overview of the Native People who inhabited this area in the past. This information is designed to fulfill the Arizona Education Standards and allows elementary and kindergarten classes to participate in our programs.

TRAINING PROGRAM SESSIONS

- Training — Every Monday, October through January, plus 2-4 required Thursdays. Classes run from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. There is a 1-week break for Thanksgiving and 2 weeks off for the winter holiday.
- Internship period — end of training through April (1 morning per week).

This may seem like a lot of training, but we promise that with each lesson or visit to the Canyon, you will learn something new and fascinating about the Sonoran Desert and how to explain its joys to our eager visitors.

TEXTBOOKS

- *A Natural History of the Sonoran Desert* (AZ-Sonora Desert Museum, 2nd edition, 2015)
- *Sabino Canyon: The life of a Southwestern Oasis*, David Lazaroff

Both are available at Sabino Canyon Visitor Center and other locations.

- **The Training Manual** is online. Trainees **must** have a computer or tablet and access to a printer.

COST

\$100 covers class fees, lecturers' fees, and first year dues of \$30. Please let us know if this fee presents a hardship.

COMMITMENT POST TRAINING

One year to one of our programs.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Currently USFS regulations allow only applications/volunteers from U.S. Citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents holding Green Cards. See U.S. Government link here: <https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics/lawful-permanent-residents>.
- US Forest Service will provide background checks of all members.
- Physical requirements include walking on uneven ground for approximately 1-2 miles and lifting of up to 20 pounds teaching material. Please let us know if any mobility issues limit your activity, so accommodations may be made.

TRAINING CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED

SCVN IS AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION, operating under the umbrella of the US Forest Service, that provides environmental education to the public. We have three programs: two school programs and a public interpretation program for the general public.