

**Date:** August 10, 2023  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission  
**From:** R.J. Cardin, Director  
**Re:** Director's Summary of Current Events

Listed below are activities the department has been involved with during **May and June 2023 (fiscal year-end)**.

### Office of the Director

#### **NACo Award:**

- **Greater Gila River Corridor Project at Estrella Mountain Regional Park Award:** Parks partnered with several local agencies to oversee the Greater Gila River Corridor Project development at Estrella Mountain Regional Park. The project involved partnerships with mining companies, corporate sponsors, nonprofits, and government agencies. The team significantly impacted the park by combining resources, sharing expertise in conservation, implementing nature-based solutions to restore public lands, and involving the community. Various species of insects and mammals visit the garden to enjoy shade and nectar produced by the plants. As the flora in the park matures and more wildlife visits, staff anticipate this area will become a coveted spot for park visitors to watch the wildlife in their natural habitat. This project was selected as a 2023 NACo Achievement Award winner.

**Interpretive Ranger Adaptive Training:** The Rangers attended an adaptive training held by Recreation Supervisor Angelica Raya from Chandler as well as Recreation Coordinator Luke Parker from Peoria. This training was the first step towards developing a partnership program with local cities to broaden the rangers' interactions with the public and bring another level of diversity to our programs. The first part of the training was an informative presentation going over adaptive guidelines and things to expect when working with individuals with disabilities. The second portion was a scavenger hunt where the rangers were able to interact with participants searching for bird clues around the community center. Overall, it was an incredibly successful day. Everyone had a great time, and we are looking forward to the "Adapt in Nature" programs offered in October and November.



**Parks Proposed Fee Scheduled Changes:** The proposed fee schedule changes are currently under revision based on new direction provided by the County Manager’s Office, comments from the Commission discussion, and Parks’ decision to use updated budget and user activity data in the fee calculations (prior presentation used FY23 budget and FY22 user data). We anticipate a revised proposal later this fall.

**Board of Supervisors Agenda Items:**

Date/ Status	Tracking Number	Summary
5/24/2023 Approved	C-06-23-687-X-00	<b>Donations for Parks and Recreation:</b> In accordance with County Policy A2508, accept the monthly donation report received from Parks and Recreation for April 2023, for a Cash Value of \$2,349.75.
06/14/2023 Approved	C-30-23-026-X-00	<b>IGA with Flood Control District:</b> Approve the IGA to allow FCD unfettered access to any Maricopa County Parks, upon proper notice to the administration of said park, for the purpose of collecting seeds to be used to germinate native plant materials in tall pots, in exchange for FCD providing native plant materials propagated in tall pots to Parks on an as needed and as available basis. The term of the IGA is 5 years with 3 additional five-year automatic renewals unless either party provides notice not to renew.
06/14/2023 Approved	C-30-08-27-1-04	<b>Amendment to Use Management Agreement with Casey at the Bat:</b> Approve Amendment Four to the UMA with Casey at the Bat, Inc. The purpose of Amendment Four is to extend the term for five (5) years beginning June 24, 2023, through June 23, 2028, to modify the fee schedule, and to provide additional maintenance responsibility for the Concessionaire of vacant land.
06/14/2023 Approved	C-30-21-13-X-00	<b>Amendment to Use Management Agreement (UMA) with Adobe Mountain Speedway, LLC:</b> Approve Amendment One of the UMA with Adobe Mountain Speedway, LLC (Concessionaire). The purpose of Amendment One is to revise the design and construction of the complex amenities in accordance with the phasing schedule in Section 4F, Exhibit 1, and Exhibit 2 of the Agreement. The term of the Agreement will expire December 9, 2040, with three options to renew for five years each.
06/14/2023 Approved	C-30-14-002-M-01	<b>Amendment to Shared Well Water Agreement with Arizona Agribusiness and Equine Center, Inc. (AAEC):</b> Approve Amendment One to the Shared Well Water Agreement with AAEC, an Arizona non-profit corporation, to exercise the ten-year term extension commencing August 21, 2023, through August 20, 2033, and other administrative changes.
06/28/2023 Approved	C-30-23-027-X-00	<b>MOU with AZ State Parks Board for the Monitoring of Cultural and Paleontological Sites through the Arizona Site Steward Program:</b> Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Arizona State Parks Board for the purpose of monitoring cultural and paleontological sites through the Arizona Site Steward Program located within the areas designated as part of the Maricopa County Parks System. There is no financial obligation. The term of the Agreement is for 10 years with one 10-year extension period that may be repeated as agreed.
6/28/2023 Approved	C-30-23-028-X-00	<b>Donations for Parks and Recreation:</b> Accept the restricted monetary donations of \$1,500.00 each for two memorial benches to be placed within Estrella Mountain Regional Park from Christel Navarro and Christian Henriquez; a \$434.40 donation of Desert Defender T-Shirts for the Invasive Species Program from the Desert Botanical Gardens; a \$184.34 donation of Desert Defender stickers for the Invasive Species Program from Darleen Sims; and \$260.00 from



**Parks & Recreation**

41835 N. Castle Hot Springs Rd.  
Morristown, AZ 85342

		the White Tank penny machine.
6/28/2023 Approved	C-30-24-000-X-00	<b>Increase to Revenue and Expenditure Authority, Parks and Recreation Souvenir Fund (F239):</b> Pursuant to A.R.S. §42-17106B, approve the following FY2023 appropriation adjustments: 1. Increase the Parks and Recreation Department (D300) Parks Souvenir Fund (Fund 239) Operating revenue budget by \$25,000 to reflect additional revenue and an appropriation adjustment and also increase the Parks Souvenir Fund Operating expenditure budget by \$25,000. 2. Decrease the expenditure and revenue appropriation in the Non-Departmental (D470) Grants Fund (249) Operating Contingency (4711) budget in the line "Unreserved Contingency" by \$25,000. Approval of this action will have a net zero impact on the overall County budget and does not alter the budget constraining expenditures of local revenues duly adopted by the Board pursuant to A.R.S 42-17105.
6/28/2023 Approved	C-06-23-735-X-00	<b>Donations for Parks and Recreation:</b> In accordance with County Policy A2508, accept the monthly donation report received from Parks and Recreation for May 2023, for a Cash Value of \$1,619.95.

**Administration Division**

**Parks Visitor Attendance Report (FY23 through fiscal year-end):** Page 13

**Concessionaire Visitor Attendance Report (FY23 through fiscal year-end):** Page 14

**FY23 Budget Report (Period 13, first close)**

Report ID: FIN-BA-MC010		Budget to Actual											Page 1 of 1	
Run Date: 08/01/2023		by Department, Fund and Appropriation Unit Group												
Run Time: 2:20:28 PM		Fiscal Year: 2023 Period: 13												
Dept	Dept Name	Fund	Fund Name	Approp Group	Approp Group Name	Revised Revenue	Actual Revenue	Revenue Variance	Revised Expenditures	Actual Expenditures	Expenditure Variance	Budgeted Structure Balance	Actual Structural Balance	Structural Balance Variance
D300	Parks and Rec	100	General	OPER	Operating	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$861,313	\$861,313	\$0	(\$861,313)	(\$861,313)	\$0
D300	Parks and Rec	225	Spr Cross Ran	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrjt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$550,000	\$363,660	\$186,340	(\$550,000)	(\$363,660)	\$186,340
D300	Parks and Rec	225	Spr Cross Ran	OPER	Operating	\$346,912	\$339,960.06	(\$6,952)	\$346,912	\$257,085	\$89,827	\$0	\$82,875	\$82,875
D300	Parks and Rec	230	Parks&Rec Gr	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrjt	\$784,291	\$21,250.00	(\$763,041)	\$784,291	\$183,551	\$600,740	\$0	(\$162,301)	(\$162,301)
D300	Parks and Rec	230	Parks&Rec Gr	OPER	Operating	\$0	\$34.61	\$35	\$0	(\$0)	\$0	\$0	\$35	\$35
D300	Parks and Rec	239	Parks Souvenir	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrjt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,870	\$3,870	\$0	(\$3,870)	(\$3,870)	\$0
D300	Parks and Rec	239	Parks Souvenir	OPER	Operating	\$349,423	\$330,608.20	(\$18,815)	\$349,423	\$330,608	\$18,815	\$0	\$0	\$0
D300	Parks and Rec	240	Lk Plsnt Rc Svi	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrjt	\$0	\$115,518.38	\$115,518	\$1,367,500	\$446,188	\$921,312	(\$1,367,500)	(\$330,669)	\$1,036,831
D300	Parks and Rec	240	Lk Plsnt Rc Svi	OPER	Operating	\$4,051,622	\$4,617,266.66	\$565,645	\$4,051,622	\$3,981,964	\$69,658	\$0	\$635,302	\$635,302
D300	Parks and Rec	241	Parks Enhncm	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrjt	\$14,500	\$15,010.94	\$511	\$1,444,500	\$980,352	\$464,148	(\$1,430,000)	(\$965,341)	\$464,659
D300	Parks and Rec	241	Parks Enhncm	OPER	Operating	\$7,392,088	\$8,168,104.41	\$776,016	\$7,392,088	\$7,358,285	\$33,803	\$0	\$809,820	\$809,820
D300	Parks and Rec	243	Parks Donator	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrjt	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$4,617	\$10,383	(\$15,000)	(\$4,617)	\$10,383
D300	Parks and Rec	243	Parks Donator	OPER	Operating	\$38,147	\$66,516.40	\$28,369	\$38,147	\$13,402	\$24,745	\$0	\$53,115	\$53,115
D300	Parks and Rec	243	Parks Donator	WMD3	DaisyMtnTris	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$0	(\$25,000)	\$0	\$25,000
D300	Parks and Rec	296	Coronavirus	FFNRNP	NonRecr NonPrjt	\$21,684,019	\$2,535,434.04	(\$19,148,585)	\$21,684,019	\$2,605,775	\$19,078,244	\$0	(\$70,341)	(\$70,341)
<b>Sum:</b>						<b>\$34,661,002</b>	<b>\$16,209,704</b>	<b>(\$18,451,298)</b>	<b>\$38,913,685</b>	<b>\$17,390,669</b>	<b>\$21,523,016</b>	<b>(\$4,252,683)</b>	<b>(\$1,180,966)</b>	<b>\$3,071,717</b>

**Human Resources**

- Welcome/Promotions/Transfers
  - Bruce Jean, Promoted from Maintenance to Navigational Aide Tech, Lake Pleasant, 5/29/2023
  - Jose Madrueno, Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, 5/30/2023
  - Christopher Flaim, Park Maintenance Worker, McDowell, 6/12/2023
  - Jesus Reyes, Trades Specialist Supervisor, 7/24/2023



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Morristown, AZ 85342

- Farewells
  - Pete McCormick, Navigational Aide Tech, Lake Pleasant, 5/12/2023
  - Evan McLenithan, Interpretive Ranger, Desert Outdoor, 6/9/2023
  - Alma Izaguirre, Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, 6/21/2023
  - Derek Leyshon, Administrative Staff Supervisor, Lake Pleasant, 7/15/2023
  - Sharon Nysten, Procurement Specialist, HQ, 8/1/2023
  - Whitney Stromberg, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, 8/4/2023
- Vacancies
  - Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, scheduled to start 8/7/2023
  - Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, scheduled to start 8/7/2023
  - Administrative Staff Supervisor, Lake Pleasant Posted – closes 8/5/2023
  - Trails Specialist, FY24 new position, Posted – closes 8/6/2023
  - Trails Specialist, FY24 new position, Posted – closes 8/6/2023
  - Trails Specialist, FY24 new position, Posted – closes 8/6/2023
  - Trails Specialist, FY24 new position, Posted – closes 8/6/2023
  - Interpretive Ranger, hold until 8/7/2023
  - Procurement Specialist, hold until 8/14/2023
  - Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, hold until 9/4/2023
  - Park Maintenance Worker, Lake Pleasant, hold until 9/4/2023

**Volunteer Hours (FY23 through fiscal year-end):**

TOTAL Volunteer Hours, by month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YTD Total	Year End Total	Year End % Change
FY23 - All Hours	3,927	4,399	4,844	7,201	10,898	12,187	11,935	11,927	12,756	9,092	4,534	4,335	98,035	98,035	0%
FY22 - All Hours	3,268	3,362	4,038	8,069	11,154	13,295	13,935	10,061	13,144	8,954	4,835	3,777	97,892	97,892	3%
FY21 - All Hours	2,800	2,738	2,699	8,598	11,094	11,790	13,369	12,121	13,745	7,826	3,962	4,428	95,170	95,170	6%

Financial Impact of Volunteers, by Month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YTD Total	Year End Total	Hourly Rate
FY23 Financial Impact	\$117,614	\$131,750	\$145,078	\$215,670	\$326,395	\$365,001	\$357,453	\$357,214	\$382,042	\$272,305	\$135,793	\$129,833	\$2,936,148	\$2,936,148	\$29.95
FY22 Financial Impact	\$93,269	\$95,951	\$115,245	\$230,289	\$318,335	\$379,439	\$397,705	\$287,141	\$375,130	\$255,547	\$137,991	\$107,796	\$2,793,838	\$2,793,838	\$28.54
FY21 Financial Impact	\$71,204	\$69,627	\$68,636	\$218,647	\$282,120	\$299,820	\$339,974	\$308,237	\$349,535	\$199,015	\$100,754	\$112,604	\$2,420,173	\$2,420,173	\$27.20

Special Days of Service event listings:	Date	Attendance	Hours
Cave Creek - Seed Harvesting	5/4/2023	5	17
White Tank - Seed Harvesting	5/11/2023	21	84
Cave Creek - Seed Harvesting	5/13/2023	2	8
Cave Creek - Seed Harvesting	5/13/2023	2	8
Lake Pleasant - REI Clean-Up	5/13/2023	7	14
Estrella - Seed Harvesting	5/15/2023	2	6
Lake Pleasant - REI Clean-Up	5/18/2023	10	20
Cave Creek - Seed Garden	5/18/2023	3	6
Lake Pleasant - Clean-Up	5/30/2023	23	92
Lake Pleasant - Pacific Seafood - Clean-Up	6/8/2023	8	16
Cave Creek - Seed Garden	6/22/2023	9	38
Lake Pleasant - Clean-Up	6/26/2023	8	32

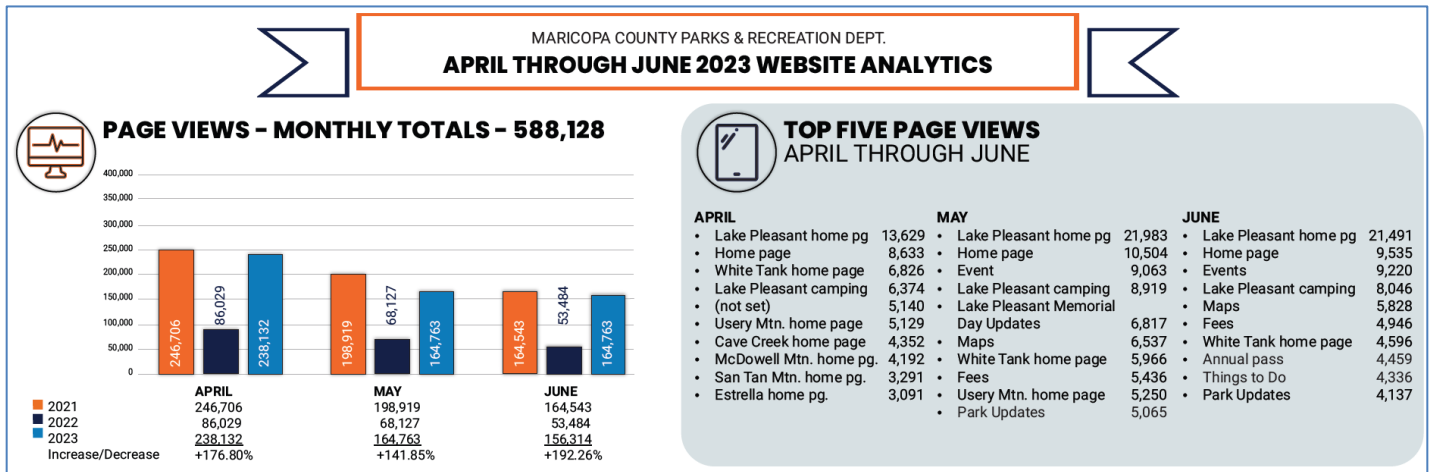


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## Web Analytics:



## Park Operations Division

### Natural Resources

- The Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) and Desert Defender Stewards hosted ten seed harvesting events through the parks system and collected 45 pounds of native seed (relatively clean), representing 40 native species (22 pollinator species, 16 annual species, and two pioneer species).



- The NRS presented at the Central Arizona Conservation Alliance's All-Hands meeting regarding the success of the natural resource program, especially the successes of the Desert Defenders Program.
- Provided Arizona Sustainability Alliance Invasive Species and Desert Defender training at Cave Creek Regional Park for 17 participants in June.



## Trades

- The crew fielded 68 requests for service in May were received, with 90% of the requests completed.
  - White Tank - Constructed concrete pad and installed building for chlorination system.



- Usery - Constructed welded cage for electrical light switches at Archery Range.



- Lake Pleasant - Completed 17 septic inspections.
- Received 32 requests for service were received in June with 91% of the requests completed.
  - White Tank - Installed a new well pump and variable frequency drives.
  - White Tank - Completed installation of the chlorination unit for the well.
  - Lake Pleasant - Completed preparations for a chlorination unit at the North well location.

## Trails

- Maricopa Trail:
  - Segment 22 - Field Inspection for FY-24 work.
  - Segment 8 - Field Inspection, brush removal, replaced missing or damaged signs.
  - Segment 11- Sun Valley Trailhead - Continued issues with vandalism and trash in the parking lot. Repaired cuts in fences and replaced missing or damaged signs. Field meeting with Chris Balke for upcoming work on McMicken Dam Spillways. Laid out construction detour for McMicken Dam outflow expansion project.
  - Segment 6 - Inspected section crossing Calle Guadalupe Bridge and section crossing.
  - Segment 15 - Inspected and cleaned trailhead parking lots. Responded to reports of cut fences in the Anthem area. Repaired fences and installed new posts to prevent repeated access by Utility Task Vehicles (UTVs).
  - Segment 77 - Inspected routes between Vulture Mountain and Hassayampa.
  - Segments 16 & 18 - Installed new signs to reduce confusion.
- Ace Crew:
  - Meeting (virtual) with ACE to arrange trail work crews for FY24.
- Parks:
  - Lake Pleasant - Completed initial recon for rerouting of Pipeline Canyon Trail.
  - Estrella- Reinforced flag line for trail reroute for the Junior National golf course expansion.



- Desert Outdoor Center - Inspected Lilly Corm and Honeymoon Cove Trails, scheduled repairs for September, and contacted HMI for field inspection of Honeymoon Cove Trail.

**Projects**

- Desert Outdoor Center:
  - Assisted with finding contractors for Desert Outdoor Center building repairs and renovations.
- Lake Pleasant:
  - Draft Cultural Resource Study completed for Roadrunner Campground improvements.
  - Received final Cultural Resource Study report for the Wind Warning System.
  - Completed Discovery Center Evaporative Transfer (ET) Bed.



- Usery:
  - Completed metal fascia on all ramadas.



- Well Projects:
  - Completed Hydrological Studies for Agua Fria and Buckeye Hills.
- Preparing for FY24 projects with permitting and purchase orders.

**Parks**

- **Cave Creek Regional Park**
  - Events:
    - A memorial service was held at the amphitheater with 200 attendees.
  - Maintenance:
    - The maintenance crew has been busy completing end-of-fiscal-year projects: Adobe security gate repairs; Cave Creek storage room refurbishing; Paradise Valley well site fencing repairs; tree trimming; and 655 tons of new gravel spread.



- Operations:
  - During the first two weeks of May, the campground was full. We still had about 17 campsites reserved for the last two weeks of June.
- Volunteers:
  - Two probationers completed landscape work for a total of 15 hours.
- **Desert Outdoor Center**
  - Center Programming:
    - About 653 students and 133 chaperones attended field trip programming over the first three weeks of May as an end-of-the-year field trip before summer break began. Highlights included a Homeschool Co-Op that brought 28 K-12th grade students and two 8th-grade groups that each took a day of career-development programming.
  - Park Programming:
    - Despite the temperatures starting to rise for the summer in May, the seven rangers offered a combined total of 70 programs attended by 517 visitors, including a *Stargazing* at Lake Pleasant, a *Sunset & Full Moon Rise Walk* at San Tan, and an outreach to the Solera community center at Johnson Ranch (55+).
    - For the beginning of our summer season in June, the Rangers offered 64 interpretive programs across all parks, engaging over 706 program participants. The Rangers plan to provide more programs this summer than in previous years to better understand what type of program works best for our visitors during these hot summer months.
  - Projects:
    - Near the end of the month, new flooring was installed in the multi-purpose room, hallways, classrooms, and offices, giving the entire building a much-needed modern look.
  - Events:
    - The Arizona Game and Fish Department Habitat Branch Retreat was held on May 18-19, bringing about 40 staff for a two-day staff experience.
  - Volunteers:
    - A big thank you to our hosts, Jeff and Julie, for staying through mid-May and helping cover the weddings taking place the first two Saturdays of the month, which were the last for the season.
  - Operations:
    - On June 21, all rangers attended our second annual Ranger Retreat at Hassayampa River Preserve. This extended retreat allowed us to discuss many pressing issues regarding program rotations, core program outlines, conservation programs, performance goals, and other small topics.
    - All rangers continue to lend a helping hand to Lake Pleasant by operating the Discovery Center on Fridays and Saturdays, followed by helping staff and hosts close the park each night.
    - A dozen wedding tours were offered in June, leading us to believe that there might be an increase in wedding reservations in the upcoming Fall and Spring.
- **Estrella Mountain Regional Park**
  - Maintenance:
    - A great deal of tree trimming and weeding took place in May. The majority of work is being completed around the ramadas and new tree areas.
    - Work was done on the irrigation system to improve damaged or leaking areas.
    - Several areas of trail erosion were repaired. Several boundary fence locations were inspected and mended.
    - A previous lightning strike's damage continues to cause problems in the field with the irrigation system's computer screen displays and use of the system. The maintenance staff continues to push through problem-solving and replacing bad solenoids and decoders. A Rainbird technician will come soon to review internal computer or screen damage in the irrigation system.





- Events:
  - *Aravaipa Hypnosis* – a night run with 364 runners participating on June 24-25.

- **Hassayampa River Preserve**

- Natural Resources:
  - The Preserve was featured on a recent Arizona PBS *Trail Mix'd* segment. <https://azpbs.org/trailmixd/2023/05/wickenburgs-rustic-western-charm/> (Preserve clip at 20:13)
  - Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) and Arizona State University researchers continued the *Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship* (MAPS) bird banding project, which was started last summer.
- Operations:
  - The Preserve honored Mental Health Awareness Month by installing a temporary exhibit in a quiet spot along the trail - a wind phone. The wind phone is a symbolic way for people to connect with their lost loved ones, surrounded by the healing power of nature. The Preserve's wind phone received tremendous praise on the Facebook page.
- Projects:
  - The Visitor Center remodel has started. Activities have caused zero interruptions for the public.
  - Eleven pallets of fencing materials were purchased and delivered. Materials are to be used to build and fix miles of fencing.
- Trails:
  - After flood repairs, all the trails were finally re-opened, only to have a ½" rain cause overnight flooding and wipe out our trail bridges less than two weeks later. The trails are once again re-opened.
- Maintenance:
  - Multiple downed trees and debris were cleared. The actions enabled unfettered trail access for the public.
  - Maintenance staff and Volunteers upgraded and reinforced several trail bridges.



- **Lake Pleasant Regional Park**

- Events:
  - PFD (Personal Floatation Device) Exchange with the US Coast Guard and Arizona Game and Fish Department: This was an all-day event at the 10-Lane Boat Ramp held on May 20. 100 PFDs were exchanged.
  - District 2 Supervisor Galvin held a Water Safety and Heat Awareness press conference on May 25 at the government boat docks.
- Operation:
  - On May 28, the park reached maximum capacity and was closed from 11:30 am-4:00 pm to additional visitors because of limited shoreline and water elevation.
- Volunteers:
  - The REI Cleanup Crew of 25 people removed 100 pounds of trash from the shoreline and recreated after on May 13 and May 18.
  - A post-Memorial Day Clean Up Volunteer Event called the "Litter Force" comprised of veterans and a faith-based group cleaned up the shores on May 30. 20 volunteers picked up at least 100 pounds of litter.



- The park holds an ongoing *Monday Volunteer Cleanup* which brings out three to six volunteers each Monday to help with litter pick-up. Regular campers are also engaging with the effort. Volunteers go to the entry to sign in and borrow litter pickers for the effort.



- Approximately 20 volunteers from Pacific Seafood volunteered to pick up litter for World Ocean Day on June 8.
- Projects:
  - On June 1, there was a pre-construction meeting with contractors, AJP, for Roadrunner Campground. Work is slated to begin Monday, July 10.
- Maintenance:
  - Boatlift Technologies completed work at the four-lane boat ramp. They poured and placed a new anchor with an estimated total weight of 9 tons. They installed about 500 feet of new anchor line to replace the old line and replaced old shackles and connections.
  - On June 21, Rattlesnake Solutions came out to inspect the playground and provided best practices to staff to abate snakes.

● **McDowell Mountain Regional Park**

- Events:
  - MBAA Mountain Bike event with 350+ participants.
  - Aravaipa Adrenaline Night Run event with 500+ participants.
- Maintenance:
  - Nursery Tank Pond was cleared of overgrowth.
- Natural Resources:
  - The park was closed for a week due to the Diamond Fire burning. The park was evacuated and closed on June 27, 2023, around 6:30 pm. The fire burned 1,960 acres in the northwest corner of the park. Though the land and fauna were burned severely, the trails are in good condition. The park re-opened on July 5, 2023, and the burn area remained closed. On July 6th, the burn area was re-opened as the trails were inspected and found safe.



- **San Tan Mountain Regional Park**

- Maintenance:

- On May 16, 2023, park maintenance staff cleaned up the tortoise habitat area to make it free of plant and weed overgrowth making it safer from snakes for staff when feeding the tortoises.

- Volunteers:

- On May 27, 2023, the San Tan Runners non-profit group and staff did trail maintenance work on the south end of the San Tan Trail, which connects to the Rock Peak Trail.
- On June 17, the park and the San Tan Shredders hosted Ernest Wieber and the Maricopa Trail and Park Foundation trails repair training class. Fifteen participants, including two park staff members, attended the two-hour training.



- **Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area**

- Maintenance:

- The trimming of vegetation continues on park trails with the clearance of dry brush and pruning of trees along Metate and Towhee Trails.
- Vegetation has been cleared around park structures for wildfire mitigation.
- A hiking safety sign was created jointly by the Spur Cross Parks Supervisor, the Cave Creek Trails Coordinator, Bambi Muller, and the Town's Director of Risk Reduction, Jim Ford. The sign has been placed at the main entry gate.
- A damaged section of the Towhee Trail was repaired by filling a large hole and excavating a drain to divert rain runoff from the trail.

- Natural Resources:

- Cave Creek has ceased its seasonal surface flow from the Jewel of the Creek Preserve north into the Tonto National Forest. Flow continues downstream from the upper Jewel of the Creek to the Dragonfly Trail creek crossing.
- Several dozen invasive plants, primarily large tumbleweeds, were manually removed from the main parking area by park service volunteers and staff.

- Operations:

- The Town of Cave Creek's Public Works crew established a helicopter landing zone (LZ) for emergency incidents in Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area and the neighboring Tonto National Forest. A clearing north of the main parking area was graded, enlarged, leveled, and sealed to create the LZ. "No Parking" signage will be installed soon, as well as a windsock to assist pilots with landings and take-offs.





○ Events:

- The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) from Daisy Mountain Fire Department joined up with Spur Cross staff in the conservation areas parking lot on Saturday, June 17, to educate park visitors about warm season hiking safety, handing out bottled water, and providing information on easier and shorter hikes in the conservation area. This large volunteer group was created in 2004 to train and incorporate volunteers to assist Fire Department personnel should a disaster or emergency occur. The CERT team plans to periodically visit Spur Cross through the summer months to provide this service to the public.

● **Usery Mountain Regional Park**

○ Maintenance:

- Received three new Iron Ranger(s) to replace older, outdated equipment.
- Maintenance staff began tackling some maintenance and trimming around the viewing pond; no easy task this time of year with bees in abundance; our bee suit came in handy.
- Painted restroom and shower doors at our Group Camping area.

○ Operations:

- Buckhorn Campground continued to stay very busy from May through June, perhaps due to continued enjoyable weather and the proximity to Salt River Recreation Area; tubing is open and in full swing.

○ Volunteers:

- A high school student completed service volunteer hours throughout the month. He was an incredibly hard worker as he assisted Usery with trimming, weeding, and raking around the Nature Center and amphitheater, along with weeding around the upper archery practice range.

○ Events:

- Usery Mountain Archers began offering their Thursday night league (shoots); they have seen an increase in attendance thus far.

● **White Tank Mountain Regional Park**

● Maintenance:

- Multiple efforts occurred addressing weeds, graffiti, and restroom repairs.
- The water system well pump went down. Water was hauled for a few days, but now the repairs are complete.

● Natural Resources:

- Held a native seed collection event with a great turnout.
- Our Administrative Specialist has started the Saguaro seedling project and is happy to announce we have 33 Saguaro sprouts as of the end of June!

● Volunteers:

- The White Tank Mountain Conservancy conducted litter pick-ups in May and June with several participants.

● Projects:

- The entry gate is now installed and operational again.
- Entry Station - the building pad is set, and utilities are ready for arrival.
- Chlorinator Station - the pad is set, and the building is ready to be installed.







# MARICOPA COUNTY

PARKS & RECREATION

## Maricopa County Parks Visitor Report FY23, through June 2023

FY23	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June		
FY22	Jul 21	Aug 21	Sep 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22	YEAR	% of Change
FY21	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	Oct 20	Nov 20	Dec 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	TO YEAR	(YtdY)
FY20	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Dec 19	Jan 20	Feb 20	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20		
<b>Cave Creek</b>													0	
FY23	1,373	2,028	2,551	8,499	13,383	13,384	14,534	15,537	19,650	14,181	6,299	2,727	114146	13.8%
FY22	1,381	1,198	2,515	6,747	7,873	15,242	13,502	13,094	18,600	13,639	3,764	2,737	100292	21.0%
FY21	1,122	911	1,325	4,688	12,084	12,121	7,593	10,523	16,939	8,367	4,046	3,136	82855	-3.1%
FY20	363	505	959	4,233	9,450	9,775	13,542	14,572	16,079	11,336	3,145	1,552	85511	3.0%
<b>Estrella Park</b>													0	
FY23	2,342	2,644	3,346	6,640	8,382	8,022	12,165	16,631	18,998	14,597	5,346	4,277	103390	10.7%
FY22	1,184	1,278	2,605	5,891	7,398	12,222	14,310	12,180	15,092	13,180	4,560	3,519	93419	-6.0%
FY21	2,571	3,317	4,696	8,333	12,723	8,483	16,806	11,991	15,489	7,869	4,770	2,371	99419	12.4%
FY20	1,350	1,954	3,571	6,034	9,547	6,841	12,726	11,067	16,449	9,370	5,819	3,687	88415	6.2%
<b>McDowell Mtn</b>													0	
FY23	1,685	1,845	3,792	13,861	18,134	17,277	17,201	16,816	22,719	15,714	5,747	2,418	137209	24.0%
FY22	964	1,310	2,032	7,745	8,208	15,958	15,560	15,706	18,281	17,854	5,163	1,886	106292	-3.2%
FY21	2,667	2,275	3,806	10,302	16,229	17,207	18,219	13,673	15,294	8,218	4,374	2,058	114322	-4.0%
FY20	1,095	1,407	3,520	11,570	12,574	13,877	17,846	16,006	18,997	13,822	5,654	2,779	119147	11.5%
<b>San Tan Park</b>													0	
FY23	4,215	6,029	7,407	14,861	23,586	20,889	26,361	25,488	30,452	18,996	9,836	6,486	194606	12.4%
FY22	3,753	4,506	4,105	9,045	18,584	21,434	30,452	26,402	29,732	13,033	7,574	4,506	173126	-22.0%
FY21	8,080	7,029	11,102	16,676	27,144	20,844	36,069	34,131	30,333	14,658	10,262	5,752	222080	10.3%
FY20	3,941	3,832	6,009	12,801	17,839	16,810	27,717	25,062	33,803	26,313	17,551	9,622	201300	18.8%
<b>Spur Cross</b>													0	
FY23	180	316	488	1,976	4,789	3,578	6,430	6,477	8,221	4,900	1,139	586	39080	6.5%
FY22	299	395	500	1,484	2,859	4,031	7,069	8,168	5,818	4,352	1,211	494	36680	0.3%
FY21	171	121	354	1,984	3,826	5,218	6,273	4,695	7,886	4,093	1,318	620	36559	59.2%
FY20	113	122	244	730	826	4,208	4,592	4,569	4,508	2,276	563	210	22961	-3.0%
<b>Usery Mtn Park</b>													0	
FY23	6,500	6,544	7,043	16,879	26,760	24,845	29,889	29,695	44,722	29,472	13,158	8,231	243738	14.6%
FY22	3,926	2,811	5,039	14,212	16,450	38,086	29,834	30,249	34,433	22,465	9,316	5,949	212770	-10.3%
FY21	5,981	7,587	9,683	18,705	33,071	28,940	41,117	31,167	31,289	15,370	9,282	5,111	237303	-3.5%
FY20	5,562	5,959	8,133	16,411	26,374	23,339	34,431	33,957	44,356	25,954	12,914	8,453	245843	3.3%
<b>White Tank</b>													0	
FY23	7,264	8,845	9,345	20,459	27,457	26,239	38,467	39,100	50,150	29,236	13,361	8,585	278508	11.2%
FY22	4,923	4,068	5,201	17,768	20,775	42,163	36,298	35,679	40,771	24,697	11,293	6,807	250443	-7.0%
FY21	8,801	7,667	11,991	20,736	31,836	34,425	42,320	36,939	37,285	17,217	13,590	6,415	269222	-9.8%
FY20	4,913	5,658	9,810	20,115	31,195	27,762	39,931	40,494	64,224	27,038	16,680	10,640	298460	0.0%
<b>Hassayampa</b>													0	
FY23	463	546	671	1,202	1,500	912	1,535	1,610	2,573	2,366	1,398	840	15616	-10.8%
FY22	286	333	423	1,105	2,669	1,790	1,771	2,096	2,850	2,266	1,338	554	17501	2.4%
FY21	855	632	840	1,681	1,984	1,204	2,014	1,786	2,363	1,672	1,513	555	17099	-0.9%
FY20	453	418	591	1,405	1,498	971	1,746	2,002	2,321	2,477	2,072	1,294	17248	18.9%
<b>Lake Pleasant</b>													0	
FY23	146,746	87,426	95,022	78,576	58,935	48,903	55,380	64,152	92,599	146,533	142,552	153,447	1188271	21.9%
FY22	88,853	62,651	64,323	50,169	38,347	45,239	35,415	44,353	90,764	152,545	147,980	137,694	958333	32.6%
FY21	101,160	96,366	79,426	58,720	40,177	22,387	27,877	25,987	42,967	59,969	91,403	76,394	722833	-0.3%
FY20	90,616	63,458	51,411	37,125	31,095	18,054	32,436	40,902	69,504	75,153	116,342	98,916	725012	7.6%
<b>DOC</b>													0	
FY23	183	225	151	639	972	1,302	875	493	2,516	1,618	1,855	402	11231	53.5%
FY22	0	0	0	0	43	0	84	1,178	1,160	2,276	2,071	506	7318	
FY21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100.0%
FY20	140	64	381	1,556	1,887	1,330	1,622	1,630	1,030	0	0	0	9640	-22.7%
<b>Agua Fria</b>													0	
FY23		113	0	20	92	32	39	41	62	342	0	0	741	
<b>System Total</b>													0	
FY23	170,951	116,561	129,816	163,612	181,990	165,383	202,876	216,040	292,662	277,955	200,691	187,999	2306536	17.6%
FY22	105,569	78,550	86,743	114,166	123,206	196,165	184,295	189,105	257,501	266,327	194,270	164,652	1960549	8.8%
FY21	131,408	125,905	123,223	141,825	179,074	150,829	198,288	170,892	199,845	137,433	140,558	102,412	1801692	-0.7%
FY20	108,546	83,377	84,629	111,980	142,285	122,967	186,589	190,261	271,271	193,739	180,740	137,153	1813537	12.6%

**Maricopa County Parks Concessionaire Visitor Report  
FY23, through June 2023**

	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	YEAR TO DATE	Growth %
	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22		
	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21		
<b>Victory Lane</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	6,774	6,742	9,745	10,275	11,001	6,131	10,206	9,134	11,279	10,107	10,520	11,287	113,201	-2.8%
July 2021 - June 2022	8,891	7,619	9,709	11,465	10,260	8,204	10,386	10,301	11,483	10,667	9,733	7,738	116,456	-22.9%
July 2020 - June 2021	11,020	11,810	12,957	13,664	12,762	12,762	11,735	14,058	13,599	12,568	14,523	9,527	150,985	38.2%
<b>Six Flags Hurricane Harbor</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	85,504	22,687	22,007	-	-	-	-	68	6,187	13,737	34,647	124,964	309,801	-19.0%
July 2021 - June 2022	122,546	39,199	30,247	2,985	-	-	-	-	11,057	15,804	39,989	120,494	382,321	32.8%
July 2020 - June 2021	1,117	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,494	26,810	53,203	189,216	287,840	20.0%
<b>Saguaro Central Railroad Preservation Society</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	-	-	-	584	612	341	492	703	1,284	775	178	-	4,969	13.7%
July 2021 - June 2022	-	-	-	510	382	636	573	540	1,166	403	154	5	4,369	100.0%
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
<b>Phoenix Kart Racing Association</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	893	915	1,090	1,124	909	1,027	1,374	1,321	1,241	1,166	1,210	-	12,270	-13.2%
July 2021 - June 2022	706	855	1,118	1,199	997	979	1,051	2,472	1,244	1,020	1,019	1,476	14,136	121.7%
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,085	1,130	1,111	1,137	1,053	861	6,377	100.0%
<b>Adobe Mountain Speedway</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	32	241	1,500	11,593	1,651	268	153	2,563	965	1,672	1,614	-	22,252	89.0%
July 2021 - June 2022	-	180	908	1,199	1,089	59	913	1,911	1,883	2,221	1,410	-	11,773	66.4%
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	345	1,770	923	2,206	1,832	-	7,076	100.0%
<b>Arizona Model Pilots Society</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	380	498	737	650	660	710	380	918	751	612	652	705	7,653	-3.6%
July 2021 - June 2022	452	562	593	810	1,080	1,602	658	872	-	375	476	460	7,940	126.5%
July 2020 - June 2021	419	443	482	554	540	590	-	-	-	-	-	478	3,506	100.0%
<b>The 500 Club Golf Course</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	4,790	4,526	3,964	6,722	8,542	7,217	7,176	8,146	7,454	9,638	8,048	6,541	82,764	-10.8%
July 2021 - June 2022	5,367	5,533	5,261	7,363	9,077	8,147	9,244	8,900	10,227	9,922	8,140	5,594	92,775	-0.2%
July 2020 - June 2021	4,814	5,373	5,458	6,575	7,644	7,755	8,889	9,920	10,843	10,157	9,203	6,375	93,006	20.3%
<b>Casey At The Bat</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	2,609	2,641	3,414	3,808	3,556	2,408	3,490	4,460	5,947	5,356	4,220	3,375	45,284	1.0%
July 2021 - June 2022	1,644	2,898	3,200	4,207	3,514	2,826	2,859	4,727	5,887	5,742	4,326	2,993	44,823	12.7%
July 2020 - June 2021	1,644	2,328	2,250	3,015	2,767	2,540	2,795	3,608	5,685	5,468	4,692	2,965	39,757	31.3%
<b>Paradise Valley Golf Course</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	1,882	1,810	2,037	1,937	3,029	3,053	3,321	3,861	4,457	3,840	2,768	2,741	34,736	-5.9%
July 2021 - June 2022	2,181	2,120	2,387	1,917	3,689	3,172	3,953	4,193	4,683	3,764	2,700	2,166	36,925	-11.1%
July 2020 - June 2021	2,143	1,782	2,697	1,939	3,568	7,595	3,619	4,244	4,786	4,148	3,043	1,976	41,540	37.9%
<b>Cave Creek Trail Rides</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	-	-	-	-	1,111	1,249	1,230	1,604	2,939	2,243	-	-	10,376	4.5%
July 2021 - June 2022	-	-	-	-	1,069	1,333	1,440	1,597	2,432	2,015	46	-	9,932	-12.6%
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	39	1,256	1,584	1,382	1,597	3,260	2,110	132	-	11,360	130.6%
<b>Tres Rios Golf Course</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	282	353	448	1,306	3,390	2,700	2,874	3,700	4,362	2,974	1,660	894	24,943	-4.8%
July 2021 - June 2022	665	666	980	1,532	2,469	2,465	3,522	4,446	4,996	3,223	864	381	26,209	43.3%
July 2020 - June 2021	-	-	-	-	596	2,815	3,096	3,526	3,425	2,438	1,496	894	18,286	-21.7%
<b>Buckeye Hills Shooting Range</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	683	544	572	916	726	542	612	427	761	717	593	692	7,785	-11.2%
July 2021 - June 2022	345	579	631	996	999	703	708	900	869	743	738	558	8,769	-6.3%
July 2020 - June 2021	831	725	773	1,243	982	675	833	716	711	764	596	510	9,359	15.0%
<b>TOTALS</b>														
July 2022 - June 2023	103,829	40,957	45,514	38,915	35,187	25,646	31,308	36,905	47,627	52,837	66,110	151,199	676,034	-11.1%
July 2021 - June 2022	142,797	60,211	55,034	34,329	35,504	30,801	36,171	41,794	56,147	56,008	69,595	141,865	760,257	13.4%
July 2020 - June 2021	21,988	22,461	24,617	27,089	30,272	36,544	33,939	40,827	62,195	67,992	89,875	212,802	670,601	24.6%

