

Cactus & Pine GCSA participates in Arizona FFA State Leadership Conference
Over 900 students participated in the three day conference held in Tucson

Cactus & Pine, GCSA participated in the 2025 Arizona FFA State Leadership Conference June 5th – 7th at the Tucson Convention Center.

The chapter sponsored a booth at the Career Fair that was held on June 5th and over 900 FFA students turned out to learn about career opportunities in numerous fields related to agriculture including turfgrass management.

GCSAA Southwest Field Representative Jeff Jensen, BASF Senior Sales Representative for Turf & Ornamental, Frank Santiago and BASF intern Sydney Loflin assisted with the booth and spoke to students about educational and career opportunities in the golf maintenance industry.

Frank has been leading chapter efforts over the past several years to make students more aware of the opportunities available in the golf and green industry. He was responsible for assisting in putting eleven teams together for the inaugural GCSAA/FFA National Turfgrass Science Invitational that was held at Conference and Show in San Diego this past February. The invitational is a competitive event for students that emphasizes skills in turfgrass science including plant identification, course set-up, equipment operation and best management practices. Blackstone Country Club Superintendent Andrew Hitchcock hosted a training session for the teams this past January as they prepped for the invitational.

Cactus and Pine is proud to support the Arizona FFA and other workforce development efforts that will assist in expanding the golf industry throughout the state.







