

HASSAYAMPA RIVER PRESERVE

January 2019 Programs



Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.
Hassayampa River Preserve
49614 U.S. Hwy 60/89
Wickenburg, AZ 85390
(928) 684-2772



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

PARK AND VISITOR CENTER

HOURS:

SUMMER (05/08 - 10/07)

Wednesday thru Sunday: 7 am – 4 pm
Monday-Tuesday: Closed
Trails closed at 3:30 pm

WINTER (10/10 – 05/05)

Wednesday thru Sunday: 8 am – 5 pm
Monday-Tuesday: Closed
Trails closed at 4:30 pm

ADMIN. OFFICE HOURS:

Same as above.

PARK FEES:

\$5 per person. Children 12 and under are free.

DIRECTIONS:

From Phoenix, head west on Carefree Hwy (AZ-74) to US-60 (approximately 30 miles). Turn right onto US-60 W. Travel approximately 6.2 miles. The entrance to the Hassayampa River Preserve is on the west side of US-60 near milepost 114 (left-hand turn just before the electronic ADOT advisory sign). From Wickenburg, the entrance is on your right about 2 miles southeast of town.

WEBSITE:

<https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/park-locator/hassayampa-river-preserve/>

EMAIL ADDRESS:

hassayampa-river@mail.maricopa.gov

FACEBOOK PAGE:

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

STAFF:

Park Supervisor: Jessica Bland
Interpretive Ranger: Eric Hough
Office Asst. Chris Matthews
Maintenance: Charlie Sizer

Tai Chi for Balance

Date: 1/2/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Date: 1/9/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Date: 1/16/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Date: 1/23/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Date: 1/30/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Tai Chi exercise uses slow movement and stretching to reduce stress and improve balance. Certified Tai Chi instructor Mary Degeoso will introduce participants to Tai Chi exercise techniques during this hour-long class in the picnic area at the Preserve. To register, please call the Preserve Nature Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Health & Fitness

100 Miles in 100 Days Nature Hike

Date: 1/2/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Start your New Year's resolutions for exercise right by joining Ranger Eric for a guided hike on all 3 miles of the Preserve's trails while participating in the Maricopa County Parks' 100 Miles in 100 Days Challenge (Nov. 1-Feb. 8)! The hike takes between 2-3 hours and along the way you will learn about the natural and historic features of the Preserve. No dogs allowed. Most trails are on fairly level ground, with the exception of a steeper but short climb to Lyke's Lookout, a desert hill that provides a beautiful view of the river corridor and surrounding mountains. To register for this event, please call the visitor center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Health & Fitness

Guided Bird Walk

Date: 1/6/2019 **Time:** 8:15 a.m.

Description: Did you know that over 290 species of birds have been found at the Hassayampa River Preserve? Enjoy an easy-paced walk with seasoned birder and bird bender Anne Leight to spot and identify the many resident and migratory birds of the Preserve from 8:15-11:15am. Binoculars may be available to borrow. Space is limited. To register, please call the visitor center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

Creatures of the Night Walk

Date: 1/11/2019 **Time:** 5:45 p.m.

Description: Join Ranger Eric for an easy after-hours walk on the Preserve trails to look for and learn about the nocturnal critters that live here as they awaken from their daytime slumber. Wildlife seen on past walks has included ringtails, foxes, javelinas, owls, scorpions, and other cool creepy crawlies! Program will run from 5:45-7:45pm. Flashlights and blacklights will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Space is limited, so please contact the Visitor Center at 928-684-2772 to sign up for this event. *If you were on last month's night walk, we ask that you please refrain from signing up this month to allow others to experience one of our night walks, since this program is our most popular and space is always limited. Thanks!

Core: Animals

Citizen Science Series:**Phenology Workshop****Date:** 1/12/2019 **Time:** 11 a.m.

Description: Our Citizen Science Series at the Preserve will be a recurring series of different workshops that introduce participants to how they can help contribute their observations in nature in their daily lives to our collective scientific understanding of the environment. Part 1 focuses on Phenology, which studies the timing of biological events in nature, such as the blooming of flowers and migration of birds. Join us from 11:00am-12:30pm for the launching of our Preserve's Phenology Trail, developed in collaboration with the Wickenburg Conservation Foundation and using the National Phenology Network's framework. We have 5 trees each of cottonwoods, willows, and mesquites marked along our trails, as well as a couple of bird species that can be observed in season, for visitors to track timing of biological events of these organisms with. The goal of this program is to help track changes in the timing of these events due to climate change by recording and researching the impacts to our global environment. The workshop will include classroom and field activities where we will discuss phenology more in depth, how to record data, and how to use the Nature's Notebook website and smart phone app. To register for this program, please call the Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Guided Nature Walk**Date:** 1/16/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Join Ranger Eric from 9:00-11:00am for an easy-paced, guided walk along the Preserve trails to learn about the plants, animals, ecology, and history of the Hassayampa River Preserve. Registration is required for all programs at the Preserve, and space is limited. Please contact the Preserve Nature Center at 928-684-2772 to sign up.

Core: Plants

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Guided Bird Walk**Date:** 1/18/2019 **Time:** 8:15 a.m.

Description: Join Ranger Eric for a guided walk from 8:15-10:15am to look and listen for resident and wintering birds within the diverse desert riparian habitat of the Hassayampa River Preserve. Along the way we will discuss how to identify birds by sight and sound, and about the behavioral and ecological traits that make them unique. Some binoculars are available to borrow at the Preserve Nature Center. Space is limited. To register, please call the Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

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Nature Rangers Program:**Phenology Trail****Date:** 1/19/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Nature Rangers youth program is designed to give children ages 7-12 a meaningful outdoors experience to build lifelong stewards of the natural world. This month's program from 1:00-3:00pm will introduce participants to the Preserve's Phenology Trail, one of a series of trails around the Wickenburg area that allow citizens to contribute their observations of the biological timing of events in nature (e.g. flowering of plants, migration of birds) to our collective scientific knowledge. We will go out on the trail as we learn about phenology and how we can contribute to "citizen science" while visiting the Preserve, as well as in our own yards and neighborhoods! All participants must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian. Space is limited. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Citizen Science Series: Species Observations**Date:** 1/26/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Our Citizen Science Series at the Preserve will be a recurring series of workshops that introduce participants to how they can help contribute their observations in nature in their daily lives to our collective scientific understanding

of the environment. Part 2 focuses on how to submit species observations of different organisms using programs including iNaturalist, eBird, and other websites and apps. We will introduce participants to some identification tips for figuring out what different organisms are, but those who want a more in-depth primer to field identification and usage of field guides can check out Part 3 of the series next month (Feb. 9). This workshop will take place from 9:00-11:00am and will incorporate classroom and field time on the trails. To register for this program, please call the Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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PARK NOTES:

What to Bring: Leave pets at home! Pets are not allowed at the Preserve and should not be left inside parked vehicles in warm weather, as this can cause injury or death. Please wear sturdy shoes (closed-toe), dress appropriately for the weather, and bring more water than you think you will need. See program descriptions for specifics. Fees for guided hikes and programs are included in the park entry fee or with your annual pass. To register for programs, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772. Programs may be canceled if severe inclement weather is imminent or if there is a low number of registrants, but we will call registrants to notify them of cancellations. If possible, canceled programs will be posted on the website.

Media Partners: Thank you for helping us advertise the Hassayampa River Preserve's programs and events! Please include the Preserve's email address – hassayampa-river@mail.maricopa.gov - in your postings so park visitors can contact the park directly with general questions about programs, updates, and changes.

Notes:

