



## West Valley Rock & Mineral Club Field Trip Guidelines

### Field Trip Essentials

- FT\_01 Reliable vehicle.
- FT\_02 Full tank of gas.
- FT\_03 Three gallons of water.
- FT\_04 Wide brimmed hat.
- FT\_05 Hiking pants: quick drying, convertible zips for shorts.
- FT\_06 Hiking long sleeve shirt that is quick drying.
- FT\_07 Hiking boots or at least closed toe sport shoe with good traction.
- FT\_08 Sunscreen.
- FT\_09 Leather gloves for collecting sometimes hot and sharp rocks.
- FT\_10 Safety glasses when hammering, especially in a crowd.
- FT\_11 Blanket, desert temperatures drop very low at night.
- FT\_12 Flash light.
- FT\_13 Waterproof matches.
- FT\_14 Cell phone recharger with car adaptor.
- FT\_15 Foot pump with plug kit for flat tires.
- FT\_16 Full spare tire.
- FT\_17 (2) 16 oz Fill n Seal Tire Inflator.
- FT\_18 Fire Extinguisher.
- FT\_19 Rain Poncho.
- FT\_20 First Responder Medical Kit.
- FT\_21 Check car battery.

### Desert Survival Basics

- DS\_20 Stay hungry, if vehicle is stuck do not snack, you will get thirstier.
- DS\_21 Keep you're cool if vehicle is stuck.
- DS\_22 Minimal talking and move slowly if your vehicle is stuck.
- DS\_23 If your vehicle is stuck and you decide to hike out of the trail, do it at night.
- DS\_24 Do not bring heavy items in your car that do not have relevance to the trip.
- DS\_25 While on official club trips, no fire arms shall be worn on the person.
- DS\_26 No littering. If you pack it in, pack it out.
- DS\_27 If a vehicle becomes stuck or breaks down; let the other vehicles and the Trip Leader know to stop.
- DS\_28 Keep other drivers informed of the progress of repairs.
- DS\_29 The driver of the disabled vehicle needs to help with repairs. Even if not mechanically competent he or she should not expect others to do all the work. (Do something, even if it is only to fetch tools.)
- DS\_30 When a vehicle is disabled; everyone should provide assistance as needed.
- DS\_31 The driver of a disabled vehicle that is repaired on the trail needs to return or replace any borrowed tools, parts or supplies.
- DS\_32 In the event of a rollover or other dangerous situations with potential for a fire, all drivers should rush to the scene with their fire extinguishers. Stop the engine and extract the occupants immediately.

## **Caravan Safety**

- CS\_01** At least one person in the caravan **must** have performed an exploratory of the route before the event of taking the caravan to the site.
- CS\_02** The person who performed the exploratory of the trail must lead caravan **into** site and **out** of site.
- CS\_03** Learn name of driver ahead, behind and trip leader with their cell phone number.
- CS\_04** Never lose sight of the car behind you. If vehicle is not in your rear view mirror then pause from driving ahead and wait until you see the car behind you in your rear view mirror. If the car behind you doesn't appear turn around and check up on the vehicle.
- CS\_05** Always designate the last person of the caravan before proceeding on the caravan. This last person should have the name and cell phone number of the person at the beginning of the caravan.
- CS\_06** Maximum of 3 people per vehicle.
- CS\_07** At least one vehicle in the caravan must have tow straps and winch to pull out another vehicle that gets stuck. Keep tow straps at the ready, recommended to keep on the floor behind passenger seat.
- CS\_08** Entering any underground or roped off area is strictly forbidden.
- CS\_09** If a vehicle leaves before the others and the driver is confident on the turns to make, at least one other vehicle must accompany the other vehicle.
- CS\_10** Trip Leader is in charge of the trip and shall maintain order of all members and guests on the trip.
- CS\_11** At an obstacle such as a steep incline where momentum of flat track is needed, back off the vehicle ahead of you and give them space to gain momentum. Do not tread ahead until the car ahead of you is up the incline completely. Always better to take your time and not rush.
- CS\_12** On the trail, if you decide to leave the group, or take a different route, be sure the Trip Leader knows and the person behind you knows you are departing from the caravan. Otherwise everyone behind you will likely follow and get separated from the group. Radio the leader and get an acknowledgement before leaving the group's route. Sign out if there is a sign out sheet.
- CS\_13** At any time, if you are not sure which way to turn, STOP. Don't guess and don't proceed. Radio the person directly ahead by name for directions.
- CS\_14** In steep terrain, if there isn't room for approaching traffic to pass; the vehicles headed down hill should give up hill traffic the right of way.
- CS\_15** If a damaged vehicle leaves the group, offer to provide an escort to a safe area. Never leave a disabled vehicle's occupants on the trail without another vehicle.

## **Rock Collecting Information**

- RC\_01** Trip Leader is responsible to have all waivers signed before going past trail head.
- RC\_02** While working any collecting area, watch out for people in your area, especially above and below you.
- RC\_03** It is the duty of parents to closely supervise the actions of their children within the collecting area.
- RC\_04** Limit rock collecting to a reasonable amount of specimens.
- RC\_05** National Forest Collecting: handful, less than 10#. Check with rangers.
- RC\_06** National Parks: No Collecting
- RC\_07** Trust Land: No Collecting
- RC\_08** BLM: 25# plus 1 piece; totaling 250# per year. Example: petrified wood ([www.blm.org](http://www.blm.org))
- RC\_09** Native Plant law in Arizona prohibits digging them up, shooting them, stealing skeletons, collecting seeds or picking the flowers. About 30 different plants and almost all cacti are on the National Plant protective lists. There are civil penalties and fines ranging up to \$2500 and 6 months in jail for violating these laws. In State and National Parks the laws are even more specific. You can't collect plants, harm plants or animals, pick up any type of plant skeletons, collect wood, or pick up archaeological or historical objects or even take rocks from the Parks.