

OCTOBER ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

DESERT BLONDE TARANTULA

PHOTO BY NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST JUANITA ARMSTRONG



ECO-BLITZ REGISTRATION

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QUESTIONS

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DESERT BLONDE TARANTULA



Photo by Interpretive Ranger Eric Hough

This month, we're exploring the **Desert Blonde Tarantula** (*Aphonopelma Chalcodes*). Check out these fun facts:

- Did you know female desert blonde tarantulas can **live 25+ years**, often in the same burrow? Talk about a homebody!
- When threatened, they can also **flick tiny, irritating hairs** from their abdomen toward a predator as a defense.
- Desert blonde tarantulas may **look intimidating**, but they're surprisingly docile and slow-moving. Rather than picking a fight, they'd much rather retreat to the safety of their burrow.

Sources:

- Desert Blonde Tarantula (*Aphonopelma Chalcodes*). Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum - <https://www.desertmuseum.org/kids/facts/?animal=Desert%20Blonde%20Tarantula>.