



# Saguaro National Park (West)

## Naturalist Program Schedule

Program schedules Programs meet at the Red Hills Visitor Center, 2700 N. Kinney Road, and last 30 to 45 minutes, unless noted otherwise. All programs are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5158 for updates. See [www.nps.gov/sagu](http://www.nps.gov/sagu) for other programs.

- Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30**                      **2:15 p.m. Those Who Came Before** *Talk: 45 min.*  
Learn about the Hohokam ("Those who are gone"), who inhabited this area from A.D. 300 to A.D. 1450. *Wheelchair accessible.*
- Nov. 4, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26**        **10:45 p.m. Meet the Monster** *Talk: 30 min.*  
Learn about this fascinating and colorful, yet rarely seen, desert inhabitant. *Wheelchair accessible.*
- Nov. 4, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26**        **2:15 p.m. The CCC in Saguaro National Park** *Illus. Talk: 45 min.*  
The Civilian Conservation Corps was a Depression-era work program that had a great influence on national, state, and county parks. Saguaro's trails, picnic areas, and scenic drives were established during this program. A brief history of the CCC in this area will be illustrated with old photo images and movie clips. *Wheelchair accessible.*
- Nov. 7, 13, 14, 21, 27, 28**        **10:45 a.m. A Hohokam Woman's Day** *Easy 100-yard Walk*  
Discover how a Hohokam woman may have used plants for medicine and food for her family. *Wheelchair accessible.*
- Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27**                      **2:15 p.m. Snakes**                      *Talk: 45 min.*  
Learn about the communication skills, special adaptations, and defense systems of these often misunderstood creatures. A bit of folk lore also is shared. *Wheelchair accessible.*
- Nov. 1, 29**                      **10:45 a.m. Adaptations: Recipe for Survival** *Easy 100-yard Walk*  
Take a walk in our Cactus Garden to discover some physical and behavioral adaptations of desert plants. *Wheelchair accessible.*
- Nov. 1, 29**                      **11:45 a.m. Life Cycle of the Saguaro: Seed to Giant** *Easy 100-yard Walk\**  
Hear some astonishing reasons why so few Saguaro seeds make it to fruition. *Wheelchair accessible.*
- Nov. 20**                      **10:45 a.m. Packrat Wandering** *.5 mile, 45-minute Hike*  
Walk up a wash and search for a packrat home. They tell us about changes in climate, human history, and geology, as well as about the inhabitants.
- Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28**                      **2:15 p.m. Homesteaders** *Talk: 45 min.*  
Enjoy the fascinating oral history surrounding Mexican American Homesteaders' adventures around Saguaro National Park communities. *Wheelchair accessible.*

**Nov. 5, 6**                                **3:15 p.m.**    **Putting the Brakes on Road Kill** *Talk: 40 min.*  
Saguaro and other National Parks are finding ways to decrease road kill – and you can help. Guess how many animals are hit nationally every day. The answer may surprise you. *Wheelchair accessible.*

**Nov. 5, 6, 20**                            **9:45 a.m.**    **Neighborhood Characters** *Easy walk: 45 min.*  
An easy morning walk in the Cactus Garden will bring you face to thorns with plants that remind you of people you know, friendly and otherwise. *Wheelchair accessible.*

**Nov. 25, 26, 27**                        **9:45 a.m.**    **A Post-Turkey Walk** *Easy hike, 60-75 min.*  
Walk off a few calories and gobble up information about life in a wash on this morning hike with a ranger. No sandals, please!

**Nov. 8, 22**                                **11:45 a.m.**    **They're Mining Our National Park??** *Illus.Talk: 45 min.*  
No, but they did before it became a National Park. If you are interested in the mining in this region and other local history, join us for this program. *Wheelchair accessible.*

**Nov. 8, 15, 22**                        **10:45 a.m.**    **Synergy in the Desert: The Sonoran Habitat** *50-yard walk*  
For all of life, “the whole is greater than the sum of the parts” is true. The iconic Saguaro is the focal point for a discussion of how the parts of the Sonoran Desert work together to create a rich living desert that is unique in the world.

**Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**                **3:15 p.m.**    **Meet the Cuckoo of the Desert** *Illus.Talk: 45 min.*  
Learn about the natural history, behavior, and other fascinating facts about this colorful creature: the roadrunner. *Wheelchair accessible.*

**Nov. 20, 25, 26, 27**                **3:15 p.m.**    **Fast Food in the Desert** *Illus.Talk: 45 min.*  
Sonoran Desert indigenous people of centuries past looked to the natural world for sustenance, from the mammoths of olden days to the Three Sisters of corn, beans, and squash of more recent times. What other foods did indigenous people eat, and where did corn come from, anyway? *Wheelchair accessible.*

**Nov. 18**                                    **11:45 a.m.**    **Saguaro: Not Just a Pretty Face** *Illus. Talk: 45 min.*  
What has droopy arms, upward arms, no arms, multiple arms, serves as a hotel, and loves arid climates? Find out what's growing in Saguaro National Park. *Wheelchair accessible.*

### Visitor Center

**The Red Hills Visitor Center** is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Christmas. A slide show is shown every half-hour through 4:30 p.m.