

HASSAYAMPA RIVER PRESERVE

September 2018 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. Vacant
Maintenance: Charlie Sizer

Guided Bird Walk

Date: 9/1/2018 **Time:** 7:15 a.m.

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

Core: Animals

•••••

Guided Butterfly Walk

Date: 9/1/2018 **Time:** 8:30 a.m.

Description: As monsoon moisture brings an abundance of late summer flowers, a plethora of beautiful butterflies also emerge. Come learn how to identify our common butterfly species on the Preserve trails with Central Arizona Butterfly Association (CAZBA) president, Ron Rutowski. The walk will be from 8:30-10:30am. Space is limited. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

•••••

Fall Bird ID Challenges Workshop & Bird Walk

Date: 9/8/2018 **Time:** 7:15 a.m.

Description: Fall bird migration can be just as rewarding for birders as during the spring, with peak migration for songbirds occurring this month. For birders seeking out-of-range vagrants, this is one of the best times of year to look. Some lingering breeding and resident species join the migrants in taking advantage of the post-

monsoon food abundance within the lush river ecosystem of the Preserve. Come learn about some of the common bird ID challenges we experience in early fall during an early morning bird walk followed by an air-conditioned classroom presentation from 7:15-10:15am. Space is limited. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

•••••

Water Ecology Discovery Station

Date: 9/9/2018 **Time:** 7 a.m.

Description: Come learn about the diverse aquatic ecosystem of the Hassayampa River with a discovery station allowing visitors an up-close view of some of our fish, amphibians, and aquatic insects. Identification guides and informative materials will be available to peruse. The discovery station will be set up from 7:00-10:00am.

Core: Animals

•••••

Creatures of the Night Walk

Date: 9/14/2018 **Time:** 6:45 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 6:45-8:45pm. 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.

Core: Animals

Guided Bird Walk with AZFO**Date:** 9/15/2018 **Time:** 7:15 a.m.

Description: Join the expert birders of Arizona Field Ornithologists (AZFO) as they lead us on a walk along the Preserve's trails from 7:15-9:15am in search of resident and fall migrant birds. Along the way we will learn some of the finer points of how to identify birds by sight and sound, as well as behavioral and ecological information. Space is limited. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

•••••

Nature Rangers program-Freaky Fungi!**Date:** 9/15/2018 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: The Nature Rangers youth program is designed to give children ages pre-school to 12 a meaningful outdoors experience to build lifelong stewards of the outdoors. For this month's activity, join staff and volunteers from 1:00-3:00pm to learn about the fascinating world of fungi and lichens through fun and educational activities. We'll also go out on the Preserve trails to see if we can spot some of the mushrooms and lichens that live here. Space is limited and all children must be accompanied by an adult. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Outdoor Skills

•••••

Guided Plant Walk**Date:** 9/16/2018 **Time:** 8 a.m.

Description: Join Ranger Eric for a guided hike on the Preserve's trails from 8:00-10:00am to learn about the riparian and upland Sonoran Desert plants growing here, and their importance to the local ecosystem. Trail difficulty is low to moderate, with one steeper stretch on the way up to Lyke's Lookout, which offers a scenic vantage point of the river and surrounding desert. Registration is required and space is limited. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Plants

•••••

Guided Reptile & Amphibian Walk & Presentation**Date:** 9/20/2018 **Time:** 8:30 a.m.

Description: Join Ranger Justin from White Tank Mountain Regional Park from 8:30-10:30am for a presentation on the unique reptiles and amphibians of the Sonoran Desert, followed by a guided walk to look for some of the lizards, snakes, turtles, and frogs that live in the lush riparian ecosystem of the Preserve. Space is limited. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

•••••

Guided Dragonfly Walk & Presentation**Date:** 9/22/2018 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Join Dr. Pierre Deviche from Arizona State University (ASU) for a presentation and guided walk to explore the diversity of dragonflies and damselflies of the Hassayampa River. Program will last from 9-11:30am. Space is limited. To register, please call the Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

•••••

Guided Bird Walk**Date:** 9/28/2018 **Time:** 7:15 a.m.

Description: Join Ranger Eric for a guided bird walk from 7:15-9:15am to look and listen for fall migrant and resident species within the diverse desert riparian habitat of the Hassayampa River Preserve. We will still be within the peak of fall songbird migration, so this is an excellent time of year to look for rare vagrants! 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 Visitor Center. Space is limited. To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Animals

•••••

Creative Outdoor Photography**Date:** 9/30/2018 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Are you tired of photographing the same iconic subjects over and over? Have your photographs become safe or boring? Join professional outdoor photographer, author, and instructor Colleen Miniuk-Sperry for an exciting and educational 3-hour workshop

on "Creative Outdoor Photography" at the Hassayampa River Preserve. During her one-hour presentation, gain insights into how to create more personal and moving images of the Great Outdoors. Hear tips and tricks for how to visualize mental pictures of your picture before snapping the shutter, to tap into your unique knowledge, passions, and mindful observations as you explore your surroundings, and to combine the natural elements you observe into a cohesive visual message. Then, put these skills into practice during a guided 90-minute photo walk around the preserve. Bring your camera to the Preserve this September and get a creative jolt for your photography! To register, please call the Preserve Visitor Center at 928-684-2772.

Core: Outdoor Skills

•••••

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 main 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: