

Environmental Fund for Arizona Organizational Overview

Who We Are

Environmental Fund for Arizona is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization that serves to raise awareness and fundraise for our 29 member organizations primarily through workplace giving campaigns. We are included in campaigns alongside other federations like the United Way, Community Health Charities, and Global Impact. What makes us unique however is that we're the only 'green' choice in workplace giving in the state of Arizona. As an environmental coalition, we're able to promote and raise funds for many groups who otherwise wouldn't have access to workplace campaigns and employees on an individual basis.

In addition to receiving donations, our EFA member groups have many opportunities during the fall to promote themselves in campaign events through presentations and agency fairs. As part of our Strategic Plan for 2010, there will be even more opportunities to promote our members through our website, e-newsletter, annual reports, and special events.

We're led by a selection of officers and board members. As of June 2009, Laine Seaton has transitioned into the Executive Director position for Solange Whitehead who created EFA in 2001. Tamarie Bigelow was also hired in June 2009 as a part-time bookkeeper/accountant. Both Laine and Tamarie's positions are compensated.

Officers:

Bob Fox, President
480-595-5047 – buowbob@fastq.com
Richard MacLean, Vice President
480-946-0617 – maclean@competitive-e.com
Lee Kohlhase, Treasurer
480-832-8370 – lee@kohlhaseins.com
Megan Mosby, Secretary
602-840-5936 – meganmosby@cox.net

Board Members:

Sam Campana – scampana@audubon.org
Janet Ross – jross@fourcornersschool.org
Nancy Zierenberg – nzberg4@cox.net
Mark Rosati – mark.rosati@pcmail.maricopa.edu
Solange Whitehead – solange@mlwsw.com
Linda Raish – linda@mcdowellsonoran.org

Began in 2001 with eight member groups:

AZ Association for Environmental Education
Southwest Wildlife Rehabilitation and Educational Foundation
Western Resource Advocates
AZ Wildlife Federation
Trout Unlimited
Willow Bend Environmental Education Center
Grand Canyon Trust
Tucson Audubon Society

Today, there are 29 member groups with EFA. While the majority of groups are in Maricopa County, five members are in Flagstaff and eight are in Tucson.

Arboretum at Flagstaff
AAEE
AZ Heritage Alliance
AZ League of Conservation Voters Education Fund
AZ Native Plant Society
AZ Land & Water Trust
AZ Recycling Coalition
AZ Wildlife Federation
Audubon AZ
Desert Botanical Garden
Desert Foothills Land Trust
Four Corners School of Outdoor Education
Grand Canyon Trust
Grand Canyon Wildlands Council
Gray Hawk Nature Center
Liberty Wildlife
McDowell Sonoran Conservancy
Maricopa Audubon Society
Museum of Northern AZ
Native Seeds/SEARCH
Oracle Conservancy Land Trust
Sonoran Audubon Society
Sonoran Institute
Southwest Wildlife Rehabilitation & Educational Foundation
Trout Unlimited
Tucson Audubon Society
Western Resource Advocates
Wild At Heart
Willow Bend Environmental Education Center

There are 4 EFA board meetings per year.
One in-person meeting and all others via conference call.
2009 meeting dates: 1/28, 5/19, 8/25, 11/17

Membership

There is a one-time \$1,000 membership fee to become an EFA member organization. Each applying organization must be a 501(c)(3), file either a 990 or 990EZ, and be in good financial standing for consideration.

We currently run 17 campaigns each fall through:

American Express
Ameriprise
United Health
JP Morgan Chase
Wells Fargo
State of AZ
Arizona CFC (Federal employees)
Maricopa County CFC (Federal employees in Maricopa County)
Maricopa County
Coconino County
Pima County
City of Chandler
City of Scottsdale
City of Mesa
Town of Queen Creek
Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine
Maricopa Community Colleges District

Campaign Donations

When EFA is a participating federation in a workplace campaign, employees have a list of our 29 member organizations, and can designate their gift(s) to one or more specific groups and/or they can choose a general gift to EFA that will be distributed equally among all 29 member groups.

American Express (AMEX) currently accounts for the largest \$\$ donation percentage among all of our campaigns (over 20%), with the State of Arizona being number two. We receive company donation matches from AMEX, Ameriprise, and United Health.

We also receive grant support periodically and we hold an annual fundraising event each year. In addition, EFA is sometimes chosen as the recipient charity in a small business campaign or fundraiser. The Buffalo Exchange store in Tempe will be raising funds for EFA in 2010.

EFA Pledge History

2000-2001	under \$ 4,000
2001-2002	\$23,347
2002-2003	\$44,191
2003-2004	\$63,965
2004-2005	\$75,230
2005-2006	\$85,269
2006-2007	\$116,000
2007-2008	\$150,470

For the 2008-09 campaign season, we've currently completed two distributions to our member groups. A third and final distribution will go out in January 2010. To date, we've distributed nearly \$73,000 in donations to our member groups.

The largest distribution this season to an individual member group = **\$14,950**

The smallest distribution this season to an individual member group = **\$600**

Donation Distributions

Campaigns typically run from September – December with donations beginning in January of the following year. Each campaign disburses donations to EFA differently – some monthly and some quarterly. EFA aims to distribute donation checks to our member organizations quarterly. With each check, a letter will be included to indicate which distribution it is. A summary of the total pledges for ALL campaigns will be given to each member organization as well. A pledge history for each member will be given out annually.

Campaign Applications

Campaigns through the State of Arizona, Maricopa County, and CFC (Federal) require an application every year to participate. It is for these campaigns that EFA requires a 990 form and audit (if applicable) from our member organizations. For organizations that only file a 990EZ, these campaigns still require that pages 1,2, and 4 of the 990 form be filled out. The purpose is to calculate the administration percentage: Management and General + Fundraising /Total Revenue. Important: An administration percentage of 25% or below is advisable. A percentage higher than 25% may result in non-inclusion in the campaign. For this reason, it's critical that our member organizations correctly allocate their Management and General expenses on the 990 form and distinguish them from program expenses.

EFA Goals

While EFA has seen terrific growth since our inception in 2001, we're committed to continue building our coalition and increasing awareness and donations primarily by opening up new campaigns.

As the only 'green' choice in workplace giving in Arizona, we have an outstanding opportunity to leverage this niche and partner with companies and organizations who are committed to sustainability, the environment, and conservation.