



Saguaro National Park (East) Naturalist Program Schedule

Programs meet at the Rincon Mountain Visitor Center, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5153 for updates or to make *RESERVATIONS*.

*Programs marked with an * are wheelchair accessible.*

February 1 – February 7, 2010

Monday, February 1

10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles

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 water.

11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment.

Tuesday, February 2

10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles

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 water.

11:00 a.m. Natural History Table*

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.

2:30 p.m. Reptiles and Amphibians of the Sonoran Desert*

Join park naturalist Bob Brandner for this 30-minute presentation to discover the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians.

Wednesday, February 3

9:00 a.m. Desert Morning Hike

Join a park naturalist for this 3-hour, 4-mile exploration of Saguaro National Park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack.

10:00 a.m. Desert Discovery

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

2:00 p.m. What's for Dinner?

Join a ranger on this 2-hour walk to learn what the local wildlife dines on in the desert.

Thursday, February 4

10:00 a.m. Desert Discovery

Join park naturalists on this 2-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

2:00 p.m. What's for Dinner?

Join a ranger on this 2-hour walk to learn what the local wildlife dines on in the desert.

7:00 p.m. Where the Chicks Hang Out*

Join desert naturalist and author Pinau Merlin in the visitor center auditorium for an in-depth look at the birds that think the Sonoran Desert is a great place to live.

Friday, February 5

8:30 a.m. Desert Bird Walk

Join volunteer naturalists Vicki Powers and Ralph Terry for an easy two-hour walk in search of desert birds. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment

Saturday, February 6

10:00 a.m. Cactus Caravan*

Begin your exploration of the Cactus Forest Drive with a park ranger and become familiar with some of the common cacti. A great introduction to the park!

2:00 p.m. Desert Botany 101*

Go “back to school” with a naturalist in this 30-minute garden walk to review the basics of photosynthesis in a desert setting, then experiment with leaf adaptations in our “lab.”

3:00 p.m. Back from the Brink*

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.

Sunday, February 7

11:00 a.m. People and Places of Saguaro’s Past*

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.

2:00 p.m. Yesterday, Today and...Saguaro?

Change is coming to the Cactus Forest and we can’t do anything about it! But don’t worry – change has been happening here for thousands of years. Come explore the life cycles of the saguaro cactus and the changing face of its Sonoran Desert home on this ¼ mile, 90-minute walk.

3:00 p.m. Desert Adaptations*

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment