

# MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

## OCTOBER PROGRAMS



### Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.

McDowell Mountain Regional Park

16300 McDowell Mountain Park Drive

MMRP, AZ 85268

(602) 506-2930 ext. 3



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:

[Maricopacountyparks@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:Maricopacountyparks@mail.maricopa.gov)

### 📘 FACEBOOK PAGE:

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

### STAFF:

**Park Supervisor:** Ossana Wolff

**Interpretive Ranger:** Amy Roberts

**Park Office Asst.:** Laura Horton

**Maintenance Supervisor:** Mark Ostapczuk and Jake Carpenter

**Contact Station:** Dianna Manasse

### Early Bird Walk

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

**Description:** No previous birding experience is required, only an interest in birds! Bring your binoculars and come on out! The trail is an ADA-accessible trail, so all ages and abilities are welcome to join. Meet at the Nursery Tank Trailhead (approximately 5-miles from the park's main entrance).

**Core:** Animals

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### Friday Fitness Hike - Wagner

**Date:** 10/4/2019 **Time:** 7 a.m.

**Description:** This week's hike will begin from the Wagner Trailhead. Hike distance will be between 8-12 miles. Participants should have previous hiking experience. Bring plenty of water, and snacks and make sure to have comfortable shoes & clothing. The hike will be led by Kevin B.

**Core:** Health & Fitness

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### Sonoran Desert 101

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

**Description:** Welcome to the desert! This is a lush, diverse desert with lots of interesting residents. (And we're not just talking about the animals!) This 0.5-mile interpretive hike will focus on the common plants and animals living here and the adaptations that allow them to thrive. Meet at Nursery Tank, a half-mile universal access trail.

**Core:** Outdoor Skills

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### The Language of the Desert

**Date:** 10/10/2019 **Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Description:** Learn to read the signs of the unspoken language of the desert.

What can the desert floor tell us?

Examine the surrounding environment and sharpen your observation skills. Let's learn from each other and Mother Nature. Meet at the Nursery Tank Trailhead for this easy, short walk on a 0.5-mile ADA-accessible trail.

**Core:** Animals

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### Friday Fitness Hike – Dixie Mine Trailhead

**Date:** 10/11/2019 **Time:** 7 a.m.

**Description:** Meet in the parking lot for the Dixie Mine Trailhead (outside of the park - at the end of Golden Eagle Blvd in Fountain Hills). Hike distance will be between 8-12 miles. Participants should have previous hiking experience. Park access from this trailhead is "hike only" so please come prepared with a \$2 (cash only) park entrance fee. Please make sure to have enough water, comfortable shoes and clothing, and a hat. Hike led by Kevin B.

**Core:** Health & Fitness

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### Introduction to Archery

**Date:** 10/11/2019 **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@maricopa.gov to RSVP. Additional details will be provided.

**Core:** Outdoor Skills

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**Reptile Feeding****Date:** 10/12/2019 **Time:** 2 p.m.**Description:** Join the park staff for an afternoon break and see for yourself how our cold-blooded residents eat their monthly meals! Frozen rodent entrees will be served to the critters. Feeding takes place at the Visitor Center.**Core:** Animals

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**Snakes, Spiders, and Scorpions****Date:** 10/17/2019 **Time:** 2 p.m.**Description:** Are you new to Arizona (or just visiting) and curious about our desert critters? Join the Ranger for a talk about these seemingly scary creatures. We have live animals on display in the Nature Center so you can see them up close, but not by surprise. Program held at the Nature Center. Seating is limited.**Core:** Animals

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**Friday Fitness Hike – Four Peaks Trailhead****Date:** 10/18/2019 **Time:** 7 a.m.**Description:** This week's hike will begin from the 4 Peaks Trailhead. Hike distance

will be between 8-12 miles. Participants should have previous hiking experience. Bring plenty of water, and snacks and make sure to have comfortable shoes &amp; clothing. Hike led by Kevin B.

**Core:** Health & Fitness

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**Friday Fitness Hike – Tom's Thumb Trailhead****Date:** 10/25/2019 **Time:** 7 a.m.**Description:** This week's hike starts OUTSIDE OF THE PARK at the Tom's Thumb Trailhead, off of 128th Street in Scottsdale (off of Dynamite). This is a difficult hike that involves a good amount of elevation and loose rocks. A hiking pole is recommended for this hike that starts in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. The hike will be between 8-12 miles. Please call the Park if you need directions to the Trailhead. Bring plenty of water, and snacks and make sure to have comfortable shoes & clothing. Previous hiking experience is required for this difficult hike. The hike will be led by Kevin B.**Core:** Health & Fitness

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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 – Amy.Roberts@maricopa.gov - in your postings so park visitors can contact the park directly with general questions about programs, updates, and changes.