

The Sweetwater Preserve is an 880-acre Pima County Natural Preserve and Trails Park. The property was acquired from private owners using 2004 Pima County Open Space Bond Funds. The Sweetwater Preserve is intended to protect the habitat of diverse wildlife species while providing a wide range of benefits to the community, including recreational trails for hikers, equestrians, mountain bikers, trail runners, and other users of non-motorized trails. It also provides an outstanding opportunity to take in a large open space in the Tucson Mountains area and enjoy the natural desert setting. The Sweetwater Preserve is known for its numerous Palo Verde trees and the huge Saguaro Cacti that adorn its hillsides, and if you look carefully, you might see some javelina, coyote, and even a mule deer or four.

The creation of the Sweetwater Preserve is the result of a cooperative partnership between Pima County Natural Resources, Park and Recreation, the Tucson Mountains Association, the Trust for Public Land, and a variety of other community groups. All trail users must use trail etiquette and be courteous to other users to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.

The Sweetwater Preserve is an exceptional experience. Help us maintain its terrific quality by observing the following:

- ◆ The park is open from dawn to dusk.
- ◆ Alcohol is prohibited.
- ◆ Stay on designated trails.
- ◆ Motorized vehicles are not allowed in the park.
- ◆ It is illegal to remove or disturb any natural or cultural resources.
- ◆ Do not feed wildlife.
- ◆ Dogs must be leashed at all times. Please pick up after your dog.
- ◆ No geocaching.
- ◆ No loitering at trailheads or in other areas.
- ◆ Trailheads are for access only. Park only in the designated parking area.

Please be aware that all Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation park rules, as well as state and federal regulations, will be enforced.

Safety Checklist

- ◆ Take an ample supply of water with you.
- ◆ Wear a wide-brimmed hat.
- ◆ Mountain bikers and equestrians should wear helmets.
- ◆ Use plenty of sunscreen.
- ◆ Wear sturdy, comfortable walking shoes.
- ◆ Know your route.
- ◆ Hike or ride with a friend.
- ◆ Inform someone of where you are going and when you expect to return.
- ◆ Know your limitations.
- ◆ Carry a cell phone with you but be aware that reception may not always be available.
- ◆ Do not litter. Pack it in, pack it out.
- ◆ Be aware of cacti and venomous creatures.

Trail Courtesy

- ◆ All trail users should yield to people with disabilities.
- ◆ Always practice trail courtesy: yield to horses first, then pedestrians, then cyclists.



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TRAILS PARK

Sweetwater Preserve



