



City of Phoenix



Becoming the most Sustainable Desert City on the Planet.

WELCOME TO  
WHAT'S HOT / WHAT'S COOL.



WHAT'S HOT/  
WHAT'S COOL

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

The **TOP FIVE** coolest things happening in Phoenix:

1

**Tree and Shade Master Plan**

Phoenix's Urban Heat Island and Tree and Shade Subcommittee has finalized its list of recommendations aimed at helping the city implement its Tree and Shade Master Plan.

Read more [here](#).



2

**Build a Sustainable Home with Zero Permit Fees**

Phoenix supports construction of net zero homes by providing free plans to build a sustainable home including electrical vehicle charging stations and solar in their building plans, as well as no permit fees! The plans are available free of cost [here](#).

**Trash and Recycling Community Meetings**

December 11 - January 23

Multiple Dates and Locations

<https://www.phoenix.gov/publicworks/trashandrecycle#rates-meetings>

**CitySkate Holiday Ice Rink**

November 27 - January 5th

CityScape Phoenix

<http://www.phxicerink.com/>

**ZooLights**

November 27 - January 19

Phoenix Zoo

<https://www.phoenixzoo.org/event-items/zoolights/>

**Las Noches de las Luminarias**

December 6 - December 31



Desert Botanical Garden  
<https://dbg.org/events/luminaria/2019-12-06/>



3

**Phoenix Requests Public Input on Trash and Recycling Services**

The future of Phoenix's recycling practices are being decided, and your input is needed! Five options are being proposed, with two including elimination of recycling and compost programs. Get informed [here](#).



What's Amazing

**Reusing Everything: Phoenix is the Only City that Recycles 100% of Sewage for Beneficial Use.**

Every day, over a hundred million gallons of wastewater is sent from the sewer system to the Phoenix wastewater treatment plant, where it is broken down and treated to be almost entirely reused. Wastewater is reused for irrigation, and cooling of Palo Verde Nuclear Plant. Sludge from the sewage is turned into fertilizer for non-food crops, and biogas, a byproduct of the treatment process is sold as an energy commodity to be used in California.



4

**Sky Harbor Airport Converts to Desert Landscape**

This year, Phoenix completed the long-awaited conversion from non-native plants to desert landscaping, saving an additional 5 million gallons of water a year! [Read more](#).

Did you know?

The Arizona State football team's new uniforms showcase ASU's efforts toward a sustainable future. The uniform is made of Adidas' sustainable econyl yarn, and their cleats are made with recycled materials. Read the article [here](#).



## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Buy less, choose well, make it last."

– Vivienne Westwood



Join Our E-mail List!



### Other Cities Looking to Phoenix for Managing Scooter Rentals

Geo-locating of scooters is working, and other cities are looking to Phoenix as an example of how to successfully use geolocation to manage scooter rentals. Read about it [here](#).



**Mark your calendars for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day celebration. Event details from a passionate sustainability student.**

Now almost 50 years ago, Gaylord Nelson said the famous quote on the very first Earth Day that "Our goal is not just an environment of clean air and water and scenic beauty. The objective is an environment of decency, quality and mutual respect for all other human beings and all living creatures." Today, faced with seemingly unapproachable and complex sustainability challenges, we are still actively working towards this goal. Phoenix is in many ways a sustainability leader and has continued to expand efforts to increase equity and

access to sustainability practices but there is still a lot more work to do.

During the week of Earth Day (April 18th - 26th) festivities and events will be held at a number of different locations and times around the valley and everyone is encouraged to join in for responsibly planting trees, family walks and bike rides, a sustainable fashion show, water conscious beer tasting, and so much more!

Many people today are unaware of the rich history of Earth Day and the progress that has been made since the first celebration back in 1970. A time before the clean water and clean air act and many young people are unfamiliar with the Cuyahoga River and how it became such a powerful image for the disastrous environmental impact that large industries were creating. One of the goals of this event will be to look back over the last half of a century at the progress that has come about and the ambitious actions that were taken even when faced with problems that seemed too challenging to address. *50<sup>th</sup> Earth Day Phoenix* will be a great opportunity to learn skills and build community capacity to take on their local sustainability challenges and come together to appreciate the beauty of our planet.

Keep an eye out for more details and the event planning committee is always looking for more events, activities, and organizations interested in helping host a week of celebration! If you would like to let us know about an Earth Day event you are planning or would like to be involved in the planning in some way, we would love to hear from you. Please reach out to [kevin.goddard@phoenix.gov](mailto:kevin.goddard@phoenix.gov) or [50thEarthDayPhX@gmail.com](mailto:50thEarthDayPhX@gmail.com) with your contact information and we will follow up.

Kevin Goddard  
Sustainability Student  
City of Phoenix Intern

# 50<sup>TH</sup>



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## Earth Day Phoenix

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# 2020

**Take Action – Get Involved – Give to the Cause – Spread the Word**



Did you enjoy this newsletter? Let us know!

Got a question?  
Ask one of our experts at

[sustainability@phoenix.gov](mailto:sustainability@phoenix.gov)

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