



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.*

January 25 – January 31, 2010

Monday, January 25

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, January 26

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. 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, January 27

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, January 28

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. Death by Fire*

Join park Fire Ecologist Perry Grissom for a discussion about buffelgrass and its impact on the Sonoran Desert, and what you can do about it. Buffelgrass is an introduced grass that is taking over the Sonoran Desert, and it is threatening not only the desert's plants and animals, but its human residents as well. Learn the results of recent research into fire behavior in buffelgrass.

Friday, January 29

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

7:00 p.m. Night Walk

Join a park naturalist for this easy two-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, *advanced reservations are required*, and can be made by calling 733-5153.

Saturday, January 30

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

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, January 31

10:00 a.m. 1933 to Today

Join park ranger Arlo Ogden on a historic hike down the Shantz Trail. Learn who Homer Shantz was, and how he helped make Saguaro National Park the great attraction it is today. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring water. The group will meet at the visitor center, then carpool to a nearby trailhead.

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.