



**Ruthie Carll**  
Executive Director  
McDowell Sonoran Conservancy

Ruthie graduated from Georgian Court College in New Jersey with a BS in biology with the intent of becoming an oceanographer. Her interest in plants, however, took her on a side trip to Arizona when she attended ASU, earning her MS in botany, studying the ecology of desert plants and the beneficial soil microbes that help plants survive. While earning her degree, Ruthie taught in a variety of settings including college lab courses, ASU's Disabled Students Resource Center, and the Center for Academic Precocity. It was in teaching science that she found her true passion.

After graduating she became the coordinator of the school programming at the DBG, eventually moving up to the position of Director of Education where she led a large staff in implementing award-winning programs for adults and children. She also became an adjunct faculty member within the Maricopa County Community College system teaching ecology, biology, natural science and oceanography. In June, 2006, Ruthie joined the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy and is now the Executive Director.