



EVENTS, HIKES, PROGRAMS AT LOST DUTCHMAN STATE PARK
November 2014
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Please join us for exciting interpretive ranger and volunteer naturalist guided hikes and family-oriented programs, weather permitting, at Lost Dutchman State Park. Fees for guided hikes and programs are included in the park entry fee of **\$7 per vehicle** or with your annual pass. Reservations are not required unless specified in the program description. 6109 N Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ 480-982-4485.

Wednesday, November 5: Medicinal Plants of the Sonoran Desert, 9 a.m.

This approximate 2.5 mile, 2 hour round trip hike with volunteer hiker Erica will introduce medicinal plants of the Sonoran Desert. Tea made from creosote bush to ease arthritis, nuts from the Jojoba bush to nourish the skin, gum from Brittle bush to combat bronchitis, just a few of the healing plants found in our desert. This is a moderately easy hike with elevation change of 500 feet. Bring water, snack, sunscreen, hat, and proper hiking shoes. We will forage along Treasure Loop, east on Jacobs Crosscut and return. Meet at Cholla Day Use area.

Wednesday, November 5: Full Moon Hike, 7-9 p.m.

There is a limit of 100 hikers, so please call in advance to reserve your space: 480 982-4485. Join us for a guided 2.5 mile hike on Jacob's Crosscut Trail at the base of the mysterious Superstition Mountains. Hikers should dress appropriately and wear trail shoes or boots. Please bring a flashlight in case of cloudy conditions (no headlamps, please). **Some parts of the trail are rocky and uneven with occasional steep grades** (elevation gain: 120'). Participants should be in good health with no walking or night vision difficulties. Trail is NOT suitable for strollers or walkers. After the hike gather round the campfire for a marshmallow roast (marshmallows and sticks provided). All ages welcome. **No pets, please.** Parking in Cholla Day Use area.

Saturday, November 8: Conrad Storar, 1:30 p.m.

Conrad J. Storar, the award-winning author of more than 40 science and nature books for children and young adults will be at the Cholla Ramada to share his newest titles including the picture book *Fang and Stinger (An Arachnid Story)*, *Arizona Way Out West & Wacky*, and *Arizona Way Out West & Witty*, fun history and activity books for young readers co-authored with Linda Exley, and *Arizona Color Me Wacky*, a fun coloring/learning book for beginning readers. *AZ Witty* was named One Book Arizona for Kids in 2012 by the Arizona State Library. We welcome young children and their parents while Conrad introduces some of his books and stories. Come and spend a special time together!

Wednesday, November 12: Getting to Know the Birds Around You, 8 a.m.

Meeting in the Saguaro Day Use area, there will be a brief discussion about how to tell one bird from another; then we'll be looking for resident birds (from hawks to hummingbirds) and for any late migrants stopping by on their way south. After birding the Saguaro Day use area, we'll look for birds as we walk up toward Jacob's Crosscut Trail. We'll make the short loop around and back to Saguaro Day Use lot, birding as we go. This is more of an "amble" than a hike as we let the birds come to us. Bring binoculars, water and wear sturdy trail shoes. **No dogs, please.** Led by volunteer Birder Babs.

Friday, November 14: Star Talk, 7:30 p.m.

Learn about the night sky, constellations and planets with local astronomer Bill Dellings. Parking and seating at campground amphitheater.

Saturday, November 15: Mark Fogelson, 6 p.m.

Mark Fogelson, a song writer of Folk Music: music of the people and musical stories focusing on human stories, emotions and triumphs, will sing songs harkening back to an era when storytellers handed tales down through generations. These songs remain a powerful commentary about the rapidly changing world in which we live. Listeners find his music approachable, heartwarming, humorous, and thought provoking. Sit back, listen and enjoy under the Hunter Moon at the Palo Verde Ramada.

Wednesday, November 19: Sunset Hike, 4:00 p.m.

Following the Treasure Loop trail to Jacobs Cross Cut and intersecting with Siphon Draw Trail will find hikers marveling at the mountain and the sky full of color, especially when there a few clouds. Elevation change is 102 ft. on very well maintained trails. **Easy**, 2 hour hike. Bring a flashlight for return to parking lot. Meet at Saguaro Day Use area. Led by volunteer hiking leader Nancy.

Saturday, November 22: Star Party, 7 p.m.

Members of the Superstition Astronomical League will provide telescopic views of the night sky and will answer questions about astronomy and astronomical equipment. In short, this is an opportunity to see the moon, planets, star clusters, galaxies and other astronomical phenomena using a sophisticated telescope and also talk with very knowledgeable and experienced local astronomers! What will be in the sky tonight? Saguaro Day Use area.

Wednesday, November 26: Exploring Siphon Draw Trail, 9 a.m.

Join us at Siphon Draw Trailhead for a 4.2 mile round trip hike to the basin (slick rock waterfall area). Along the way we will pass some remnants of an unsuccessful mining attempt, identify strangely named rock formations, and look at layers of rock from the volcanic explosion that make up this portion of the Superstition Mountain. All of this while hiking the steady uphill grade on a less than smooth trail. Elevation change: 1030 ft. Wear sturdy trail or hiking shoes, carry at least 2 bottles of water and bring a snack for a 3 hour **moderately strenuous** hike. Led by volunteer hiker Barb.

Saturday, November 29: Amazing Night Under the Skies, 7-9 p.m.

Join **Dr. Sky**, a radio/TV journalist based in Phoenix, for **An Amazing Night Under the Skies**. What planets will we see in the dark desert sky? Dress warmly and be prepared to be amazed at the sightings. Palo Verde Day Use area (weather permitting).

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