

WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

March Programs



Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.
White Tank Mountain Regional Park
20304 W. White Tank Mountain Road
Waddell, AZ 85355
(623) 935-2505



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

Wildlife Walk

Date: 3/1/2019 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: Join Ranger JD to learn about what it takes for calling the Sonoran Desert home. We will go on a short 1.8 mile hike and look for wildlife along the way. See you at the Waddell Trailhead at Area 7. Please bring closed toed shoes and water. Don't forget those cameras to catch what we see.

Core: Animals

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Basic of Mountain Biking

Date: 3/2/2019 **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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History of the White Tanks

Date: 3/2/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: The White Tank Mountains played an important role in the development of Arizona during its territorial days. This presentation will discuss the colorful history of this area from 1863 to today. Learn about the freight haulers, miners, ranchers and outlaws that left their mark in the mountains and how the mountains got their name. . A native of Phoenix, Karen Krause has lived near the White Tank Mountains in Waddell, Arizona for 25 years where she has been researching the history of Waddell. Please meet at the Nature Center Classroom

Core: Archaeology & History

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Nature Discovery: Bugs!

Date: 3/8/2019 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: Looking for a fun and engaging hour focused around children's outdoor education? Join Ranger Justin and special guest Jack Jenkins at area 3 as we lead you on a bug adventure. We will go on a 0.3 mile bug hunt on the Interpretive Trail! This hands-on program will encourage kids to get in touch with nature. Children must be accompanied by an adult during Nature Discovery Hour.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Desert Fables

Date: 3/8/2019 **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: 3/8/2019 **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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100 Miles 100 Days Celebration

Date: 3/9/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Kick off your hiking boots and celebrate your accomplishments! We will be celebrating the completion of our 100 Miles in 100 Days Challenge. Share your stories with other 100 Milers and have a piece of cake (after all, you earned it, right?). Those who completed the 100 Miles Challenge will receive their limited-edition Challenge t-shirts at the celebration.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Hike to Willow Springs Farm

Date: 3/11/2019 **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 February 1st. Please leave your dog at home.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Find the Ranger

Date: 3/13/2019 **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: Animals

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Waterfall Archeology Hike

Date: 3/14/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Join park volunteer Chris Reed on this easy 2 mile walk to go back in time. Use your senses of sight, hearing, touch, and smell to discover the evidence of human history along the Waterfall trail. Please leave your dog at home. Please meet at the Waterfall trailhead.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Wild Flower Walk

Date: 3/15/2019 **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 wildflowers found in the White Tanks. 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 wildflowers. Call ahead or inquire at entry station upon arrival.

Core: Plants

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Early Bird Walk

Date: 3/16/2019 **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) for a hike on Ford Canyon Trail. Please leave your dog at home.

Core: Animals

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Origins of Flight Part II

Date: 3/16/2019 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.

Description: Origins of Flight Part II will review flight in the period from 400,000,000 MYA to 66,000,000 MYA, then concentrate on birds that existed after the extinction of Dinosaurs until modern times. See you in the Nature Center Classroom.

Core: Animals

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Hike to Willow Springs Farm

Date: 3/20/2019 **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 round trip 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 March 1st. Please leave your dog at home.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Sunrise Walk

Date: 3/21/2019 **Time:** 6 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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Moonlight Walk

Date: 3/22/2019 **Time:** 7 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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All about Pupfish

Date: 3/23/2019 **Time:** 11 a.m.

Description: Fish in the desert? HUH?! Many native fish of the desert have fascinating adaptations to our harsh climate. Join Ranger Justin as he takes you on an adventure to learn about the Desert Pupfish. This will be held in the Nature Center classroom. No fishing pole needed.

Core: Animals

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Snake Feeding

Date: 3/23/2019 **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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Waterfall Archeology Walk

Date: 3/28/2019 **Time:** 9 a.m.

Description: Join park volunteer Chris Reed on this easy 2 mile walk to go back in time. Use your senses of sight, hearing, touch, and smell to discover the evidence of human history along the Waterfall trail. Please leave your dog at home. Please meet at the Waterfall trailhead.

Core: Archaeology & History

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Library Program: Desert Bingo

Date: 3/28/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Looking for a fun family activity to beat the heat? Join us in the Library Classroom for this twist on the classic Bingo game. Match pictures of desert animals to get 5 in a row on your game board and learn fun facts about desert critters as we play

Core: Animals

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Basics of Mountain Biking

Date: 3/30/2019 **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 familiar with desert trails. Please bring a helmet and plenty of water, an extra tube and your bike!

Core: Outdoor Skills

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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.