

SCOTTSDALE UPDATE

News for our residents and customers

October/November 2019



The Nov. 5 Special Election will be Scottsdale's first election conducted completely via mail

This means that every registered voter will be sent a ballot and prepaid postage return envelope—and that no polling places will be provided.

As a registered voter in Scottsdale, all you will need to do is vote your ballot, seal and sign the envelope, and drop it in the mail.

It's an election made easy!

Maricopa County will begin mailing ballots Wednesday Oct. 9. It can take up to a week for the post office to process that much mail.



If you do not have your ballot by Thursday, Oct. 17, please contact Maricopa County Elections at 602-506-1511 or 602-506-2348 (TDD).

For your ballot to be valid and counted, it must be received at the Maricopa County Elections Center by 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Postmarks do not count!

If you miss the mailing window, you may drop your voted ballot and signed affidavit (envelope) at either

of two Early Ballot Replacement Centers in Scottsdale, or at those provided by Maricopa County Elections.

If a ballot is destroyed, lost, spoiled or not received, a replacement ballot may be obtained at these locations as well.

Early Ballot Replacement Centers

Indian Bend Wash Visitors Center (4201 N. Hayden Road):

- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 28, through Friday, Nov. 1
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 4
- 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5

Florence Ely Nelson Desert Park Center (8950 E. Pinnacle Peak Rd.):

- 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 28, through Friday, Nov. 1
- 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 4
- 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5

Maricopa County Elections (510 S. Third Ave., Phoenix)

Maricopa County Elections (222 E. Javelina Ave., Mesa)

- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9, through Friday, Nov. 1 (weekdays)
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 4
- 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5

Register to vote by Oct. 7

To participate in this election, you must be a registered Scottsdale voter by Monday, Oct. 7. Register or view your voter registration status at Arizona.Vote.

Find more information and helpful links about Scottsdale's Nov. 5 Special Election at Scottsdale.Vote.



A new city election website makes information easier to find – and the site itself is easy to find too – just visit Scottsdale.Vote.

That web address points to the city of Scottsdale's official election information page, which has been rebuilt with a cleaner, simpler format that is also responsive for cell phones and tablets.

Earlier this year, the Scottsdale City Council unanimously agreed to seek voter approval to issue bonds for 58 community projects totaling up to \$319 million.

Bonds are debt obligations issued by cities to finance major capital projects. They are similar to your home mortgage, through which you finance a large purchase over time. Individuals, insurance companies, pension plans and other investors purchase the bonds, providing the city with money to pay for capital projects.

For general obligation bonds like these, the city levies property taxes to repay them. Arizona law requires voter approval before issuing general obligation bonds to finance new capital projects.

The Scottsdale bond questions on the ballot are:

- **Question 1: Parks, Recreation and Senior Services**
14 Projects - up to \$112.6 million
- **Question 2: Community Spaces and Infrastructure**
20 Projects - up to \$112.3 million
- **Question 3: Public Safety and Technology**
24 Projects - up to \$94.1 million

Visit Scottsdale.Vote to find the specific projects in each question, a list of frequently asked questions and helpful election links.

The financial impact of the bond election will vary from resident to resident based on property values and the number of bond projects financed.

The estimated average annual tax rate for the proposed bond authorization is \$0.2877 per \$100 of limited assessed valuation used for secondary property tax purposes.

According to the Maricopa County Assessor, the 2020 estimated median single-family home value in Scottsdale is \$375,000. If all the bonds on the ballot are approved, the estimated property tax impact for that homeowner would be \$107.89 per year (\$8.99 per month).

The City Council set the bond program at \$319 million after confirming that the bonds can be issued in stages as existing bonds are paid off in order to keep the city's secondary property taxes at or below current levels.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Scottsdale Neighborhood College provides residents, neighborhood groups and homeowners associations with information, resources and tools to be effective neighborhood leaders. These classes are free and open to all residents, but registration is required. Find more information and register at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “neighborhood college.”

Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods is Oct. 20.

Arizona’s answer to National Night Out unites communities to create safer neighborhoods. Register your block party or get more information at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “GAIN.”

The city supplies free equipment for block parties which are a great way to get to know your neighbors, build relationships, promote neighborhood safety, create a sense of community and... have fun! The city provides party equipment like pop-up canopies, ice chests, water coolers and more on a first come, first served basis. Request supplies at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “neighborhood block parties.”

We have an outlet for your unwanted electronics. Scottsdale residents can drop off unwanted electronics from 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, at the city’s North Corporation Yard. Recycling these items prevents them from reaching landfills and provides usable items to organizations that can recapture their value. ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “electronics.”

Veg out at the Old Town Scottsdale Farmers Market. Enjoy a large variety of organic and pesticide free produce along with specialty items. The market runs from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays, October through May, at 3806 N. Brown Ave.

Enjoy Scottsdale ArtWalk. Stroll at your own pace, wander into galleries through a festive area enjoying dramatic statues, bubbling fountains, tree-covered courtyards, famed restaurants and live music. ArtWalk runs from 7-9 p.m., Thursdays, year-round in Old Town. Learn more at ScottsdaleGalleries.com.

Canal Convergence is Nov. 8-17.

Experience 10 days of wonder at the Scottsdale Waterfront during this free annual confluence of water + art + light, all with a focus on sharing the story of how water, through diverse perspectives, has greatly impacted Arizona’s history. Learn more at CanalConvergence.com.

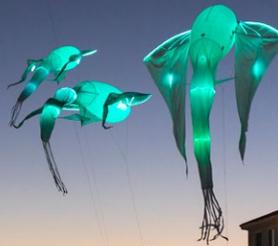


Photo: Sean Deckert/Scottsdale Arts

SCOTTSDALE UPDATE is published six times per year by the city of Scottsdale. If you have questions or suggestions, please email communications@ScottsdaleAZ.gov.

General city information:

480-312-3111 or email questions@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

The McDowell Sonoran Preserve turns 25



On Oct. 3, 1994, the Scottsdale City Council took a historic step when it passed Resolution No. 4103, formally establishing the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. The “Day One” preserve was 4.5 square miles, or 2,860 acres, consisting of three parcels of city land.

Since then, Scottsdale voters have provided the financial backing to grow the McDowell Sonoran Preserve into a permanently protected Sonoran Desert habitat encompassing nearly 48 square miles (30,500 acres) with direct connections to the Tonto National Forest and Maricopa County’s McDowell Mountain Regional Park.

The preserve is owned by the residents of Scottsdale and managed through a unique partnership between the city and the nonprofit McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, which is supported by more than 500 volunteers.

October is McDowell Sonoran Preserve month, and two special 25th anniversary commemorations are planned:

Honoring Preserve Pioneers - Tuesday, Oct. 1 An exhibit, video and free reception will honor the special people who took an audacious idea from wish to reality.
3 to 4:30 p.m., *Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts*

Trailhead Dedications - Friday, Oct. 18 The preserve’s newest trailheads at Fraesfield and at Granite Mountain will be formally dedicated. 9 to 10 a.m., *Fraesfield Trailhead*

A variety of other activities will occur throughout October, providing many opportunities to get better acquainted with your amazing preserve.

Learn more at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “preserve” or at McDowellSonoran.org.



MORE THINGS TO DO

For more info, search terms in bold at ScottsdaleAZ.gov:

- Celebrate all things railroad at **Railfair**, Oct. 12-13 at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park
- Enjoy the **Arizona Taco Festival**, Oct. 12-13 at WestWorld
- Commemorate **Veterans Day** at the Railroad Park, Nov. 11
- Four-legged friends takeover Old Town Scottsdale during the **Day of the Dog Festival**, Nov. 23-24



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