



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Guadalupe Mountains  
National Park

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## Guadalupe Mountains News Release (Revised)

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### Guadalupe Mountains National Park Hosts National Trails Day® Event

(Pine Springs, TX) Acting Superintendent Fred Armstrong announced today that on June 4, 2011, Guadalupe Mountains National Park will host a *Discover Guadalupe Mountains National Park for National Trails Day* event in celebration of American Hiking Society's 19<sup>th</sup> annual National Trails Day®. The event will be held at the Pine Springs Trailhead, McKittrick Canyon Visitor Contact Station, Dog Canyon Visitor Contact Station and Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center from 8:00 AM until 12:00 Noon. Spend a wonderful day discovering the Guadalupe Mountains in the Chihuahuan Desert of West Texas. Trails range from easy to strenuous, and wind through desert, riparian, wooded and forested areas, including the largest wilderness area in the state of Texas. Climb to the "Top of Texas" to 8,749 foot Guadalupe Peak, the highest peak in Texas. Explore spectacular McKittrick Canyon. Enjoy the solitude of one of the trails from Dog Canyon. Tables will be staffed at the Pine Springs Trailhead, and the McKittrick Canyon and Dog Canyon Visitor Contact Stations with information and other goodies. Families with children will want to stop by the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center to obtain Junior or Senior Ranger or Junior Paleontologist activity booklets. Maps, guidebooks, hiking sticks and other items may be purchased at the Guadalupe Mountains Bookstore, which is operated by non-profit cooperating association partner Carlsbad Caverns Guadalupe Mountains Association ([www.ccgma.org](http://www.ccgma.org)) inside the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center. A long-standing celebration of America's magnificent trail system and its countless supporters and volunteers, National Trails Day (NTD) is celebrated in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

The slogan for NTD 2011, *Made With All Natural Ingredients*, is an open invitation to all Americans to get outside and connect with local hiking clubs, outdoor retailers, local parks and recreation departments or federal land managing agencies to experience everything the great outdoors has to offer. National corporate sponsors include *Backpacker Magazine*, Columbia, Eastern Mountain Sports, Fetzer®, Merrell, The North Face, and partners, REI, and American Park Network.

"We are excited to be participating in the 2011 National Trails Day. With over 80 miles of trails, 60% of which are available for horseback riding, Guadalupe Mountains National Park is an excellent place for visitors to get fresh air and exercise in a natural, awe-inspiring national park.

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We invite families, seniors and people near and far, to come out and enjoy the day, hike a trail and explore the park,” said Armstrong. For more information on Guadalupe Mountains National Park’s 2011 NTD event, please visit our website at [www.nps.gov/gumo/](http://www.nps.gov/gumo/) or contact the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center at tel. 915-828-3251 ext. 2124.

Since 1993, National Trails Day has inspired thousands of people to enjoy trails on the same day nationwide, taking part in hikes, bike and horse rides, trail maintenance, paddle trips and other activities. Event hosts include local hiking clubs, federal agencies, municipal parks, retailers, land trusts and many other businesses and organizations. For more information about National Trails Day®, visit [www.AmericanHiking.org](http://www.AmericanHiking.org).

Founded in 1976, American Hiking Society is the only national, recreation-based nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and protecting America’s hiking trails, their surrounding natural areas and the hiking experience. To learn more about American Hiking Society and its mission and programs, visit [www.AmericanHiking.org](http://www.AmericanHiking.org) or call (800) 972-8608.



This event is made possible by the generous support, locally, of the Dell City Mercantile, Two T's Grocery (Dell City), and the Carlsbad Caverns Guadalupe Mountains Association



Weather may be unpredictable in the Guadalupe Mountains, so dress appropriately and bring plenty of water, food and snacks, as there are no stores or food service within Guadalupe Mountains National Park. Remember to fill your gas tank before coming to the park, as there are no services available in the park and the closest gas station is 35 miles away.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park is located in far West Texas on U.S. Highway 62/180. The driving distance is 110 miles east of El Paso, Texas, or 56 miles southwest of Carlsbad, New Mexico. Visitors traveling to Dog Canyon, on the park's north side, can access the area via New Mexico State Road 137. There is no public transportation or shuttle service available in the park. While the approach to Guadalupe Mountains National Park is scenic from any direction, there are no paved driving tours within the park. Park roads provide access to the Headquarters (Pine Springs) Visitor Center and Campground, the McKittrick Canyon Visitor Contact Station, Frijole Ranch, the Dog Canyon Visitor Contact Station and Campground, Williams Ranch (4X4 only), and trailheads.

Park information, including park conditions or restrictions, may be found on the park's website at [www.nps.gov/gumo/](http://www.nps.gov/gumo/) or by contacting the Pine Springs Visitor Center at (915) 828-3251

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x2124. The Pine Springs Visitor Center is open daily (except for Christmas) from 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM. The Dog Canyon Visitor Contact Station is staffed intermittently, and may be reached at (575) 981-2418. Motorists traveling past the park along Texas Highway 62/180 may tune in to the park's Traveler's Information Station radio broadcast at 1560 AM for up-to-date park information.

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