PARK HOURS:
Sunday – Thursday: 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday – Saturday: 6 a.m. – 10 p.m.
365 days a year

NATURE CENTER HOURS:
Summer (5/09 - 10/09)
Monday thru Saturday: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Sunday: Closed
Winter (10/10 - 5/08)
Sunday thru Saturday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

ADMIN. OFFICE HOURS:
Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

PARK FEES:
$6 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:
http://www.maricopacountyparks.net/park-locator/usery-mountain-regional-park/

SEPTEMBER, 2017
FEATURED PROGRAMS

Movie Night in the Park: “The Living Desert”
Date: 9/1/2017  Time: 7 p.m.
Description: Come see the best film ever made about our desert animals! All ages will love this exciting movie on the big screen inside our Nature Center. You will see desert animals do things you never thought possible – like scorpions dancing! This real-life Disney movie is both educational and highly entertaining. Laughter is guaranteed! As a bonus, watch us feed our snakes after the movie. Feel free to bring snacks and drinks with you (no glass bottles), otherwise, concessions are available.
Core: Animals

All About Gila Monsters
Date: 9/29/2017  Time: 6 p.m.
Description: How dangerous are Gila Monsters? What should you do if you encounter one? How do they survive and thrive in our desert? Discover the answers 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 misunderstood monsters. As a bonus, watch us feed our snakes after the program at 7pm. Then join our “Night Safari” at 7:30pm at no extra cost!
Core: Animals

Night Safari
Date: 9/29/2017  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. Location: Area 6. Join our “All About Gila Monsters” program inside our Nature Center at 6:30pm and our snake feeding at 7:30pm at no extra cost!
Core: Animals
**MONTHLY EVENTS**

**Movie Night in the Park: “The Living Desert”**  
**Date:** 9/1/2017  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Description:** Come see the best film ever made about our desert animals! All ages will love this exciting movie on the big screen inside our Nature Center. You will see desert animals do things you never thought possible – like scorpions dancing! This real-life Disney movie is both educational and highly entertaining. Laughter is guaranteed! As a bonus, watch us feed our snakes after the movie. Feel free to bring snacks and drinks with you (no glass bottles), otherwise, concessions are available.  
**Core:** Animals  

**Full Moon Hike – “Harvest Moon”**  
**Date:** 9/6/2017  
**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 sights and sounds of the desert at night! Bring your sense of adventure for this interpretive hike with our park ranger, Ranger B. Please bring a flashlight, water, and closed-toe shoes. No pets, please. Location: Trailhead Staging Area.  
**Core:** Health & Fitness  

**Morning Mojo Hike**  
**Date:** 9/8/2017  
**Time:** 7 a.m.  
**Description:** Get some morning mojo on this 2 mile brisk-pace hike through our scenic Sonoran Desert. Please bring water and closed-toe shoes. Meet at the Trailhead Staging Area.  
**Core:** Outdoor Skills  

**The Desert’s Most Dangerous Reptiles**  
**Date:** 9/8/2017  
**Time:** 12 p.m.  
**Description:** Which desert reptiles are REALLY the most dangerous? What should we do if we encounter one? What if someone gets bit? 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 useful factoids about our desert denizens.  
**Core:** Animals  

**All About Hummingbirds**  
**Date:** 9/20/2017  
**Time:** 2 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  

**Hiking Safety**  
**Date:** 9/22/2017  
**Time:** 12 p.m.  
**Description:** What are the special challenges that hikers face? What are the things you need to know to make your hikes safe? 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 important tips to help you stay safe on your hikes.  
**Core:** Outdoor Skills  

**Archery 101**  
**Date:** 9/22/2017  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
**Description:** Interested in archery? Curious about how to shoot a bow? Come to Usery Park and find out! You will discover how fun archery really is! Participants will experience a fun and safe introduction to recreational and international-style target archery. Equipment will be provided. This class is open to anyone ages 8 and up. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring water and closed-toe shoes. Meet at the Archery Range. No registration – just show up and have some fun!  
**Core:** Outdoor Skills  

**All About Gila Monsters**  
**Date:** 9/23/2017  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Description:** How dangerous are Gila Monsters? What should you do if you meet one? How do they survive and thrive in our desert? Discover the answers 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 misunderstood monsters. As a bonus, watch us feed our snakes after the program at 7:30pm. Then join our “Night Safari” at 7:30pm at no extra cost!  
**Core:** Animals  

**Scorpion Hunt**  
**Date:** 9/23/2017  
**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 for $10, batteries and tax included – while supplies last). No pets, please. Location: Area 6. Join our “All About Gila Monsters” program inside our Nature Center at 6:30pm and our snake feeding at 7:30pm at no extra cost!  
**Core:** Animals  

**Kid’s Storytime Funtime**  
**Date:** 9/27/2017  
**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 closed-toe shoes. Suggested for ages 3-5. Location: Inside our Nature Center.  
**Core:** Entertainment & Social Skills  

**Night Safari**  
**Date:** 9/29/2017  
**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. Location: Area 6. Join our “All About Gila Monsters” program inside our Nature Center at 6pm and our snake feeding at 7pm at no extra cost!  
**Core:** Animals
### Morning Mojo Hike

**Date:** 9/30/2017  
**Time:** 7 a.m.  
**Description:** Get some morning mojo on this 2 mile brisk-pace hike through our scenic Sonoran Desert. Please bring water and closed-toe shoes. Meet at the Trailhead Staging Area.  
**Core:** Health & Fitness

### Water Crisis in Arizona?

**Date:** 9/30/2017  
**Time:** 12 p.m.  
**Description:** Do we really have a water crisis in Arizona? Is our state about to go dry or do we have unlimited supplies of water? Should we be worried or do we have nothing to worry about? Discover the answers to these questions and more during this one-hour presentation. Feel free to bring your lunch with you inside our Nature Center as Ranger B shares important information about this serious issue.  
**Core:** Aquatics

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### STAFF

**Park Supervisor:** Dan Wilson  
**Interpretive Ranger:** Brennan Basler  
**Office Asst.:** Andrea Despotides  
**Maintenance:** Robert Mansfield, Ray Martin, and Sharon Richards.

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### MESSAGE FROM THE PARK SUPERVISOR:

Thank you for your continued support and interest in Usery Mountain Regional Park. We realize that you have a choice when it comes to selecting recreation venues and appreciate your business!

Sincerely,  
Dan Wilson

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### WHAT TO BRING:

Please wear closed-toe shoes or boots for most programs, and bring plenty of drinking water. See descriptions below for specifics.

**Notes:** Fees for our programs are included in the park entry fee of $6 per vehicle or with your annual pass or camping fee. 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 our website.

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### RANGER GUIDED HIKES and PROGRAMS:

Start times vary, check schedule carefully. For more information, call the park office at (480) 984-0032.