

# USERY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK JUNE PROGRAMS



## Maricopa County

Parks and Recreation Dept.  
Usery Mountain Regional Park  
3939 N. Usery Pass Road  
Mesa, AZ 85207  
(602) 506-2930 ext. 4



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 – 3 pm

### 📍 PARK FEES:

\$7 per vehicle day-use entry fee (no additional fees for programs, unless otherwise noted)

### 📍 DIRECTIONS:

From central Phoenix, I-10 east to US 60 east.  
Exit Ellsworth Road north to the Usery  
Mountain Regional Park entrance.

### 💻 WEBSITE:

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

### ✉ EMAIL ADDRESS:

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

### 📘 FACEBOOK PAGE:

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

### STAFF:

**Park Supervisor:** Shayla Gunn  
**Interpretive Ranger:** Brennan Basler  
**Office Asst.** Andrea Despotides  
**Maintenance:** Robert Mansfield, Ray Martin  
and Sharon Richards  
**Contact Station Assistant:** Aldo Gonzalez

### For Kids: Indoor Animal Games

**Date:** 6/5/2019 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.

**Description:** Kids, are you looking for something cool to do this summer? How about playing some fun animal games inside our cool Nature Center! Not only will we play some crazy and funny games but we will also discover cool things about our desert animals. This program is designed for kids ages 6-12. **NOTE:** At the end of the program, one lucky person will win a free family four pack (4 free tickets to the Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix Water Park – a \$180 value!!).  
**Core:** Entertainment & Social Skills

•••••

### All About Kayaking

**Date:** 6/7/2019 **Time:** 12 p.m.

**Description:** Interested in kayaking? Want to know how to get started? Want to learn about area lakes and rivers to kayak? Discover the answers to these questions and more in this exciting one-hour presentation! Feel free to bring your lunch inside our Nature Center as Ranger B shares helpful information about this fun activity.  
**Core:** Outdoor Skills

•••••

### All About Black Bears

**Date:** 6/8/2019 **Time:** 6 p.m.

**Description:** How dangerous are black bears? What should you do if you encounter one? Where do they live in Arizona? How do they survive and thrive in the wild? Discover the answers to these questions and more in this exciting one-hour presentation! Join us inside our

Nature Center as Ranger B shares some amazing facts about these brawny bruins. Watch us feed our snakes after the program at 7pm. Then join our “Night Safari” at 7:30pm at no extra cost!  
**NOTE:** At the end of the program, one lucky person will win a free family four pack (4 free tickets to the Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix Water Park – a \$180 value!!).

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### Night Safari

**Date:** 6/8/2019 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Description:** What are the wild animals that live in our desert? How do they survive and thrive here? What should you do if you encounter one? Discover amazing things about our desert animals when you join our park ranger for this 1-mile/1-hour walk along the Merkle Trail. The hard-smooth surface of this trail accommodates wheelchairs and strollers. Please bring a flashlight, water, and closed-toe shoes. No pets, please. Meet at Area 6. Join our “All About Black Bears” program inside our Nature Center at 6pm, and our snake feeding at 7pm at no extra cost!  
**Core:** Animals

•••••

### For Kids: Amazing Desert Animals

**Date:** 6/12/2019 **Time:** 12 p.m.

**Description:** Kids, would you like to discover lots of cool things about our desert animals? Like, which ones live around here? How do they survive in our

desert? How can we be safe around them? Join us inside our Nature Center as Ranger B shares amazing things about our desert critters. NOTE: At the end of the program, one lucky person will win a free family four pack (4 free tickets to the Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix Water Park – a \$180 value!!).

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### All About Desert Survival

**Date:** 6/14/2019 **Time:** 12 p.m.

**Description:** What would you do if you got lost or your car broke down? Would you know how to survive if you were stranded in the desert? What are the most important things to do to stay alive? Discover the answers to these questions and more in this informative one-hour presentation! Feel free to bring your lunch with you inside our Nature Center as Ranger B shares life-saving tips on how to survive in the desert.

**Core:** Outdoor Skills

•••••

### Full Moon Hike

**Date:** 6/16/2019 **Time:** 7:30 p.m.

**Description:** Join us for this 2-mile hike under the glowing light of the full moon! This is a great opportunity to experience new sights and sounds of the desert at night. Bring your sense of adventure on this interpretive hike with our park ranger. Please bring a flashlight, water, and closed-toe shoes. No pets, please. Meet at Trailhead Staging.

**Core:** Health & Fitness

•••••

### For Kids: These Rocks Rock!

**Date:** 6/19/2019 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.

**Description:** Kids, do you like rocks? Want to find out the names of different rocks? Want to discover what they are made of and how they were made? Come to Usery Park and find out! Geologist AJ Lombard will teach you some cool things about the rocks you can find here in Arizona. This indoor program is designed for kids ages 7 and up. NOTE: At the end of the program, one lucky person will win a free family four pack (4 free tickets to the Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix Water Park – a \$180 value!!).

**Core:** Geology

•••••

### Migration of the Monarchs

**Date:** 6/21/2019 **Time:** 12 p.m.

**Description:** Monarch butterflies are some of the most beautiful creatures that grace our skies! They also take an annual journey that spans thousands of miles. How do they do it? Where do they go? Discover the answers to these questions and more in this exciting one-hour

presentation! Feel free to bring your lunch with you inside our Nature Center as Ranger B shares some amazing facts about these colorful creatures.

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### Meet “Shakira” the Rattlesnake!

**Date:** 6/22/2019 **Time:** 1 p.m.

**Description:** Visit our Nature Center and see the most common rattlesnake species found in Arizona. Ranger B will be at this drop-in style event to share some amazing facts about this shaking snake! Visit anytime between 1pm-2:30pm.

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### Movie Night in the Park:

#### “Toughest Desert Animals”

**Date:** 6/22/2019 **Time:** 7 p.m.

**Description:** This exciting film showcases some of our toughest desert animals. Watch a roadrunner take on a rattlesnake and a group of hawks hunting like a wolf pack! Included is a rarely seen rattlesnake fight which was filmed in Usery Park. Then watch us feed our snakes after the movie! Feel free to bring snacks and drinks with you (no glass bottles), otherwise, snacks and drinks are available for purchase. Location: Nature Center. NOTE: At the end of the program, one lucky person will win a free family four pack (4 free tickets to the Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix Water Park – a \$180 value!!).

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### Kid’s Storytime Funtime

**Date:** 6/26/2019 **Time:** 10:30 a.m.

**Description:** Kids (including parents and caregivers) will learn about our desert through a fun story, game, and a short outdoor experience. Feel free to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy after the program at one of the playgrounds in our park. Please bring water and closed-toe shoes. Suggested for ages 3-6. Location: Nature Center.

**Core:** Entertainment & Social Skills

•••••

### All About Hummingbirds

**Date:** 6/28/2019 **Time:** 12 p.m.

**Description:** What makes hummingbirds so special and unique? Which hummingbird species are found in this area? How do they survive and thrive in the wild? Discover the answers to these questions and more in this exciting one-hour presentation! Feel free to bring your lunch with you inside our Nature Center as Jim Taylor (former biology teacher) and his wife, Judy, deepen our understanding and appreciation for our feathered friends.

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### All About Scorpions

**Date:** 6/29/2019 **Time:** 6:30 p.m.

**Description:** How dangerous are scorpions? How can we protect ourselves from them? How do they survive and thrive in our desert? Discover the answer to these questions and more in this exciting one-hour presentation! Join us inside our Nature Center as Ranger B shares amazing facts about these desert dwellers. As a bonus, watch us feed our snakes after the program at 7:30pm. Then join our “Scorpion Hunt” at 8pm at no extra cost! NOTE: At the end of the program, one lucky person will win a free family four pack (4 free tickets to the Six Flags Hurricane Harbor Phoenix Water Park – a \$180 value!!).

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### Scorpion Hunt

**Date:** 6/29/2019 **Time:** 8 p.m.

**Description:** Did you know that scorpions glow in the dark under a blacklight? Join Ranger B as he leads us on this fun and safe night walk along a trail to find these elusive desert dwellers (using our eyes only). You will sharpen your spotting skills and have a lot of fun at the same time! All ages will enjoy this casual one-hour/one-mile walk. Please wear closed-toe shoes and bring water and a blacklight (blacklights are for sale while supplies last). No pets, please. Location: Trailhead Staging. As a bonus, join our “All About Scorpions” program inside our Nature Center at 6:30pm and our snake feeding at 7:30pm at no extra cost!

**Core:** Animals

•••••

### 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 Usery Mountain Regional Parks programs and events! Please include Ranger Brennan’s email address – BrennanBasler@mail.maricopa.gov - in your postings so park visitors can contact the park directly with general questions about programs, updates, and changes.