



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
White Sands National Monument

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# White Sands National Monument Events

## May 2016



### Sunset Strolls

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.\*\*

6:45 pm April 23-May 13

7:00 pm May 14-August 7

### Step into the Past Mescalero Youth Dance Group

Learn about the history and customs of the Mescalero Apaches through traditional dances performed by the Mescalero Youth Dance Group. Based on time honored tradition, the Mescalero Youth Dance Group will allow the public to learn about their traditions through dancing and the sharing the meaning of the dances. Please join us in the visitor center patio for this performance. Program is free.

10:00 am Saturday, May 7

### Full Moon Hike

Have you ever wondered what the dunes look like under the glow of the moon? Join a ranger for a full moon hike and see firsthand the dunes in a whole new light. Reservations are required and can only be made via our website ([www.nps.gov/whsa](http://www.nps.gov/whsa)). Reservations will be accepted starting two weeks in advance of the scheduled hike, and hike is limited to 40 participants. Special fees apply. \$8.00 per person 16 and older. \$4.00 per person 15 and younger. Monument entrance fees also apply.\*\*

7:45 pm Friday, May 20

Reservations open 8 am April 20

### Full Moon Night

#### Parks through Time: Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial

The National Park Service turns 100-years old this August and is celebrating 100 years of conservation all year long! The idea for a “nation’s park” was born in 1832, and 84 years later in 1916 the National Park Service was created. Today, the National Park Service protects over 400 sites from Maine to Guam and from Puerto Rico to Alaska. Join us for a step back in time for a presentation on how “America’s Best Idea” got its’ start. Program is free; monument entrance fees apply.

8:00 pm Saturday, May 21

### 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 every Saturday & Sunday through May 28

3:00 pm daily May 29—September 5

### Tent Talks

Have you ever wondered where all this gypsum came from? Or how animals survive in this harsh environment? Join a ranger under the tent on the Interdune Boardwalk for a 20-minute program that highlights some of the lesser-known stories about White Sands National Monument. Monument entrance fees apply; program is free.

11:00 am every Saturday & Sunday through May 28

11:00 am daily May 29—September 5

### Visitor Center Hours

9:00 am–6:00 pm March 13—May 15

8:00 am–7:00 pm March 16—September 11

### Monument Hours

7:00 am–8:30 pm April 24—May 28

7:00 am–9:00 pm May 29—September 3

Dunes Drive will close to inbound traffic at one hour before the monument will close. The Highway 70 Gate and restrooms will close at the stated monument closing time.

Schedule is subject to change. Activities may be cancelled due to weather or missile range activities. Visit [www.nps.gov/whsa](http://www.nps.gov/whsa) for more information. \*\*Monument entrance fees are \$5.00 per person anyone 16-years and older; children 15-years old and under are free.

