

McDowell Sonoran Conservancy

Fact Sheet

The McDowell Sonoran Conservancy champions the sustainability of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve for the benefit of this and future generations. As stewards, we connect the community to the Preserve through education, research, advocacy, partnerships and safe, respectful access.

How we accomplish our mission

The McDowell Sonoran Conservancy is a non-profit organization that relies on our more than 400 volunteers to help protect and promote the Preserve. We do this in many ways - from trail building and patrolling the trails to guiding hikes, sponsoring education programs, and conducting scientific research. Our goal is that future generations will enjoy this ecological treasure the same way we do today.



- We are a **unique model** for preserving large natural open space within an urban environment through a public/private partnership with the City of Scottsdale.
- With a nationally recognized volunteer training program and more than 400 volunteers that work to protect the land, we are the **vehicle through which individuals can take action** to effect positive change for the ecological sustainability of the area.
- With more than 21,400 acres protected, we are **stewards** of one of the largest urban Preserves in the country.
- And, through our McDowell Sonoran Field Institute, we are **the community's expert** in land stewardship and conservation education.

The community needs natural open space

- **Children need access to nature** for healthy physical, intellectual and emotional development.
- An increase in connectedness with ecological and cultural heritage positively **impacts a community's health and development**.
- Research indicates a **sustainable community must include natural open spaces**.
- **Connectivity of the Preserve is important** because it provides an uninterrupted wildlife corridor from the McDowell Mountains to the Tonto National Forest, and is the key to the survival of many of our diverse desert species.
- The Arizona Game and Fish Department considers the McDowell Mountains and surrounding Sonoran desert as **the most significant wildlife habitat in the Valley outside the Tonto National Forest**.

For more information call the MSC offices at 480-998-7971 or visit our website at www.mcdowellsonoran.org

