

APRIL

ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

PALO VERDE TREES

Photo by: Natural Resource Specialist
Juanita Armstrong



ECO-BLITZ REGISTRATION

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QUESTIONS

maricopacountyparks@maricopa.gov

PALO VERDE TREES



Photo by: Eric Hough

This month, we're highlighting two iconic Sonoran Desert trees: the **Blue Palo Verde** (*Parkinsonia florida*) and the **Foothills Palo Verde** (*Parkinsonia microphylla*). In addition to being **Arizona's official state tree**, the Palo Verde is adapted to survive in arid conditions. During extended drought, it may **shed its leaves to conserve water**.

How to Tell Them Apart

- **Blue Palo Verde:** Leaves grow in clusters. Bright yellow flowers with a yellow banner petal. Smooth, green bark.
- **Foothills Palo Verde:** Very small, sparse leaves. Flowers feature a white banner petal. Typically appears more twig-like.

Source:

- The Arizona Native Plant Society: <https://aznps.com/arizona-state-tree/>.