

***For more Information Please Contact:
Keep Sedona Beautiful, Inc. (928) 282-4938***

Why We Should Care About the Verde River at KSB's April 11 Speaker Series

Join Keep Sedona Beautiful ("KSB") to learn some of the measures that can be taken to provide solutions to our water resource issues as part of Keep Sedona Beautiful's *Preserving the Wonder™* Speaker Series on Wednesday, April 11.

Free to members, residents and visitors - all are welcome to join KSB at 5:30 p.m. at its historic Pushmataha Center on 360 Brewer Road. The evening will include complimentary appetizers donated by El Rincon Restaurante Mexicano and refreshments provided by KSB.

According to Nancy Steele, the new Executive Director of Friends of the Verde River, "The Verde River system, including its tributary creeks, is the driving force behind the Verde Valley communities, economically, socially, and ecologically. Yet increased growth and groundwater use present a threat to our water resources, including the sources of the Verde River."

Ms. Steele brings over twenty-five years of environmental management and research experience to share with the Verde Valley, having used the tools of science and policy to catalyze change towards a more sustainable future.

Among some of the success stories are partnerships, a suite of land and water-use tools, and an innovative water offset program.

Prior to joining Friends of the Verde River, Ms. Steele was Executive Director of Council for Watershed Health in Los Angeles; she also worked in various California agencies, focusing on environmental and health impacts of pollution, including controlling diesel emissions from heavy-duty trucks and buses and reducing lead poisoning.

Nancy earned her doctorate in Environmental Science and Engineering from University of California, Los Angeles. She received her M.S. in zoology from Arizona State University and her A.B. in biology from Occidental College. Nancy was born and raised in Phoenix and loves being outdoors. Nancy and her husband have operated an urban beekeeping business for 40 years.

In addition, Sharon Masek Lopez, Executive Director of the Oak Creek Watershed Council will discuss reducing storm water pollution that impacts Oak Creek.

Keep Sedona Beautiful's monthly *Preserving the Wonder™* Speaker Series is held the second Wednesday of each month from September through May. It focuses on presenting a diversity of programs relevant to the unique environment of our region.

Keep Sedona Beautiful, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that, by acting through the stewardship of its members and volunteers, is committed to protecting and sustaining the unique scenic beauty and natural environment of the Greater Sedona Area. For more information about Keep Sedona Beautiful, please visit <http://www.keepsedonabeautiful.org/> or call 928.282.4938.