City of Scottsdale Pinnacle Peak Park Photography Policy

Background

The purpose of Pinnacle Peak Park and Trailhead is to provide public access to the area for hiking and rock climbing. Pinnacle Peak Park goals are listed but not limited to the following:

- To preserve Pinnacle Peak as a significant community landmark and natural resource.
- To provide public access to the Peak area by providing the necessary amenities to enjoy the park.
- To minimize operations impact on surrounding neighborhoods.
- To promote environmentally responsible use.
- To minimize the impact on the natural environment.
- Provide for appropriate interpretive and educational opportunities on topics such as flora and fauna, archaeology, site history, geology, share-use ethics and user etiquette, Scottsdale desert preservation efforts and successes.

Policy

Photography permits will only be issued when determined to be compatible with the purpose and the management objectives of Pinnacle Peak Park. Photography permits do not allow for exclusive use of the trailhead for photography purposes, as it remains open and accessible to the public. The use of the park by the general public and the protection of the park’s natural and cultural resources are given priority and are a factor in determining whether a permit is issued. All permit requests are considered on a case-by-case basis, according to the details of the request and factors including, time of year, day of the week, and time of day. Permittees must abide by all rules and regulations of the park, as identified in Chapter 20 of the Scottsdale Revised Code, unless otherwise permitted by the terms of the permit.
Professional Photography

- Professional photography includes photographs being taken by a professional for personal use, and not intended to be used for mass distribution or commercial purposes. Examples include family photos for holiday cards, graduation photos, etc.
- Location is limited to the trailhead. Professional photography is not allowed past the entry to the trail.
- Participation limit is 12 people including photographers and subjects.
- Use fee of $120 for one day.
- Props are not permitted, including but not limited to carpets, couches, chairs, tents, tables, ladders or lamps. Tripods and light diffusers may be used.
- Public restrooms may not be used as dressing rooms.
- Proof of insurance that meets City of Scottsdale conditions is required.

Production Photography and/or Filming is NOT allowed at Pinnacle Peak Park

- This includes still photo or video shoots for magazines, advertising, movies, commercials, promotional videos, marketing materials, etc.

Permit Process

All applicants must complete the photography permit request form that provides detailed information about the request. All permit requests are considered on a case by case basis, according to the details of the request and factors including, but not limited to time of year, day of the week, and time of day. The use of the park by the general public and the protection of the park’s natural and cultural resources are given priority and factor into the determination of whether a permit is issued.

The request is reviewed and if found to be compatible with the purpose of the park and these criteria, the park management, or designee, will conduct a permitting process which will include identifying the terms, conditions, location, duration, and other pertinent information related to the permit request. Prior to the issuance of a Photography Permit, the terms and conditions of the permit must be accepted by those organizing the activity, necessary fees must be paid, and required insurance documentation must be in place. The issuance of photography permits is regulated by this policy and Section 20 of the Scottsdale Revised Code which governs the use of Pinnacle Peak Park.

Fees

Fees and charges are subject to change, in accordance with the City Council approved rates for fees and charges.
General Conditions

General conditions will be attached to all Special Use Permits for Pinnacle Peak Park. These conditions must be adhered to by permit recipients. A Special Use Permit is valid only for the activities authorized on the permit. The permittee must notify the park management in writing of any requested changes. Requests for significant changes may necessitate a re-evaluation of the permit conditions or submittal of a revised request.

The General Conditions may include, but not be limited to, the following items:

- The issuance of a special use permit is a courtesy, not an entitlement

- All permittees must abide by any and all conditions of their permit, and Chapter 20 of the Scottsdale Revised Code as described in the permit. Permittees must also be aware of and abide by all other applicable federal, state, county, or municipal laws, rules, and regulations.

- Photography activities must not infringe on the use or access of the general public.

- All trash must be packed out of the Park, and Leave-No-Trace ethics and practices are to be used.

- Props are not permitted, including but not limited to carpets, couches, chairs, tents, tables, ladders, or lamps. Tripods and light diffusers may be used, as long as they do not impede access to the park by the general public.

END