



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

White Sands National Monument

PO Box 1086
Holloman AFB, NM 88330

Phone 575-479-6124
www.nps.gov/whsa

White Sands National Monument Events December 2012

Holiday Open House White Sands National Monument invites you to help us celebrate the holiday season with our fifth annual Holiday Open House on December 7, 2012. From 5 to 8 pm, enjoy music, ranger programs, children's activities, luminarias around the historic adobe visitor center, and delicious New Mexican food. Western National Parks Association park store and White Sands Trading gift shop will both offer 15% discount store-wide—bring your holiday shopping list. Visitors are encouraged to bring canned food donations to help supply our local food banks during the holidays.

The visitor center and gift shop will be open until 8 pm, and Dunes Drive will be open until 7 pm. No charge for the program. If you choose to drive the Dunes Drive, monument entrance fees apply (\$3.00 per person 16 years and older). Activities will be held both indoors and outdoors; please dress appropriately.

*5–8 pm Friday, December 7

Sunset Strolls Sunset strolls are a great way to end your day. Enjoy a leisurely one-hour ranger-guided walk through sand dunes and learn about the geology, plants, and animals of this unique area. Program starts at the sign along Dunes Drive about five miles from the visitor center. Programs are offered daily. Program is free; monument entrance fees apply.**

*4:00 pm November 4—December 31

Dunes at Dawn Watch the sun push over the Sacramento Mountains as the warm morning light dances on the dunes and join rangers for an early morning hike. Reservations are required and can only be made via our website (www.nps.gov/whsa). Reservations will be accepted starting two weeks in advance of the scheduled hike, and hike is limited to 40 participants. Program is free; monument entrance fees apply.

*7:15 am Saturday, December 15

Lake Lucero Tour Have you ever wondered how the white sands formed? Take a tour to Lake Lucero with a ranger and learn about the formation of the sands and the special plants and animals that live in and around the dunes. Tour fee: \$3.00 per adult (16 years and older), \$1.50 for children and America the Beautiful Senior and Access pass holders. Reservations can be made one month in advance at www.nps.gov/whsa. All Lake Lucero tour reservations must be made through the website.

*10 am Sunday, December 30

*2 pm Sunday, December 30

Crafty Kids Get your hands involved in learning! Join rangers in the visitor center courtyard for a one-hour craft and interpretive program. Rangers will share surprising facts about the creepy crawlers, amazing adapters, and out-of-this-world geology of White Sands while guiding kids through a take-home craft project. Targeted age range is 6–10 years old. Parents are welcome to stay and participate in the program. Program is free.

*10:00 am every Sunday

Skins and Skulls Join a ranger in the visitor center courtyard for a 20-minute talk about the amazing animals of White Sands. Rangers will have pelts, skulls, and other props to provide you an up-close look and feel of the elusive wildlife of White Sands. Program is free.

*3:00 pm Saturday and Sunday

Map Talks Join a ranger in the visitor center courtyard to have your questions answered and pick up tips for enjoying your stay at White Sands National Monument. Program is free.

*1:30 pm Saturday and Sunday

Visitor Center Hours *8:00 am–5:00 pm December 16—January 1, 2013—Holiday Hours

*9:00 am–5:00 pm November 4—February 24, 2013

Monument Hours *7:00 am–6:00 pm November 4—December 30

Schedule is subject to change. Activities may be cancelled due to weather or missile range activities. Visit www.nps.gov/whsa for more information. **Monument entrance fees are \$3.00 per person anyone 16-years and older; children 15-years old and under are free.