

## **TUESDAY “D” LEVEL HIKES for 2020-21**

### **Meet at the Eagles Nest Clubhouse**

**Sept 22 – Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track - Short Version** (White Tank Mountains). Rating D.

This is a 4.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 250 ft. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with a few ups and downs through washes. The high point gives you nice views back to the east. A short detour on the second half of the hike takes you to a Crested Saguaro. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$7.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Competitive-Loop>

### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).

Sonoran Loop Trail is at the end of the main road, slightly right off the end of the paved road.

The restroom on this hike is a porta-john.

**Sept 29 - Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) North loop** (Estrella Mountain Ranch). Rating D. This is about a 4 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft on several trails in the Western part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting area - an enchanted forest of stuffed animals. Trail condition - this is also a biking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead.

Driving distance is 27 miles RT

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North>

### **Directions to FINS - Fantasy Island Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue for approx. 12.5 miles from Eagle's Nest.

Turn right on West Westar Drive.

Go approx. 1.1 mi. and turn left into the parking lot (this turn is easy to miss so turn just before a one-level concrete maintenance building; there is also a tall steel tower for power lines).

No restrooms. No park fee.

**Oct 6 - Brethren North – SR/JL/BL/GS/UT Loop** (Estrella Foothills Park). Rating D. This is a 4.8 mile Lollipop loop considered somewhat of a desert ramble with minimal elevation gain. Nice pleasant hike to get the new hiking season conditioning. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance 13 miles

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills>

### **Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. No park fee.

**Oct 13 - Ford Canyon View** (White Tank Mountains). Rating D, 4 mi out & back on the same trail with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. This is a scenic hike to a point with views of the white rocks in Ford Canyon. There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Ford Canyon Trail trailhead parking is at Picnic area #7. Take the Waddell Trail across to the Ford Canyon Trail.

**Oct 20 - Frog Tank/Beardsley/Morgan City Wash/Roadrunner Loop.** (Lake Pleasant) Rating D. This is 4.4 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 450 ft. The hike starts out at the north end of the Frog Tank Trail, between areas 10 & 11. It goes down hill to the Beardsley trail, turns right for .2 miles, then turns left to go along an interesting canyon. The canyon ends at the Morgan City Wash Trail signs. We then turn left and follow the trail through MCW before reconnecting with the Beardsley trail. Turning left on Beardsley we return to the Frog Tank trail and back to the trailhead. There is a very nice dry waterfall area just off the Beardsley trail with some interesting rock formations. MSW is an interesting “jungle” area with a running creek. Trail maintenance has recently been completed to make MSW a very nice hike through the “jungle” area. Restrooms with water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 80 miles <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Morgan-City-Wash-Maricopa>

### **Directions to Ramada 12 (Frog Tank), Lake Pleasant Regional Park**

Take Loop 303 north to Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74.

Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road (Lake Pleasant Regional Park turnoff) and turn right (North).

Go 2.1 miles to the park, turn right on Lk Pleasant Access Rd...Pay \$7.00 park fee.

Turn Right on South Park Road...the trailhead is on the left at the top of the hill.

(TH is a large parking lot overlooking the lake, park on the right near restrooms).

**Oct 27 – Turnbuckle-Granite Falls-Chuckwalla Loop Trail + Redtail Loop** (Skyline Regional Park - Buckeye). Rating D+. This is a loop hike of about 4.2 miles with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. This is one of the trails in Buckeye’s Skyline Regional Park. There are great views of the area from the saddle. There are several optional trails to the tops of the ridges. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving

distance is 30 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/Skyline-Regional-Park/>

### **Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead**

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to end of road and trailhead parking.

Facilities are at the trailhead.

**Nov 3 - Overton Trail Loop** (Cave Creek). Rating D. Trail is a 4.5 mile heavily trafficked loop trail, elevation gain of 524 feet, located near Cave Creek, Arizona that features beautiful wild flowers and is rated as moderate. The trail offers a number of activity options and is accessible year-round. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

### **Directions to Overton Trailhead**

Take 303 North (right)

Turn North on I-17

Take Exit 223A onto W Carefree Hwy

Turn left onto N 32<sup>nd</sup> St and follow it into the Cave Creek Regional Park entry station

Follow E Cave Creek Pkwy to the Overton Access Trailhead

**Nov 10 - Mule Deer/Black Rock/Waterfall Trails** (White Tanks). Rating D. This is a 4+ mile hike with an elevation gain of 400 ft. The hike starts on the Mule Deer trail at Ramada 3 and goes through typical desert along a good trail to a hidden waterfall (usually dry). Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

**Nov 17 - Dog Bone - Highways & Byways Trail** (Buckeye). Rating D. This is an easy 4.6 mile desert walk with interesting rock formations and views of surrounding mountains. No park fee. No restrooms.

### **Directions to Dog Bone Joe Fosse Trailhead (Buckeye)**

Go West on I-10 to Highway 85.

Drive South on Hwy 85 for about 9 miles.

Turn left opposite the Buckeye Hills regional Park (and Joe Fosse Shooting Range).

Park on the left just before the fence.

The trail starts on the other side of the fence heading left (parallel to Hwy 85).

**Nov 24 - Deem Hills Inner Circumference Trail** (Phoenix). Rating D+. This is a 4.1 mile loop hike around the Deem Hills Recreation area with an elevation change of 560 ft. There are distinct vegetation areas on the different sides of the hills. There would be good wildflowers after a wet winter. Good views from the top showing the area north of 101 and west of I-17. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No Park Fee. Driving Distance is 65 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/DeemHillsPark/Circumference-Trail>

### **Directions to Deem Hills Park**

Take 101 North

Turn North on 59th Ave

Turn North (left) on 55th Ave.

55th Ave becomes Deem Hills Pkwy.

The park is on the right.

There is no park fee.

Restrooms are at the parking lot.

### **Directions to Deem Hills - Alternate**

Take 303 North.

Turn East (right) on Happy Valley Parkway.

Turn North (left) on 55th Ave.

55th Ave becomes Deem Hills Pkwy.

The park is on the right...No park fee.

Restrooms are at the parking lot.

**Dec 1 - Mountain Wash, Lost Creek, Turnbuckle loop** (Skyline Reg Park). Rating D+. This is a 4.4 mile hike with an elevation gain of 900 feet. Climbs up Mountain Wash and follows Lost Creek for a short distance to Turnbuckle, and loops back down to the trailhead. No park fee. Restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT

### **Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead**

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to the end of road and trailhead parking.

Facilities are at the trailhead.

**Dec 8 - Black Canyon Trail – Table Mesa Segment to River** (I-17 Exit 236) Rating D. This is a 4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. The hike goes to the Agua Fria river and returns. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Lake Pleasant. There is a small stand of wild palm trees along the trail. Trail condition - a good biking trail. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 90 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Table-Mesa-Loop>

### **Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Table Mesa Trailhead**

Take Loop 303 north to I-17.

Turn left onto I-17 (north) toward Flagstaff.

Take exit 236 (Table Mesa Road).

Turn left crossing over I-17, then immediately turn right.

(Pavement ends within a mile; 2.5 miles of unpaved road to the parking area)

Keep right at the first Y (1.2 mi. from I-17--road going left goes into a quarry).

Keep left at the next Y (1.6 mi. from I-17).

Go another 1.9 mi. to a side road on the right (3.5 mi. from I-17).

Turn right on the road and the trailhead parking is immediately on the left.

No restrooms at the trailhead.

**Dec 15 - Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) North loop** (Estrella Mountain Ranch). Rating D. This is about a 4 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft on several trails in the Western part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting area - an enchanted forest of stuffed animals. Trail condition - this is a very good biking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead.

Driving distance is 27 miles RT

[http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/ Fantasy-Island-North](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North)

#### **Directions to FINS - Fantasy Island Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue for approx. 12.5 miles from Eagle's Nest.

Turn right on West Westar Drive.

Go approx. 1.1 mi. and turn left into the parking lot (this turn is easy to miss so turn just before a one-level concrete maintenance building; there is also a tall steel tower for power lines).

No restrooms. No park fee.

**Dec 22 – Bajada/GoatCamp/South/Mule Deer/Bajada** (White Tanks). Rating D. This is a 4.6 mile hike with an elevation gain of 250 ft. The hike starts on the Bajada trail at Ramada 2 and goes through typical desert along a loop trail that works itself south of the Nature Center and back again north. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

#### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).

**Dec 29 – Estrella Foothills Option 1** Rating is D and is 4.1 miles, 450 feet elevation gain. Shiver me timbers thru Pirate Cove trail, and then we will Giddy Up thru Giddy Up Trail only to find What's Up Trail and then onto Coyote Trail. Beautiful views of Estrella lakes. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. No park fee, No restrooms at trailhead.

#### **Directions to Estrella Foothills**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south)

PCP becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue up the hill into Estrella Mountain to the shopping area

Turn left on Elliott (light just past the shopping area)

Park at the far end

**Jan 5 – Dragonfly Trail + Metate Trails**, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating D. This is about a 4.8 mile lollipop loop with an elevation gain of 540 ft. The hike starts out going back up the road for a quarter mile, then turns right on a slant. At the bottom of the hill, turn right. You will cross the creek and travel through a Saguaro forest with very tall Saguaro cactus. The whole area along the creek is a riparian area, which contains permanent pools of water and lots of vegetation. The trail makes a loop around the Jewel of the Creek Preserve, which contains many different bird species and up to 20 different dragonfly species. We then go in the other

direction on the Spur Cross trail to the Metate trail. About ¾ of a mile on the trail is a forest of very large saguaros. This is our turn-around point. Porta-johns are just past the parking area in the park, but there is a park fee is \$3.00 per person. The Dragonfly trail is free, but the other trails in the park are not. Driving distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trails>

### **Directions to Cave Creek - Spur Cross Trailhead**

Take Loop 303 to I-17.

Go North on I-17.

Turn right on Hwy 74 (Carefree Highway).

Turn left (North) on Cave Creek Road (watch for road after 53rd)

Turn left (North) on Spur Cross Road (main road veers left)

Go 4.5 miles (1.5 is gravel) to the parking area on the right.

Walk down the road .1 miles and pay \$3.00 per person (free with MC pass).

Porta-johns are at the trailhead another .1 miles down the road.

**Jan 12 - Rainbow, Baseline, Saddle, Quail Loop.** (Estrella Mountain Reg Park). Rating D. A loop hike with typical desert scenery. 4.1 miles, 400' elevation gain. Restrooms at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7. Driving distance RT is 20 miles.

### **Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Toothaker/Rainbow Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south)

South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. (just across the Gila River).

Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle.

Drive around the park to the left.

Trailheads and restrooms are on the far (West) side of rodeo arena.

**Jan 19 - Coachwhip/Arrowhead Point Loop** (Thunderbird Park - Glendale). Rating D. This is a lollipop loop of 4.7 miles with an elevation gain of 500 ft. It offers a 360 degree view of the surrounding areas. Trail H-2 provides a view of a housing development wrapped around a series of canals (water, water everywhere). Arrowhead, Lake including this development, was built on former citrus orchards and is considered one of the Valley's most affluent neighborhoods (a 2001 survey found that the area's 85308 zip code had more millionaires, 1011, than any other in the valley). Trail surface - rough bare rock on portions of trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is approx. 50 miles RT - on paved roads.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/ThunderbirdConservationPark/Coachwhip-Ridgeline-Trails>

### **Directions to Thunderbird Park**

Take 101 North.

Turn left (north) on 59th Ave.

Turn Left into parking lot of Thunderbird Park.

Turn immediately left at yellow gate and park a block down, near the restrooms.

The trails start by going right in front of the restrooms and cross the street near the park entrance.

There is no park fee...Restrooms are at the parking lot.

**Jan 26 - Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) South loop** (Estrella Mountain Ranch). Rating D. This is about a 3.7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft on several trails in the eastern part of the FINS

bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting area - a boneyard of dozens of cow bones. Trail condition - this is a very good biking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT.

[http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/ Fantasy-Island-North](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North)

### **Directions to FINS - Fantasy Island Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue for approx. 12.5 miles from Eagle's Nest.

Turn right on West Westar Drive.

Go approx. 1.1 mi. and turn left into the parking lot (this turn is easy to miss so turn just before a one-level concrete maintenance building; there is also a tall steel tower for power lines).

No restrooms. No park fee.

**Feb 2 - Library North Trail** (White Tanks). Rating D. This is a 4+ mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 350 ft. We head north from the White Tanks library with expansive views of the west valley, before taking our break at Ramada #4 and then returning to the library. For those interested in seeing some of the desert wildlife in a controlled environment, there is a small nature center with several rattlesnakes, a Gila Monster, a tarantula, and some scorpions (safely behind glass). Restrooms are in the library and Ramada #4. Park Fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 24 miles RT.

### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate. Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).

Library trailhead: the sidewalk on the left of the building. turn right just before the gate and park on the left side of the library. Trail goes off the end of the sidewalk on the left of the building.

**Feb 9 - Dixie Mountain Loop** (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve). Rating D+. This is a 4.6 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 800. The main loop hike (4.6 miles) goes up and down a couple of saddles through typical desert terrain. There are excellent views in all directions. After good spring rains this would be a great wildflower viewing hike. Trail condition - overall a good hiking trail, steep to the peaks. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 68 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/Dixie-Mt-Loop>

### **Directions to Phoenix Sonoran Preserve South**

Take 303 North towards I-17.

Continue straight, going under I-17.

Turn right on North Valley Parkway.

Go past Norterra Parkway (coming in on the right) and turn left on Copperhead Trail.

Go .1 miles and turn left on W Melvern Trail.

Go .2 miles and turn right on Desert Vista Trail.

Go to the end of the road. Trailhead is at the end of the road. There is no park fee.

### **Directions to Phoenix Sonoran Preserve South - Alternate**

Take 101 North. Turn North on I-17.

Turn East (right) on Jomax Road.

Turn North (left) on Norterra Parkway.

Turn right on North Valley Parkway (a "T" intersection).

Go .2 miles and turn left on Copperhead Trail.

Go .1 miles and turn left on W Melvern Trail.

Go .2 miles and turn right on Desert Vista Trail.

Go to the end of the road. Trailhead is at the end of the road. There is no park fee.

**Feb 16 - Estrella Foothills Option 1** Rating is D and is 4.1 miles, 450 feet elevation gain. Shiver me timbers thru Pirate Cove trail, and then we will Giddy Up thru Giddy Up Trail only to find What's Up Trail and then onto Coyote Trail. Beautiful views of Estrella lakes. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. No park fee, No restrooms at trailhead.

### **Directions to Estrella Foothills**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south)

PCP becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue up the hill into Estrella Mountain to the shopping area

Turn left on Elliott (light just past the shopping area). Park at the far end.

**Feb 23 - Cottonwood Trail to Pipeline Canyon Trail to Bridge** (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D. This is a 4+ mile hike in Lake Pleasant Regional Park with an elevation gain of 400 ft. This is a fairly easy hike. The hike goes from the northwest corner of Lake Pleasant to a floating bridge that crosses part of the lake. It's a good spring wildflower hike if we get any winter rains. And keep your eyes peeled for burros - there are many in the area. No restrooms at the trailhead, but along the trail. There is a park fee of \$7.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Pipeline-Yavapai-Cottonwood>

### **Directions to Ramada 1 (North Entrance), Lake Pleasant Park**

Go left (west) on Indian School to Loop 303.

Turn right (north) on 303 to Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74.

Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road (Lake Pleasant Regional Park turnoff) and turn right (North) and drive 5.2 miles to "T" intersection.

Turn right at the "T" on Castle Creek Drive. Pay \$7.00 park fee and park on right. No restrooms are at the trailhead.

**March 2 - Waddell to Ford Canyon View** (White Tank Mountains). Rating D, This is about a 4 mile in and-out hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft. From the trailhead, take Waddell to Ford Canyon trail and turn left. Go about a half mile past the "no horses" sign to the beginning of the rocky part of Ford Canyon. Take your break and return to the car the way you came. There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Ford Canyon Trail trailhead parking is at Picnic area #7. Take the Waddell Trail across to the

Ford Canyon Trail.

**March 9 - Brown Ranch** (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) - Cathedral Rock Amphitheater - Rating D+. The Brown Saddle portion is a loop hike of about 5.7 miles with an elevation gain of 500 ft. The Cathedral Rock/ Amphitheater portion is a 5.7 loop with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. There are great views of the surrounding mountains (Four Peaks, the Boulders and Tom's Thumb, etc.) as well as great rock formations along the trail with many different cacti species. Trail condition - very good hiking trail. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/BrownMountain>

#### **Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Brown's Ranch Trailhead**

Take Loop 303 North and drive to I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17. Stay right and immediately exit onto Dove Valley Road.

Follow Dove Valley Road about 10 mi. (name changes to Sonoran Desert Drive).

Take Cave Creek Road North (left).

Turn right at first light on Dynamite Blvd (later changes to Rio Verde).

Turn left on Alma School Road. The road dead ends at the trailhead. There are restrooms at the trailhead

**March 16 - Brethren North – SR/JL/BL/GS/UT Loop** (Estrella Foothills Park). Rating D. This is a 4.8 mile Lollipop loop considered somewhat of a desert ramble with minimal elevation gain. Nice pleasant hike. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance 13 miles <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Estrella-Foothills>

#### **Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. No park fee.

**March 23 - Sunrise Mountain Trail** (Sunrise Mountain Preserve in Peoria). Rating is D+ and is a 4 mile, 700 foot elevation, heavily trafficked loop trail located near Peoria, Arizona that features beautiful wild flowers. The trail is primarily used for hiking, running, and mountain biking and is accessible year-round. Driving distance 52 miles RT. No restrooms, no park fee.

#### **Driving Directions to Sunrise Mountain Trailhead**

Take 303 North

Take Exit 125 onto W Happy Valley Pkwy

Turn right on W Happy Valley Pkwy

Left on Tierra Del Rio Blvd (turns into Jomax Rd)

Left on N Lake Pleasant Pkwy

Right on Westwing Pkwy

Turn right into Westwing Neighborhood Park (just past Black Rock Blvd)

Look for Trailhead parking

**March 30 - Wild Burro/Pipeline trails to floating Bridge** (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D. This is 4.4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft. The hike starts out at the Twisted Talon parking area

and goes north to a floating bridge. The Wild Burro trail goes along the lake around a small cove before rising up to the Pipeline Trailhead and then on to an unusual floating bridge. There is a good chance to see wild burros on this trail. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.  
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Wild-Burro-Trail-DougJ-Photos>

### **Directions to Ramada 9 (Wild Burro), Lake Pleasant Regional Park**

Drive north on 303 to Lake Pleasant Road.  
Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74.  
Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road and turn right (North).  
Go 2.1 miles and turn right onto Lake Pleasant Access Road.  
Pay \$7.00 park fee then turn right on South Park Road.  
Turn left on Desert Tortoise Road and drive about .25 miles.  
Trailhead is on the left. Restrooms are at this trailhead.

**April 6 - Rainbow Valley/Dysart/Toothaker Loop** (Estrella Mountains). Rating D. This is a 4 mile loop with a 400 ft elevation gain. Beginning on the west side of the rodeo. The Rainbow Valley trail is wide and relatively flat. It intersects the Dysart Trail. Turn left onto the Dysart Trail to the Toothaker Trail. Turn left on the Toothaker Trail and head back to the rodeo. Trail condition - good hiking trail. A restroom is at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT.  
<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Rainbow-Toothaker>

### **Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Toothaker/Rainbow**

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south) South of I-10  
Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.  
Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle.  
Drive around the park to the left.  
Trailheads and rest rooms are on the far (West) side of rodeo arena.

**April 13 - Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track - Short Version** (White Tank Mountains). Rating D. This is a 4.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 250 ft. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with a few ups and downs through washes. The high point gives you nice views back to the east. A short detour on the second half of the hike takes you to a Crested Saguaro. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$7.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Competitive-Loop>

### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).  
Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).  
Turn right on Cotton.  
Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.  
Sonoran Loop Trail is at the end of the main road, slightly right off the end of the paved road.  
The restroom on this hike is a porta-john.

**April 20 - Dreamy Draw Loop** (Phoenix Mountain Preserve). Rating D. This is a loop hike of 4 mi. with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. We start out on #220 and then make a clockwise loop around several hills,

providing views of many of the Valley's mountains. We will return via trail #100. Restrooms & water are at the Dreamy Draw trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 55 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/DreamyDraw>

#### Directions to Dreamy Draw Trailhead

Take I-10 East to Rt. 51.  
Drive north on Rt. 51 and exit at Northern Ave.  
Turn right (east) on Northern Ave. and proceed to the trailhead.  
No Park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

#### Directions to Dreamy Draw Trailhead - Alternate I

Take 101 North to I-17 South (right).  
Take Northern Ave and turn East (left).  
Proceed to the trailhead. No Park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

#### Directions to Dreamy Draw Trailhead - Alternate II

Take 101 North to Rt 51 South (right).  
Exit at Northern Ave and turn east (left).  
Proceed to the trailhead. No Park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

**April 27 - Mule Deer/Black Rock/Waterfall Trails** (White Tanks). Rating D. This is a 4+ mile hike with an elevation gain of 400 ft. The hike starts on the Mule Deer trail at Ramada 3 and goes through typical desert along a good trail to a hidden waterfall (usually dry). Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

#### **Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park**

Take 303 North (right).  
Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).  
Turn right on Cotton.  
Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.  
Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).  
Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).