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Celebrating the Maricopa Trail

Volunteers explore and care for the Maricopa Trail in our community

(Anthem, New River, Desert Hills, AZ) – Thanks to all volunteers who participated in the Trail Stewardship Day on December 6 to explore and care for a beautiful portion of the Maricopa Trail, adopted by Desert Foothills Land Trust and the Anthem Community Council. Volunteer participation is critical for trail sustainability and preservation in our communities. Additionally, spending time as a family on the trail and learning about trail etiquette and stewardship is instrumental in conserving the landscape for future generations.

With the help and sponsorship from other regional organizations like the New River/Desert Hills Community Association, Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona, the Conservation Alliance, Rayne of the North Valley, Starbucks-Anthem Way, and the Maricopa County Trail & Park Foundation, volunteers learned about the treasures of the Sonoran Desert and how the Maricopa Trail affects Daisy Mountain.

Along the way, volunteers picked up trash, lopped branches, improved markings for the trail route, and formed new friendships. Included in the more than 60 volunteers were students from the Canyon Springs National Junior Honor Society and the newly formed Anthem Youth Advisory Council, all showing enthusiasm and professionalism that would make any parent proud.

This event also marked the unveiling of a trailhead sign that celebrates the collaboration of the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department, Desert Foothills Land Trust and Anthem Community Council to maintain the stretch of the Maricopa Trail that runs from I-17 to New River Road (about 6.3 miles).

For more information on future events or to sign up for e-news, visit www.dflt.org.

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Photo Identification:

- “maricopa trail sign by ann ordway.jpg:” Jenna Kohl (Anthem Community Council), Sonia Perillo (Desert Foothills Land Trust), Jennifer Wheeler (Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department), Jan Hancock (Maricopa County Parks and Trails Foundation), Kevin Tyne (Maricopa County Supervisor Andy Kunasek’s office) and Ann Hutchinson (DFLT board member and Trail Stewardship Day co-chair) unveil a new sign celebrating their collaboration to “adopt” a 6.3-mile stretch of the Maricopa Trail. Photo by Ann Ordway.
- “saguaro and cass speaking by sp.jpg:” Naturalist Cass Blodgett shares information about saguaros with a group at the Trail Stewardship Day on December 6, 2014. Photo courtesy of Desert Foothills Land Trust.
- “sign with trail group by sp.jpg:” A group of volunteers celebrates their trash clean-up and exploration at the Maricopa Trail Stewardship Day on December 6, 2014. Photo courtesy of Desert Foothills Land Trust.

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