



Saguaro National Park (East) Naturalist Guided Program Schedule February, 2012

Programs meet at the Rincon Mountain Visitor Center, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730. All programs are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5153 for updates. See www.nps.gov/sagu for other programs.

February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 **10:00 a.m.** **Desert Discovery** *2 Mile Guided Walk*
Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 2-mile hike and discover which plants and animals call Saguaro National Park home.

February 2, 9, 23 **2:00 p.m.** **Poetry in the Park** *Guided Walk*
In honor of Saguaro National Park's inspirational and natural beauty, Ranger Jamie invites you to experience your poetic side. No experience necessary, as she takes you through a step-by-step guided walk through the magic of metaphors and similes (using your 5 senses) out on the trail.

February 3, 10, 24 **8:30 a.m.** **Desert Bird Walk** *Easy 1 Mile Walk*
Join volunteer naturalists Vicki Powers and Ralph Terry for an easy 2-hour walk in search of desert birds. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

February 3, 10, 17, 24 **9:00 a.m.** **Walk with the Saguaros** *Easy 2-mile walk*
Join a naturalist for this 2-hour, 2-mile easy walk to discover the many fascinating facts about the Saguaro cactus.

February 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28 **9:30 a.m.** **Sonoran Lifestyles** *1 Mile Guided Walk*
Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 1-mile walk to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring

February 4, 11, 18, 25 **3:00 p.m.** **People and Places of Saguaro's Past** *Illustrated Talk*
Join Park Ranger Arlo Ogden in the Visitor Center auditorium for this photo tour of the park's historic past, focusing on the stories told by its historic structures. *Program is wheelchair accessible.* ♿

February 4, 18, 25 **5:00 p.m.** **Sunset Stroll** *½ Mile Guided Walk*
The Sonoran Desert is famous for its sunsets. Join park staff at the Javelina Picnic Area for a ½ mile hike to enjoy tonight's sunset

February 5 **3:00 p.m.** **Sunset/Moonlight Hike** *5 Mile Hike*
View the Arizona sunset from a perch high in the foothills of the Rincon Mountains, then experience the magic of a walk through the moonlit Cactus Forest. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the visitor center at (520) 733-5153.

February 5, 12, 19, 26 **3:00 p.m.** **The Places In Between** *Illustrated Talk*
With human populations still on the rise, the wide open spaces available for protection are shrinking. Join park staff in the visitor center auditorium to find out about on-going efforts to ensure that critical migratory links remain intact. *Program is wheelchair accessible.* ♿

February 6, 13, 20, 27 **3:00 p.m.** **Back From the Brink** *Illustrated Talk*
What do you mean there were grizzly bears in Arizona? Join a park ranger in the visitor center auditorium to explore the natural history of the grizzly (and 2 other top predators) that once roamed in what is now Saguaro National Park. We will take a look at their past, present and future status in the American Southwest. *Program is accessible.* ♿

February 7, 14, 21, 28 **9:00 a.m.** **Desert Morning Hike** *4 Mile Guided Hike*
Join a park naturalist on this 3-hour, 4-mile hike to explore Saguaro National Park. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring water and a trail snack.

February 7, 14, 21, 28 **11:00 a.m.** **Natural History Table** *Patio Talk*
Join a park naturalist on the visitor center patio to have your questions answered about the natural history of the Sonoran Desert. This is an on-going, 30-minute program.

February 7, 14, 21, 28 **2:30 p.m.** **Reptiles & Amphibians of the Sonoran Desert** *Illustrated Talk*
Join park naturalist Bob Brandner for this 30-minute presentation to discover the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians. *This program is wheelchair accessible.* ♿

February 10 & 24 **7:00 p.m.** **Night Walk** *1 Mile Guided Walk*
Join a park naturalist for this easy 2-hour hike to explore and experience the Sonoran Desert at night. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring water and a flashlight. As space is limited, Reservations are required, and can be made by calling 733-5153.

February 12, 19, 26 **11:00 a.m.** **The Arizona Rainforest**
Join a park naturalist for this 90 minute stroll along a desert wash. We'll identify the trees of the cactus forest and learn how essential rain is to the abundant life of the Sonoran Desert.

February 14, 21, 28 **1:00 p.m.** **Saguaro Rocks!** *3 Mile Guided Hike*
Ever wonder how this landscape came to be? Come along with a park ranger on a 3-hour, 3-mile hike of the Cactus Forest Trail to explore this area's complex geological formations. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring water.

February 16 **7:00 p.m.** **Star Party** *Illustrated Program & Activity*
Join park naturalists for an introduction to astronomy and a look at the desert night sky. Telescopes and binoculars will be available. Reservations are required, and can be made by calling 733-5153. *Program is wheelchair accessible.* ♿

February 23 **7:00 p.m.** **Buffelgrass: A Lasting Threat or a New Face in the Sonoran Desert?** *Illustrated Program*
Join park biologists in the visitor center auditorium to learn the Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How? about buffelgrass, its role in the Sonoran Desert ecosystem, and what the resource managers at Saguaro National Park are doing to fight the invasion. ♿

February (all month*) Garden Walks

Guided Walk & Talk

***Sundays – Fridays at 10:00 a.m./Saturdays at 2:00 p.m.**

Take a stroll with a park naturalist through the Cactus Garden just outside the visitor center to discover what makes the Sonoran Desert such a special place. *This program is wheelchair accessible.* 