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Interactive Environmental Educational Series



The Alta Environmental Center proudly partners with Cottonwood Canyons Foundation for an on-trail interactive environmental educational series this fall for teachers, families and individuals. Join us for **free online programs** teaching science concepts utilizing the trails and environments in the Cottonwood Canyons. Topics covered include history, geology, watershed awareness, wildlife, history, trees and plants.

The series begins this **Thursday, September 24**. Registration is free but required.

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INNOVATIVE OUTDOOR EDUCATION BRINGS COTTONWOOD CANYONS ONLINE

The Cottonwood Canyons Foundation is launching a new online and on-trail interactive environmental education series for families and teachers called *Trails. Online. Ecology on the Trail.* The series, released the last week of September, runs for five weeks, and will also be available online as a permanent resource. The series teaches science concepts while utilizing the environment and trails in the Cottonwood Canyons and is designed to be a guide to learn different aspects of science in a place-based setting. Registration for teachers and families is free and can be found along with more information at cottonwoodcanyons.org/education.

"If students and families are not able to make it into the Canyons, the series can still be utilized to help guide learning in a park or backyard, making it an ideal curriculum supplement for elementary education teachers, homeschooling children, or families looking to get outside for a free, informative activity," stated Joanna Wheelton Campbell, CCF Executive Director. Each week, the Cottonwoods Canyons Foundation will release online curricula with naturalist facts covering geology, history, wildlife, trees and plants, and watershed awareness. The material will be curriculum-aligned for school-age children. There will also be a map released each week for a certain area in the Cottonwood Canyons. This map will have one highlighted trail that will have suggested stopping points, drawing back to the material in the curriculum. Teachers can pass along the map information to their students' parents or encourage their students to discover and explore the naturalist facts in a local park or in their backyard. Families can explore the canyons using the map and discover adjacent trails, as well.

"Working with our partners at Snowbird, Alta, Brighton, and Solitude ski resorts, as well as the US Forest Service, Salt Lake Ranger District, and SLC Public Utilities Watershed Program, this education program directly aligns with the mission of the Cottonwood Canyons: Supporting the environment of the Cottonwood Canyons through stewardship and education," Wheelton added. The program has already registered over 50 teachers, reaching thousands of children along the Wasatch Front.

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Since 1938, this marks Alta Ski Area's 82nd winter in operation. Originally a mining town, Alta was the first ski area in Utah to install a lift. Alta is a skiers-only mountain with majestic scenery, diverse terrain and a renowned snowfall average of 547". There is a spirit to Alta we call #AltaMagic. Come for the skiing. Stay for the skiing.

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