



Saguaro National Park (West)

Naturalist Program Schedule

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.*

January 4 – January 10, 2010

Monday – January 4

10:45 a.m. God's Dog & Desert "Pigs" - Walk

An introduction to two of our most common desert mammals: the coyote and the javelina.

11:45 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 - Walk

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.

Tuesday – January 5

2:15 p.m. Meet the Cuckoo of the Desert – Talk/slides w/power point

Learn about the natural history, behaviors and fascinating facts about this colorful creature: the Roadrunner.

Wednesday – January 6

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.

Thursday – January 7

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 - Walk

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

Friday – January 8

10:45 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.

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 – January 9

10:45 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.

11:45 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*

Meet one of the live animals found in the Sonoran Desert. What will it be? A snake? Scorpion? Tarantula? Tortoise? Come and find out.

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.

Sunday – January 10

10:45 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.

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.