



# SEPTEMBER ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

## TURKEY VULTURE



### ECO-BLITZ REGISTRATION

[bit.ly/Eco-BlitzRegistration](http://bit.ly/Eco-BlitzRegistration)



### LEARN ABOUT THE I-NATURALIST PROGRAM

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### QUESTIONS

[@maricopacountyparks](http://maricopacountyparks)  
[maricopa.gov](http://maricopa.gov)

## TURKEY VULTURE



TURKEY VULTURE

### Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)

- They have a large black body, long wings with gray flight feathers, a naked bright red head, and a hooked bill.
- Turkey Vultures gain altitude by riding the thermals high in the sky like other vultures.
- They are scavengers and use their keen sense of smell to locate dead carcasses.
- Their Latin name translates to “Golden purifier.” By taking care of the carrion, vultures provide an essential service for the health of our ecosystems.
- As a defense mechanism, they will vomit on the species that is getting too close, including humans.

Source: [https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Turkey\\_Vulture/overview](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Turkey_Vulture/overview)



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