



# Saguaro National Park (West)

## Naturalist Program Schedule

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Programs meet at the Red Hills Visitor Center, 2700 N. Kinney Road, and last 30 to 45 minutes, unless noted otherwise. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5158 for updates or to make *RESERVATIONS*. *Programs marked with an \* are wheelchair accessible.*

### November 30 – December 6, 2009

#### Monday - November 30

**11:15 a.m. Road Kill! Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road? – Patio Talk\***

National Parks and others work to put a stop sign on road kill. Find out the extent of the problem and how you can help.

**2:15 p.m. Neighborhood Characters**

See if you recognize plant versions of your friends and relatives as you take a 30-minute nature walk in the Red Hills Visitor Center neighborhood.

**3:45 p.m. “Moon Take Night Make Day” Hike**

This gentle, relatively flat, 2½ mile hike travels up a desert wash during the transition from day to night. The hike takes approximately 3 hours. Enjoy the sunset and stroll in the moonlit desert. As space is limited, *advanced reservations are required*, and can be made by calling 733-5158.

#### Wednesday – December 2

**2:15 p.m. Those Who Came Before – Patio Talk\***

Learn about the Hohokam (those who are gone), who inhabited this area from A.D. 300 to A.D. 1450.

**5:00 p.m. “Moonrise Over the Mountains” Patio Talk\***

This campfire talk on the patio of the Red Hills Visitor Center provides a relaxing view of the full moon as it rises above the cactus forest. The program is approximately 45 minutes long. Bring a lawn chair and warm clothing. No reservations are required for this program - everyone is welcome.

#### Thursday – December 3

**2:15 p.m. Geology of the Tucson Mountains – Patio Talk\***

This program explores how the Tucson Mountains came to be where they are now, their composition and forces that built and continue to shape them.

**3:15 p.m. Signs of Life in the Desert**

Enjoy an easy ½ mile walk around the Red Hills Visitors' Center to look for evidence of animal life.

#### Friday - December 4

**10:15 a.m. Homesteading Adventures in the Desert – Patio Talk\***

Join a park ranger as she presents the oral history surrounding Mexican American Homesteaders' adventures around Saguaro National Park communities.

**11:15 a.m. The CCC and its Impact on Saguaro National Park – Slide Program\***

The Civilian Conservation Corps, a Depression-era work program that had a great influence on National, State, and County parks throughout the Nation. Saguaro's trails, picnic areas, and scenic drives were established during this program. A brief history of the CCC in this area will be presented by a park ranger, using PowerPoint slides of old photographs and movies.

**2:15 p.m. Critter of the Week – Patio Talk\***

Join a Park Ranger for a program about an animal found in the Sonoran Desert. What will it be? A snake? Scorpion? Tarantula? Tortoise? Come and find out. Meet the ranger and the animal at the Visitors' Center.

**3:15 p.m. Snakes – Patio Talk\***

Join a Park Naturalist for a 20 minute patio presentation on communication skills, special adaptations, and defense systems of these often misunderstood creatures. A bit of folk lore is also shared.

### **Saturday - December 5**

**10:15 a.m. Homesteading Adventures in the Desert – *Patio Talk\****

Join a park ranger as she presents the oral history surrounding Mexican American Homesteaders' adventures around Saguaro National Park communities.

**11:15 a.m. The CCC and its Impact on Saguaro National Park – *Slide Program\****

The Civilian Conservation Corps, a Depression-era work program that had a great influence on National, State, and County parks throughout the Nation. Saguaro's trails, picnic areas, and scenic drives were established during this program. A brief history of the CCC in this area will be presented by a park ranger, using PowerPoint slides of old photographs and movies.

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### **Sunday - December 6**

**10:15 a.m. Homesteading Adventures in the Desert – *Patio Talk\****

Join a park ranger as she presents the oral history surrounding Mexican American Homesteaders' adventures around Saguaro National Park communities.

**11:15 a.m. Road Kill! Why Did the Chicken Cross the Road? – *Patio Talk\****

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