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### **Arizona's Botanical Gardens and Arboretums**

Our botanical gardens and arboretums are great resources for information on plants and animals of the various geographical regions of Arizona.

#### **Phoenix area:**

The Desert Botanical Garden houses one of the world's finest collections of desert plants, focusing on Southwestern desert plants. There are over 50 acres of outdoor exhibits to hold your attention: visit Desert House to learn how to live comfortably and economically in hot arid regions without wasting natural resources; follow the 1/4 mile Desert Living Trail for desert landscaping solutions, including vegetable and herb gardening, or the Desert Discovery Trail to learn unique characteristics of desert plants; join the docent-led Daily Garden Tour for in-depth information on how desert plants survive. For more information visit their website: [www.dbg.org](http://www.dbg.org) or call 480-941-1225.

The Arboretum at Arizona State University encompasses the entire Tempe campus of Arizona State University: view over 300 species from diverse geographic regions around the world and a growing collection of native southwestern plants; visit The Desert Arboretum Park which includes an amphitheater, aquatic habitat, and southwestern desert gardens. Campus maps and Arboretum guides are available at the ASU Visitors Information Center, 826 Apache Blvd., P.O. Box 872512, Tempe, Arizona 85287-2512. For more information see [www.asu.edu/fm/arboretum](http://www.asu.edu/fm/arboretum) or [www.azarboretum.org](http://www.azarboretum.org).

#### **Tucson area:**

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum includes a botanical garden, world-renowned zoo and natural history museum. Exhibits re-create the natural landscape of the Sonoran Desert Region: walk their 2 miles of trails that cross 21 acres of desert; view almost 1,400 different species of plants; sign up for a Sonoran Studies class to learn more about desert plants and animals. For details and hours of operation go to [www.desertmuseum.org](http://www.desertmuseum.org).

Tucson Botanical Gardens boasts 16 different gardens with a variety of gardening themes: visit the Backyard Bird Garden, Butterfly Garden, Cactus and Succulent Garden or Native American Crops Garden; stop at the Gallery at the Gardens to see artwork of artists with fresh visions; don't miss

Butterfly Magic - Arizona's Only Live Tropical Butterfly Exhibit (open daily 10:00 - 3:00 PM. Exhibit ends February 28, 2007). To plan your visit, go to [www.tucsonbotanical.org](http://www.tucsonbotanical.org).

**Superior:**

Boyce Thompson Arboretum is a 320-acre living classroom dedicated to helping people appreciate arid land plants: see almost 3,200 different desert plants along the 1.5 mile main trail; visit their gardens including the Hummingbird-Butterfly Garden, Desert Legume Garden, Cactus Garden and the Demonstration Garden which presents a series of water-efficient residential theme gardens; be sure to see the African, Mediterranean, South American and Asian collections also. Guided tours are held daily at 1:00 PM. See their website at

<http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu>. <http://arboretum.ag.arizona.edu/index.html>

**Flagstaff:**

Although closed for the season (re-opens April 1), the Arboretum at Flagstaff is an essential stop for high elevation gardeners. The Arboretum is a botanical garden, research station, and environmental education center, dedicated to helping the public understand plants of the Colorado Plateau: visit their many exhibit gardens including the Water Conservation Garden, Herb Garden and Kitchen Garden; stroll through the Mixed Conifer Habitat; learn about renewable solar energy at the Horticulture Center. Docent-led walks are held daily at 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. For more information see [www.thearb.org](http://www.thearb.org).