



## NEWS RELEASE

### City of Cottonwood, AZ

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#### For Immediate Release

Date: March 26, 2013  
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Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival  
P.O. Box 2224  
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**13th Annual - Verde Valley Birding and Nature Festival**  
**Thursday, April 25 through Sunday, April 28**  
**Dead Horse Ranch State Park**

Registration for the 2013 VVBNF begins February 1. The event is made up of field trips, workshops, guided walks, exhibit hall and vendors. Registration fee is \$15 plus additional fees for field trips. Our theme this year is “Finches and Flowers” as we look at our gardens and backyard habitats and birding. Our keynote speaker is David Mizejewski, National Wildlife Federation’s spokesperson and naturalist. He was host of the Animal Planet’s TV series “Backyard Habitat,” and has made appearances on TV and radio shows including NBC’s Today Show and the Martha Stewart Show.

Dave is author of *Attracting Birds, Butterflies and Other Backyard Wildlife*. The keynote dessert reception is open to the public and held at the Cottonwood Recreation Center, 150 S. 6th Street, Friday, April 26. There will also be an opportunity to go on a field trip with David to a certified NWF backyard habitat.

The popular Canyon and Condors Grand Canyon tour is back along with a host of new special trips. Let’s not forget the popular Cadillac Canoe Brunch. New trips are added every year and this year we are offering two different progressive tours visiting local backyard habitats that offer snacks along the way.

There are also trips available to explore the geology of the Verde Valley with a knowledgeable guide who will describe the processes that created this amazing and unique landscape. This is an extraordinary festival with something for everyone, from birding beginners to experts, lovers of nature and lovers of learning. Saturday is the free “Family Nature Fair” with activities for children and parents alike.

Go to the website at [www.birdyverde.org](http://www.birdyverde.org) for more information about all the planned field trips, workshops, seminars and more. Events fill quickly, so register as soon as possible to insure space is available. For more information, call Barbie at 928-282-2202.