

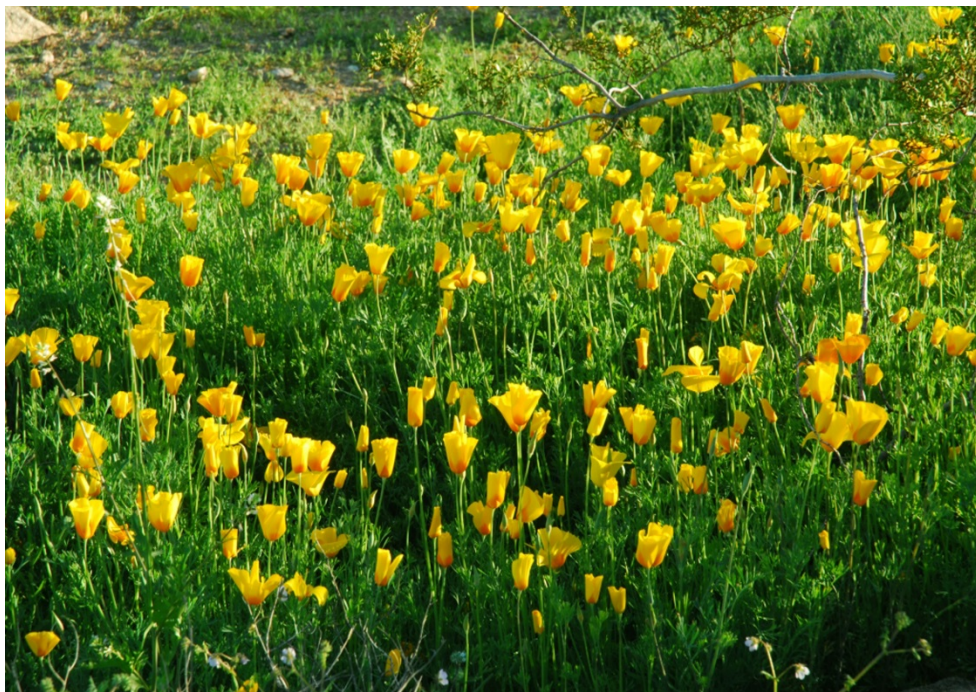
WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

April Programs



Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.
White Tank Mountain Regional Park
20304 W. White Tank Mountain Road
Waddell, AZ 85355
(602) 506-2930 ext. 5



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

PARK HOURS:

Sunday – Thursday: 6 am – 8 pm
Friday – Saturday: 6 am – 10 pm
365 days a year

NATURE CENTER HOURS:

SUMMER (05/07 - 10/08)
Monday thru Saturday: 8 am – 3 pm
Sunday: Closed
WINTER (10/09 – 05/06)
Sunday thru Saturday: 8 am – 4 pm

ADMIN. OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8 am – 4 pm

PARK FEES:

\$7 per vehicle day-use entry fee (no additional fees for programs, unless otherwise noted)

DIRECTIONS:

White Tank Mountain Regional Park is located at the very west end of Olive Ave about 15 miles west of the 101 (Agua Fria Highway).

WEBSITE:

<https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/park-locator/white-tank-mountain-regional-park/>

EMAIL ADDRESS:

whitetankpark@mail.maricopa.gov

FACEBOOK PAGE:

<https://www.facebook.com/WhiteTankPark/>

STAFF:

Park Supervisor: Dove Luidhardt
Interpretive Ranger: Justin Williams
Office Asst. Laura Jo Boyd
Maintenance: Eldon Heydenreich, Tom Rychtik, Jim Apthorpe

Black Rock Petroglyph Walk

Date: 4/3/2019 **Time:** 8 a.m.

Description: Join park volunteer Joe Weber on this easy, 1 ½ mile walk to view ancient petroglyphs. The walk will discuss early native peoples of the area and the possible meaning of the rock art they left behind. Please leave your dog at home. Please meet at Area 4.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Find the Ranger

Date: 4/4/2019 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: Bring your family and friends to find the Ranger on the Waterfall trail! He will have some exciting and interesting facts about the park and its inhabitants!

Core: Plants

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History Hike to Willow Springs Farm

Date: 4/5/2019 **Time:** 8:30 a.m.

Description: Join us on a hike back in time! Our journey will take us to the Willow Springs area, where we will visit the remains of an abandoned dwelling and historic site to see what stories the pieces of the past can tell us. The hike is 7 miles roundtrip and is rated moderate to difficult. Please bring at least one gallon of water and a snack. This hike is limited to 10 people. Please meet at Area 7 for the hike. Please call the park Nature Center, 623-935-2505, to register, beginning April 1st. Please leave your dog at home.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Desert Fables

Date: 4/5/2019 **Time:** 1:30 p.m.

Description: Join storyteller Ann McDermott before our snake feeding to enjoy tales of desert plants and animals, inspired by 30 years of rural life in central Arizona. Q & A time afterward. Be ready for a pop quiz! Program will be held in the Nature Center classroom.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Snake Feeding

Date: 4/5/2019 **Time:** 2 p.m.

Description: Our resident reptile friends are hungry! Come to the Nature Center to see our snakes enjoy their meal. Our park staff will be doing the feeding. Observe the feeding behaviors of rattlesnakes, colubrid snakes, scorpions, and a desert tortoise.

Core: Animals

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Cactus Walk

Date: 4/6/2019 **Time:** 8 a.m.

Description: Join park volunteer and "flower lady", Cindy Smith, on a 1-2 mile walk along a park trail to view and learn about the wonderful cactus blooms found in the White Tanks as the desert prepares for summer. Bring a plant book if you have one, and don't forget your camera! Location will vary each week depending on the abundance and variety of blooms. Call ahead or inquire at entry station upon arrival.

Core: Plants

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Hiking in the Heat

Date: 4/6/2019 **Time:** 11 a.m.

Description: Do you have what it takes to camp in the Desert? Join volunteer Joe D'Amico in the Nature Center Classroom to learn do's and don'ts of camping in desert climates. Bring a pen and paper to take notes and get prepared for the next time you camp.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Introduction to Photography

Date: 4/11/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Want to learn more about taking awesome outdoor photos? Bring your camera (including cell phone cameras) and join park volunteer Chris Reed for a Basic Outdoor Photography workshop. Learn about camera operations, picture composition, lighting effects, and other essentials. The first portion of the program will be classroom instruction in the Nature Center classroom. Afterwards, we will take a short walk outside along a park trail to practice our new skills. Please meet in the Nature Center classroom. This program is geared toward teens and adults.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Nature Discovery: Plants

Date: 4/12/2019 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: Looking for a fun and engaging hour focused around children's outdoor education? Join Ranger J.D at Area 3 as he leads you on a Desert Plant Hunt. This hands on program will encourage kids to get in touch with nature. Children must be between the ages of 8-16 and be accompanied by an adult during Nature Discovery Hour.

Core: Plants

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Scorpion Search: Waddell Trail

Date: 4/13/2019 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Description: Load up the kids and join us for a 1 ½ mile walk along the Waddell Trail, where we will look for scorpions and experience the desert at night. This will be an easy 2 mile walk. Bring your scorpion light and please wear close-toed shoes. Please leave your dog at home. Our meeting place is at area 7.

Core: Animals

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Cactus Walk

Date: 4/17/2019 **Time:** 8 a.m.

Description: Join park volunteer and "flower lady", Cindy Smith, on a 1-2 mile walk along a park trail to view and learn about the wonderful cactus blooms found in the White Tanks as the desert prepares for summer. Bring a plant book if you have one, and don't forget your camera! Location will vary each week depending

on the abundance and variety of blooms. Call ahead or inquire at entry station upon arrival.

Core: Plants

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Basics of Mountain Biking

Date: 4/18/2019 **Time:** 8:30 a.m.

Description: Are you new to biking on desert and mountain terrain, or just want to ride? Join Ranger Justin on the competition track and learn some basic skills of off-road biking! After a brief introduction we will go for a 3-4 mile ride to get accustomed to desert trails. Please bring a helmet, plenty of water, a snack, an extra tube and your bike!

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Wildlife Encounter: Desert

Tortoise

Date: 4/18/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Visit the Nature Center and see 1 of the 4 tortoise's native to North America. Join Ranger J.D as he shares amazing facts about how the Desert Tortoise survives in the hot climate. Visit any time between 1:30 and 3:00pm.

Core: Animals

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Full Moon Hike: Mule Deer Trail

Date: 4/19/2019 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Description: See the desert in a different light – moonlight! Join us for a 2 mile walk along Mule Deer Trail where we will look up at the night sky and experience the moonlight lighting the Sonoran desert. This is a moderate hike so please wear close-toed shoes, water and flash lights are optional. Please leave your dog at home. See you all at Area 4 for the walk, near the restrooms.

Core: Astronomy

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Early Bird Walk

Date: 4/20/2019 **Time:** 7:30 a.m.

Description: Join birder Tom Lacassio from the Sonoran Audubon Society for an early morning bird walk. Bring your bird book if you have one. Binoculars may be available to borrow. Please meet at Area 9 in the park (see park map). Please leave your dog at home.

Core: Animals

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Bird Identification in the Desert Southwest

Date: 4/20/2019 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.

Description: Tips on identifying backyard and desert birds, where to find them, and tools of the trade. Please meet in the Nature Center Classroom.

Core: Animals

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Sunrise Hike

Date: 4/24/2019 **Time:** 5:30 a.m.

Description: Set your alarm and get a great start to your day! Join us for a sunrise hike along the Black Rock Long Loop Trail (1 ½ miles). We will watch the sunrise from a viewpoint, experience the Sonoran Desert as it awakens, and also have the opportunity to see ancient petroglyphs along the trail. Please leave your dog at home. Please meet at Area 4 for the walk. Don't forget your camera! And don't be late – the sun won't wait!

Core: Archaeology & History

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Library Program: Common Wildlife

Date: 4/25/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Join Ranger J.D. to learn more about the top ten most common wildlife you are likely to see as you roam the White Tank Mountains. Program will be held in the Library classroom.

Core: Animals

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Desert Wash Hike

Date: 4/26/2019 **Time:** 8 a.m.

Description: Come explore White Tank's wonderful trails and views! Ranger J.D and volunteer Joe will take you on a moderate 3-5 mile hike within a desert wash. We will meet at Area 9. Bring plenty of water and close toed shoes. Please call the park Nature Center, 623-935-2505, to register, beginning April 1st.

Core: Plants

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Stargazing for Everyone

Date: 4/27/2019 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Description: Enjoy a night under the stars! Listen to presenting astronomers tell the stories of the sky as you gaze in wonder at our universe. View the moon, planets, star clusters, and distant galaxies through telescopes provided by local astronomers. Please bring a chair for the 45-minute presentation portion of the program. This event will be held at the Group Campground. Please try to arrive by 7:15pm to facilitate parking. The event will last approximately 2 hours. Please leave your dog at home.

Core: Astronomy

PARK NOTES:

What to Bring: Please wear sturdy shoes (closed-toe), dress appropriately for the weather and bring more water than you think you will need. See descriptions for specifics. Fees for guided hikes and programs are included in the park entry fee or with your annual pass. Reservations are not required unless specified in the program description. Hikes/programs are canceled if heavy inclement weather is imminent. If possible, canceled hikes will be posted on the website.