



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

White Sands National Monument

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# White Sands National Monument Events

## November 2014



### 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.\*\*

\*5:00 pm October 27—November 1      \*4:00 pm November 2—December 31

### Step into the Past

#### Fire on the Dunes: How Humans Shaped the Gypsum Dunes

Wind and water are primarily responsible for shaping the gypsum dunefield. Human activities including the use of fire and mining have also contributed to the alteration of this landscape. Park archeologist Allison Harvey will present the history of mineral extraction from the dunefield and provide a demonstration of the impact fire has on this unique environment. Join Allison in the visitor center for this one-hour program. Program is free.

\*1 pm Saturday, November 1

### Holiday Open House

White Sands National Monument invites you to help us celebrate the holiday season with our seventh annual Holiday Open House on Friday, December 5 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 5

### 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 weekends only

### Patio 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 weekends only

**Visitor Center Hours** \*9:00 am–5:00 pm Sept 29—December 21

**Monument Hours** \*7:00 am–7:00 pm October 9—Nov1      \*7:00 am–6:00 pm Nov 2—Dec 21

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.

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 \$3.00 per person anyone 16-years and older; children 15-years old and under are free.