



## The Morton Arboretum Pre-Trip Activity for “Cycles and Solutions” Vocabulary List

To maximize the effectiveness of your “Cycles and Solutions” program at The Morton Arboretum, please familiarize your students with the following vocabulary words. This will be most effective just before the program.

**Abiotic** – a non-living element in an environment (e.g., light, water, heat/sun, rock, air)

**Biotic** – an environmental factor related to or produced by a living organism

**Cycle** – the repeated (usually circular) execution of related events or phenomenon

**Condensation** – a physical change in which a gas or vapor is transformed into a liquid (e.g., a cloud becomes rain)

**Evaporation** – a physical change in which a liquid is transformed into a gas or vapor (e.g., a puddle becomes water vapor)

**Photosynthesis** – the process by which green plants manufacture simple sugars in the presence of sunlight, carbon dioxide, water and chlorophyll

**Precipitation** – water from the atmosphere that falls to the ground as rain, snow, sleet, or hail

**Recycle** – to collect materials that can be broken down and reprocessed into new items

**Transpiration** – the process in which a plant releases water from the openings on a leaf surface