

#### Welcome to Lake Pleasant Regional Park

Lake Pleasant is an essential water reservoir, part of the Central Arizona Project waterway system, located 30 minutes north of the Phoenix Metropolitan area. Water levels can fluctuate drastically throughout the year, with the lowest water levels reached in the winter and the highest levels being reached during the summer. The park offers 23,662 acres of Sonoran Desert beauty, of which up to 9,966 acres is lake water, and is an ideal destination for camping, picnicking, hiking, mountain biking, swimming, water skiing, boating (i.e. kayaking, canoeing, and motorized boats) and fishing.

#### Park Rules

PLEASE OBSERVE PARK RULES! They are posted throughout the park and are available as a handout.

#### **Discovery Center**

The Discovery Center (Nature Center) is currently closed for renovations. and will re-open in the Fall of 2015. The Discovery Center (#15 on the map) offers an amazing view of the Waddell Dam, where visitors can receive information about the park, view wildlife exhibits, purchase souvenir items (i.e. drinks, ice, books, etc...), and learn more about the Central Arizona Project, the dam, and Lake Pleasant. Entrance to the Discovery Center is included in your

#### **Boating**

Lake Pleasant offers two concrete **boat ramps** that are functional to a water elevation of 1,600 feet. The largest boat ramp is located at the south end of Lake Pleasant (#11 on the map) and offers 10 lanes for boat launching. Parking at the 10-Lane offers room for 333 vehicles with trailers and 76 cars. The second boat ramp, Castle Creek, located at the north end of the lake (#2), offers 4 lanes for boat launching. Parking is available for 112 vehicles with trailers and for 18 cars. Restroom facilities are available at both boat ramps. One floating restroom is located on the water and is available on the east side of the lake in Honeymoon Cove (#17).

### **Fishing**

Lake Pleasant is home to twelve major species of fish. Anglers most commonly fish for: White Bass with spinners, jigs, spoons, and shad type crank baits. Lure Striped Bass with spoons, plugs, jigs, cranks baits, and streamer flies, or try shad or anchovies. Large Mouth Bass can be caught on a variety of baits, both natural and artificial. The most popular bait to catch Blue Gill is worms, but also try small poppers, flies, small spinners, and jigs. White Crappie and Black Crappie effective bait and lures are minnows, small jigs, silver spoon, spinners and when fishing from shore flies. Fishing for the Tilapia should be done during warmer months using worms, crickets or dough balls. A valid Arizona fishing license is required to fish at Lake Pleasant.

#### **Picnicking**

Lake Pleasant offers day-use picnic areas and two group picnic areas, open from dawn to sunset. Most tables have covered ramadas and barbecue grills, and all have drinking water and restrooms. Individual picnic sites are available to park visitors on a first-come, first-served basis. Roadrunner day use area offers 17 picnic sites; Cottonwood offers 23 sites. Pipeline Trailhead (4 tables) and Wild Burro (10 tables) is along Desert Tortoise Road. Sunset Ridge has 21 sites on a high ridge above the lake (no restrooms).

Lake Pleasant offers group picnic ramadas, located between the 10-Lane Boat Ramp and Roadrunner campground. Bobcat Day Use Area offers a group ramada with 4 picnic tables, barbecue grills, and 9 individual tables nearby. Ringtail Day Use Area offers a group ramada with 4 picnic tables as well as 8 nearby individual tables. The nearby tables do not have grills. The group ramadas can be reserved for a fee by calling (928) 501-1710.

#### Camping

Camping is available at Desert Tortoise (#8) and Roadrunner (#14) Campgrounds. Most campsites accommodate RVs, with a few walk-in tent sites options at Desert Tortoise. Reservations are available through www.maricopacountyparks.org or by calling park staff at (928) 501-1710. Separate campground maps are available. Primitive camping is also allowed along much of the shoreline in areas such as Two Cow and Fireman's Coves. Portable restrooms not available in all areas – see park staff for more details.

Lake Pleasant now offers a variety of hiking pleasures. Enjoy the scenic beauty of Lake Pleasant from the top of Yavapai Point, by hiking the new Yavapai Point Trail. The Pipeline Canyon Trail provides a unique opportunity to cross a floating bridge and makes for a great fishing spot. If you are in the mood to try to see some wild burros, you won't want to miss the Wild Burro Trail. The Cottonwood Trail is a scenic, easy trail connecting from the north entrance station to the Pipeline Canyon Trail. The Beardsley Trail is the longest trail in the park's system at 4.1 miles. All mileages listed are one-way. For more trail information, see park staff.

Trails are open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sun. - Thurs. and till 10 p.m. Fri. and Sat. HELP US PROTECT OUR RESOURCES, PLEASE STAY ON TRAIL AT ALL TIMES!

# **Desert Outdoor Center**

This educational facility, opened in 1998, provides nature connecting programs, reptile and botanical displays, and a barrier-free trail for students. The Center is also open to the public during certain special events. For more info or to make a reservation please call (602) 372-7470 ext. 200.

## **Hours of Operation and Contacts**

Lake Pleasant is open 24 hours. A per-vehicle and per- watercraft entry fee is required. Please use the self-pay station when the entrance booths are not staffed. For further information please contact the Park Office.

> Mailing Address: Lake Pleasant Regional Park 41835 N. Castle Hot Springs Rd Morristown, AZ 85342

WATERI INF

To Maricopa Trail

OVERLOOK

o public



Like us on Facebook LakePleasantPark

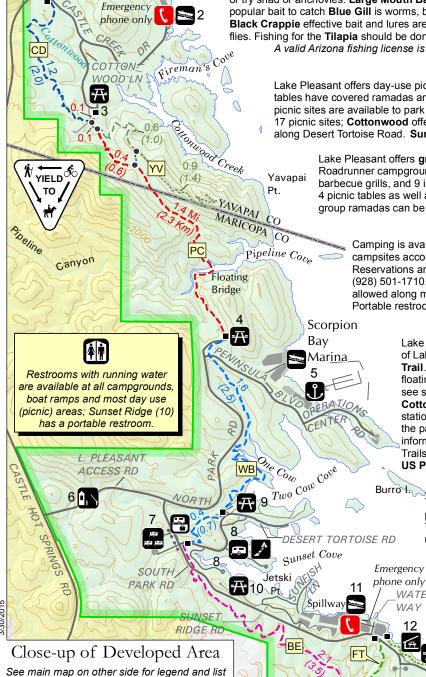


Follow us on Twitter @MCParks

Telephone: Main Entry: (928) 501-1710 E-mail: lakepleasant@mail.maricopa.gov Web site: http://www.maricopa.gov/parks/lake\_pleasant

Telephone for reservations: (602) 506-2930 E-mail: maricopacountyparks@mail.maricopa.gov





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