HOLIDAY HIKES
A perfect blend of fun and learning!

Veterans Day Hike
Monday, November 11, 2019
8:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Lost Dog Trailhead
Join us for a hike and special ceremony honoring our veterans.
Easy hike – 2.5 hours, 3 miles

More Pie Please
Thursday, November 28, 2019
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.
Lost Dog Trailhead
After this Moderate hike and you won’t feel a bit guilty about having that second piece of pie!
Moderate hike – 1.5 hours, 2.5 miles

Mistletoe & Holly
Wednesday, December 18, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Brown’s Ranch Trailhead
What do desert plants and animals have to do with the holidays? Join us and discover the hidden, festive desert connections.
Easy hike – 2.5 hours, 3 miles

Christmas Day Hike
Wednesday, December 25, 2019
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Gateway Trailhead
Embrace the spirit of the holiday on this picturesque hike into the heart of the McDowell’s through the Gateway Loop. Moderate hike – 2.5 hours, 4.5 miles

FITNESS HIKES
Get off the couch and get moving!

New Trails at Pima Dynamite Trailhead
Friday, November 1, 2019
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Pima Dynamite Trailhead
Explore the impressive new trails with nice views and granite formations. Difficult hike – 4.5 hours, 9 miles (pack a lunch)

Quartz Trail from Lost Dog Trailhead
Tuesday, November 26, 2019
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Lost Dog Trailhead
This difficult hike will visit the quartz formation that can be seen for miles all over Scottsdale. Experienced hikers suggested.
Difficult hike – 5 hours, 9 miles (pack a lunch)

Sunrise Peak from Lost Dog Trailhead
Saturday, December 14, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Lost Dog Trailhead
This hike travels the beautiful and challenging west side of Sunrise Peak up to a great 360-degree view of the Valley of the Sun.
Difficult hike – 3.5 miles, 6 miles (pack a lunch)

Frasca Trailhead to Balance Rock
Saturday, December 21, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
This difficult hike will take us on a long journey to the amazing granite balancing rock formation.
Difficult hike – 4.5 hours, 10 miles (pack a lunch)

Tom’s Thumb Trailhead and Long Loop
Tuesday, December 31, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Tom’s Thumb Trailhead
This hike explores the rugged and scenic views of the preserve. End the year with a bang as we will go up Tom’s Thumb to East End and return via the McDowell Regional Park. Please note there is a $2 entrance fee into the regional park. Difficult hike – 5 hours, 9 miles (pack a light lunch)

JOIN THE CONSERVANCY COALITION
Your support ensures our legacy and secures our future!
The McDowell Sonoran Preserve is managed through a unique partnership with City of Scottsdale and the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy. Building on the legacy of our Stewards and their success, we press forward to establish ourselves as global leaders in conservation, STEAM education for youth and ecological research. By joining the Conservancy Coalition, your donation ensures our legacy and secures our future.

You may also join or make a gift online at mcdowellsonoran.org. Just click on “Donate Now.”

Your Gift Amount
☐ Champion $10,000+
☐ Advocate $2,500+ - $4,999
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Please make checks payable to McDowell Sonoran Conservancy
☐ Make my donations anonymous

Mail to: McDowell Sonoran Conservancy 7729 East Greenway Road, Suite 100 Scottsdale, AZ 85260
McDowell Sonoran Conservancy is a non-profit 501(c)(3) Tax ID #86-0574350
Thank you for supporting the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy!
**EXPLORING ON WHEELS**

**MOUNTAIN BIKING**
Explore the desert and learn to improve techniques, awareness, and enjoyment from a pro. Come prepared to ride with a mountain bike, knobby tires (required), helmet (required), trail fees, locks for bikes, hydration, bike repair kit, and tire patch kit. Bike is in working order before you leave home. Bring water and snacks. Registration at the trailhead. This is a self-guided ride. At least 15 minutes prior to the start time. All our rides are "No Drop", meaning we will not leave you.

**Mountain Bike Skills Clinic**
Thursday, November 7, 2019 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Frasersfield Trailhead
Beginning with a demonstration and presentation by experienced riders covering the basics you need to know, equipment requirements and trail etiquette. The instructional segment will be followed by a self-guided ride, where you can practice the techniques discussed. Beginners – 3 hours, 3 miles

**Bike the South**
Friday, November 29, 2019 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Lost Dog Wash Trailhead
Come ride the southern preserve trails. We will ride overIsrael Overlook to the Big Loop and possibly the Quartz Trail. This is a good ride to extend your skills a bit with alpinism and terrain that will test you. We will stop to discuss and demonstrate specific riding skills to use on various types of terrain along the way. Advanced ride – 3 hours, 15 miles

**Marcus Landslide Educational Ride**
Sunday, December 8, 2019 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Tom’s Thumb Trailhead
Ride from Marcus Landslide into the County Park to see the landslides from various viewpoints. There will be numerous spots to discuss and observe the geology of the area. The ride prepared to pay the Regional Park entrance fee of $2. Intermediate ride – 3.5 hours

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**FAMILY & CHILDREN HIKES**

**Hikes For Tykes**
Wednesday, November 20, 2019 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Gateway Trailhead
Learn the value, significance, and wonders of the Preserve through an interactive four and trailside learning. Children must be accompanied by an adult who will also be on the trail with them. The Baja Nature Trail is less than 5 mile round trip and is designed to be accessible to bikes or pets allowed, strollers permitted. Cost: $3 (Resident) | $5 (Non-Resident). Register at recreation.scottsdaleaz.gov or by calling 480-312-7957

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**EDUCATIONAL HIKES**

**Bird Walk**
Sunday, November 17, 2019 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Granite Mountain Trailhead
Bring your binoculars and join us to see some of our year-round bird residents such as: cactus wren, gila woodpecker, saddle-backed woodpecker, harry's hawk, verdin or Say's Phoebe – as well as some seasonal arrivals. Easy hike – 2 hours, 2 miles

**Fire in the Desert**
Tuesday, December 10, 2019 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Tom’s Thumb Trailhead
See how fire impacts the desert landscape, and how nature responds. Visit the 1995 Roosevelt fire burn area and then to the Gooseneck trail to compare the burn site and current growth. Moderate hike – 3 hours, 4 miles

**Lifecycles of the Saguaros**
Sunday, December 8, 2019 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Granite Mountain Trailhead
Native only to the Sonoran Desert, these giant cacti are a sight to see! Join us to follow the growth of a Saguaros from seed to flowering to multi-year, old Saguaros. Moderate hike – 3 hours, 4 miles.

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**FAMILY SONORAN SUNDAY**

**Wild Animals**

Presented by Southwest Wildlife
Sunday, November 17, 2019 3:00 p.m.
Scottsdale Ranch Trailhead – Amphitheater
Visit with desert rescue animals and learn from Southwest Wildlife Center educators about how these determined desert dwellers survive in the Preserve while facing challenges of urbanization.

**Identify: Skulls and Scat**
Presented by Yvonne Massman
Sunday, December 15, 2019 3:00 p.m.
Gateway Trailhead
Learn how to distinguish between the predator and prey animals of the Sonoran Desert and much more!