



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

White Sands National Monument

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# White Sands National Monument Events

## December 2013

**Holiday Open House** White Sands National Monument invites you to help us celebrate the holiday season with our sixth annual Holiday Open House on Friday, December 6 from 5 to 8 pm. Enjoy live 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 6 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 6

**Holiday Hours** White Sands National Monument, including the visitor center, park store, gift shop, and Dunes Drive will be closed on December 25th for the Christmas holiday. The monument, including the visitor center, park store, and gift shop will be open on New Year's Day from 9 am until 6 pm.

**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 3—December 31

**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](http://www.nps.gov/whsa). All Lake Lucero tour reservations must be made through the website.



\*10 am Sunday, December 29

**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** \*9:00 am–5:00 pm November 3—December 21  
\*8:00 am–5:00 pm December 21—December 31 (Holiday Hours)

**Monument Hours** \*8:00 am–6:00 pm November 3—December 31  
\*Closed December 25, Christmas Day  
\*Open January 1, New Year's Day 9:00 am–6:00 pm  
\*9:00 am–6:00 pm November 3—February 14, 2014

