Old Pueblo Archaeology Center presents:

Archaeology, Paleontology, and Environmental Sciences Laboratories Tour

8 a.m. to noon on Saturday July 18, 2020

$30 donation per person
($24 for Old Pueblo Archaeology Center members and Pueblo Grande Museum Auxiliary members)
benefits Old Pueblo’s education and research programs.
Donations are due 10 days after reservation request or by 5 p.m. Monday July 13, whichever is earlier.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s OH-SO-COOL SUMMER TOUR visits two renowned environmental-science laboratories in Tucson – the Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill and the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research, both administered by The University of Arizona (UA).

The tour will meet at the Mercado San Agustin and carpool from there to the Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill for the first tour segment. Once we arrive there, archaeologist Dr. Anna Seiferle-Valencia or Laboratory Director Dr. Ben Wilder will give a PowerPoint presentation, then lead us through the Desert Lab, where cutting-edge environmental research still is being done in historic buildings that were constructed in 1903. Anna or Ben also will discuss the archaeological sites on Tumamoc Hill.

After departing the Desert Lab we will caravan to the UA Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research (LTRR) for the second half of the tour, where Lead Docent Randall Smith will provide an introduction to the history of the Tree-Ring Lab and its founder, astronomer Dr. Andrew Ellicott Douglas, then will show us the Dendroecology, Mediterranean Dendroarchaeology, and Southwestern Archaeology laboratorys in LTRR.

For reservations or more information contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at 520-798-1201 or info@oldpueblo.org

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION
The Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill began its existence in 1903 as the Carnegie Desert Botanical Laboratory established by the Carnegie Institution of Washington. In 1940 the Carnegie Institution sold it to the US Forest Service for $1, and in 1956 the UA bought it from the U.S. government, promising in the deed to use it solely for research and education. The Tumamoc Hill Desert Laboratory is now listed in the National Register of Historic Places. During its 115 years of existence its staff have been on the cutting edge in the fields of paleontology and desert ecology.

The Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research originally was created by UA Professor of Astronomy Andrew Ellicott Douglass, the founder of the dendrochronology – the study of tree rings to create chronologies that reconstruct the past - in 1937 beneath the University of Arizona football stadium. Now housed in the beautiful new Bryant Bannister Building on campus, the tree-ring lab hosts studies used by nearly every other science, with archaeology being the first (a century ago) to apply the methodology of dendrochronology to date structures and artifacts at southwestern archaeological sites.

TOUR GUIDES: Dr. Anna Seiferle-Valencia or Dr. Benjamin T. Wilder will guide our tour of the Desert Laboratory on Tumamoc Hill. Dr. Seiferle-Valencia, the Desert Lab’s Program Coordinator, is a University of Arizona and Harvard-trained archaeologist with expertise in the cultures of the U.S. Southwest, Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras. Lab Director Dr. Wilder’s research is broadly focused in desert ecology and botany and utilizes multiple approaches and time scales to establish baselines for understanding modern biodiversity and connect science to conservation.

Mr. Randall S. Smith, our tour guide at the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research’s new Bannister Building, is a retired educator and literacy consultant, and lifelong science reader, intimately familiar with the Tree-Ring Lab and its personnel.

IMPORTANT TOUR INFORMATION

TOUR MEETING PLACE: The tour will meet in the courtyard at Mercado San Agustín, 100 S. Avenida del Convento, Tucson (at Congress St., see map).

TRANSPORTATION: Registrants are responsible for their own transportation except when assigned to carpools. All driving is on paved roads.

CARPOOLS ARE REQUIRED: The first tour segment to the Desert Lab is limited to six vehicles on the Tumamoc Hill Road so carpooling is required and no more than 24 people including Old Pueblo’s tour coordinator (Allen Dart) can go on the tour depending on whether we can designate six 4-passenger vehicles for carpooling from Mercado San Agustín to and from the Desert Lab. After we leave Tumamoc we will return to the Mercado where carpoolers can rejoin their own vehicles and the entire group can caravan from the Mercado to LTRR for the second tour segment. To register for the tour you must be willing to ride in another person’s vehicle if Old Pueblo assigns you to a specific carpool vehicle other than your own.

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS: No lodging or meals are included in tour fee.

COST AND PAYMENT POLICY: Reservations are accepted on a first-come basis. The full donation is due within 10 days of requesting the reservation or by the reservation deadline, whichever is earlier. A portion of the donation will be a tax-deductible contribution to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center in an amount to be determined based on tour expenses compared to revenues after all expenses have been paid. Any entrance fee savings from passes, permits, memberships, etc., become part of the donation to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center. We welcome singles, couples, and groups.

CANCELLATIONS less than seven days prior to departure date are not refundable. Cancellation notice must be received in writing or via email and will be effective as of the date received. Cancellations after final payment date/time will result in forfeiture of all money paid. No refund will be made for leaving a program in progress. Trip insurance is highly recommended. Old Pueblo reserves the right to cancel programs while in progress and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis, when in Old Pueblo’s sole opinion the health, safety, or well-being of participants requires such action. The tour itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, but participants will be notified of significant changes in advance if the change is under the control of Old Pueblo.

Check out Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s other activities and membership support program at www.oldpueblo.org.