

WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

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

What did I Pack?

Date: 5/2/2019 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: Are you prepared for a hike in the desert? Join volunteer Joe in the Nature Center Classroom where we will have items on display that should always be in your pack or pocket. We will cover topics from reading maps (and actually using them) to first aid and hydration. Stop by and chat with us and learn how a little hiking preparation can go a long way. Be sure to have your water.

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Desert Fables

Date: 5/3/2019 **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: 5/3/2019 **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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Black Rock Petroglyph Walk

Date: 5/4/2019 **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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Sunrise Hike

Date: 5/7/2019 **Time:** 5:15 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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Wildlife Encounter: Gila Monster

Date: 5/9/2019 **Time:** 10 a.m.

Description: Visit the Nature Center and see one of North America's venomous lizards. Join Ranger J.D as he shares amazing facts about how the the gila monster survives in the hot climate. Visit any time between 10:00 and 12:00pm.

Core: Animals

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Basic to Mountain Biking**Date:** 5/10/2019 **Time:** 8 a.m.**Description:** New biking in desert mountain terrain or just want to ride?

Join Ranger J.D. at the Trailhead Staging Area 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 and plenty of water, extra tube and your bike!

Core: Outdoor Skills

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Nature Documentary: Life In Cold Blood**Date:** 5/11/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Beat the midday heat by joining us in the Nature Center classroom for a showing of the BBC nature documentary, Life in Cold Blood-Sophisticated Serpents. Learn about some of the world's snakes and their adaptations. We will see the beauty in these limbless animals. See you there for a snaketacular documentary.

Core: Animals

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What is the Difference? Poison vs. Venom**Date:** 5/16/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Come to the Nature Center Classroom for an exciting learning adventure. We will discuss characteristics unique to venomous and poisonous creatures that live Sonoran Desert.

Core: Animals

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Find the Ranger**Date:** 5/17/2019 **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 it's inhabitants!

Core: Animals

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Snake Feeding**Date:** 5/17/2019 **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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Early Bird Walk**Date:** 5/18/2019 **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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Rattlesnakes! Fact and Fiction**Date:** 5/18/2019 **Time:** 2 p.m.

Description: Rattlesnakes! Few animals spawn mythology and fish stories like they do. In working with thousands of rattlesnakes and people in the valley, we've heard it all. Learn to stay safe in the outdoors, what to do if you see a rattlesnake, and most importantly, what not to do. We'll go through the top 10 bits of popular misinformation, why people believe it, and get to the real story.

Core: Animals

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Moonlight Hike**Date:** 5/18/2019 **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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Nature Documentary: BBC Planet Earth II Deserts**Date:** 5/22/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Beat the midday heat by joining us in the Nature Center classroom for a showing of the BBC Planet Earth, Deserts. Over 1/3 of our planet is covered by deserts. Learn what it takes for life to survive in these arid climates. Make sure you bring your water- you may get thirsty.

Core: Entertainment & Social Skills

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Wildlife encounter: Turtles and Tortoises**Date:** 5/23/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Come celebrate World Turtle day by coming over to the Nature Center Tortoise enclosure. Here Ranger J.D. will share facts about our Desert Tortoise Ambassador Cera.

Core: Animals

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Scorpion Search: Waddell Trail**Date:** 5/24/2019 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

Description: Load up the kids and join us for a 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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Library Program: Sonoran Creatures**Date:** 5/30/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

Description: Join Ranger Justin to learn more about the most common wildlife you are likely to see as you roam the White Tank Mountains.

Core: Animals

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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 White Tank Mountain Regional Parks programs and events! Please include Ranger Justin's email address – JustinWilliams@mail.maricopa.gov - in your postings so park visitors can contact the park directly with general questions about programs, updates, and changes.

Additional notes:

