

MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

MARCH PROGRAMS



Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.

McDowell Mountain Regional Park

16300 McDowell Mountain Park Drive

MMRP, AZ 85268

(480) 471-0173



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE

PARK HOURS:

Sunday – Thursday: 6 am – 8 pm

Friday – Saturday: 6 am – 10 pm

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:

From central Phoenix, take Loop 202 east to Beeline Highway (SR 87). Continue northeast on SR 87 to Shea Blvd. Travel west on Shea Blvd. to Saguaro Blvd.; turn north. Continue through Town of Fountain Hills to Fountain Hills Blvd; turn right and travel four miles to the McDowell Mountain Regional Park entrance.

WEBSITE:

<https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/mcdowell-mountain-regional-park/>

EMAIL ADDRESS:

mcdowellpark@mail.maricopa.gov

FACEBOOK PAGE:

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

STAFF:

Park Supervisor: Shayla Gunn

Interpretive Ranger: Amy Roberts

Park Office Asst.: Jeanine O'Reilly

Maintenance Supervisor: John Grutzmacher, Mark Ostapczuk

Fun Fitness Hike

Date: 3/1/2019 **Time:** 7:30 a.m.

Description: Hit the trail early with us for this fun fitness hike! Stretch your legs and experience the desert, one step at a time. Hikers will meet at the Wagner Trailhead. Plan for a 3-5-mile hike.

Core: Health & Fitness

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Birds of Prey with Liberty Wildlife

Date: 3/2/2019 **Time:** 12 p.m.

Description: Experience Arizona's native wildlife up close and personal! Local wildlife rehabilitators will be here with some of the animals that are currently in their care. Learn about these animals and the challenges they face. Program will be held outside at the Visitor Center.

Core: Animals

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The Saguaro Cactus

Date: 3/7/2019 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: We will explore the topic of these jolly green giants on an easy and informative walk along our 0.5-mile barrier free trail. How long do they live? Why are the holes there? Can I get water from it if I need too? Get the answers to these questions and more! This program is suitable for all ages and abilities. Meet at the Nursery Tank Trailhead.

Core: Plants

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Fun Fitness Hike

Date: 3/8/2019 **Time:** 7:30 a.m.

Description: Hit the trail early with us for this fun fitness hike! Stretch your legs

and experience the desert, one step at a time. Hikers will meet at the Wagner Trailhead. Plan for a 3-5-mile hike.

Core: Health & Fitness

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Self-guided hike on the North Trail

Date: 3/8/2019 **Time:** All Day

Description: The North Trail is the most popular hiking trail in the McDowell Mountain Regional Park. It is a 3-mile loop trail that has an accompanying interpretive pamphlet. It is rated as "easy" and suitable for most folks who want to get out and enjoy a hike. Come out and enjoy a walk, at your own pace. Interpretive pamphlets are available at the trailhead. Stop by the Visitor Center if you need directions!

Core: Plants

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100 Miles in 100 Days Celebration!

Date: 3/9/2019 **Time:** 2 p.m.

Description: If you completed your Challenge, now is the time to celebrate! Share tales of the trail, bragging rights, and enjoy some light refreshments as we celebrate your accomplishment. T-shirts will be handed out to Challenge Finishers. Meet at the park's Visitor Center.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Nature Nurture

Date: 3/14/2019 **Time:** 2 p.m.

Description: Nurture your child's love of nature with a kid friendly craft project! We will have a few easy options for your child to choose from to make a souvenir

from their visit to the park. Program will be held at the Nature Center.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Fun Fitness Hike

Date: 3/15/2019 **Time:** 7 a.m.

Description: Hit the trail early with us for this fun fitness hike! Stretch your legs and experience the desert, one step at a time. Hikers will meet at the Trailhead Staging Area. Plan for a 3-5-mile hike.

Core: Health & Fitness

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Introduction to Archery

Date: 3/15/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Participants will experience a safe introduction to international-style target archery. Participants should be at least 10 years old. Equipment is provided. Space is limited. RSVP required. To RSVP, contact

amyroberts@mail.maricopa.gov to RSVP. Additional details will be provided.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Reptile Feeding

Date: 3/16/2019 **Time:** 12 p.m.

Description: Have lunch with the "locals"! What's on the menu? Mice! Find out if desert reptiles prefer fast food, or casual dining. Stop by the rattlesnake restaurant, a.k.a. the park Visitor Center, to watch our native reptiles eat their lunch. Casual attire only please!

Core: Animals

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Out of the House Homeschool Sonoran Spotlight on Reptiles

Date: 3/21/2019 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.

Description: Attention Homeschoolers! Get out of the house and have a fun day of learning and play in the park. This month's focus will be on reptiles of the Sonoran Desert. After learning about and meeting some of our live display animals, the kids can enjoy our giant rattlesnake slide at the playground in the park! Bring a lunch and plan to stay and play. Meet at the Visitor Center. Please RSVP to amyroberts@mail.maricopa.gov or call 480-471-0173.

Core: Animals

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Fun Fitness Hike

Date: 3/22/2019 **Time:** 7 a.m.

Description: Hit the trail early with us for this fun fitness hike! Stretch your legs and experience the desert, one step at a time. Hikers will meet at the Trailhead Staging Area. Plan for a 3-5-mile hike.

Core: Health & Fitness

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Self-guided Hike on the North Trail

Date: 3/23/2019 **Time:** All Day

Description: The North Trail is the most popular hiking trail in the McDowell Mountain Regional Park. It is a 3-mile loop trail that has an accompanying

interpretive pamphlet. It is rated as "easy" and suitable for most folks who want to get out and enjoy a hike. Come out and enjoy a walk, at your own pace. Interpretive pamphlets are available at the trailhead. Stop by the Visitor Center if you need directions!

Core: Plants

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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.

Media Partners: Thank you for helping us advertise McDowell Mountain Regional Parks programs and events! Please include Ranger Amy's email address – AmyRoberts@mail.maricopa.gov - in your postings so park visitors can contact the park directly with general questions about programs, updates, and changes.

Notes:

