SCOTTDALE’S McDOWELL SONORAN PRESERVE
Northern & Central Regions Fall 2021

This map contains valuable information about the trails. Understanding how to use it is one of the keys to planning a safe and enjoyable experience in the Preserve.

**EMERGENCY MARKERS**

These markers are located on sign posts throughout the Preserve, and are labeled on the map. Each marker has a unique combination of letters and numbers. If you need help, reference the nearest marker to assist emergency personnel in identifying your location.

**TRAIL SEGMENT LENGTHS**

The trails in the Preserve are comprised of segments divided between emergency markers. Each segment is labeled with the length in miles, rounded to the nearest tenth. As you plan your journey, add the segment lengths together to determine the total length of your route.

**ELEVATION**

Each emergency marker, trailhead and scenic point is labeled on the map with elevation above sea level. Use these labels to understand the elevation change along the trail segments you plan to travel. You can get an idea of the trail segment difficulty by determining the amount of elevation gain or loss you will experience over the length of that segment.

**USE THIS MAP TO PLAN A SAFE OUTING IN THE PRESERVE**

**REDUCE YOUR RISK OF NEEDING RESCUE**

The Preserve is a remote area with potential for extreme conditions. Emergency response can take some time. You are responsible for your own safety.

- Bring ample water for you AND your dog. When your water is half gone, turn around.
- Start drinking water before you arrive so your body is pre-hydrated.
- Bring a fully charged cell phone.
- Know your abilities and health limitations. Don’t take on more than you can safely accomplish.
- Check the hourly weather forecast. Temperatures can climb dramatically after a relatively cool morning. Be active in the cooler parts of the day and leave your dog at home if it is over 90°F.
- Shade is very limited in the Preserve, so wear sunscreen and dress appropriately with a hat and light colored breathable clothing that covers your body.
- Wear sturdy footwear with a good tread.
- Pay attention to the emergency markers so you can reference them in case of an emergency.
- Know your trail route and where you started. Take note of the trailhead address on this map in case of an emergency.
- Tell a friend or family member where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Leave your valuables at home.

**DOGS IN THE PRESERVE**

**RULES**

- Dogs must be on a hand held leash no greater than 6 feet at all times.
- Dog waste must be picked up immediately and disposed of in a trash container. DO NOT leave bagged waste along the trail.

**SAFETY**

- The desert heat can KILL YOUR DOG and you could be charged with animal cruelty under A.R.S. 13-2310. Dogs do not sweat like us and can be overheat by the quick heat. Once your dog shows signs of heat stress, it is often too late.
- Try to avoid a heat emergency.
- Check the hourly weather forecast BEFORE bringing your dog to the Preserve. If it will be 90°F or more during your outing, leave your dog at home.
- Carry plenty of water for you and your dog.

**WARNING SIGNS OF HEAT STRESS**

- Heavy panting, bright red tongue and thick saliva
- Condition worsens if dog vomits, becomes unsteady, lethargic or unwilling to move.
- Advanced heat stroke signs are lips/membranes become blue/grey, rigid or rapid collapse, unconsciousness and DEATH

**What to do?**

- Remove the dog from the heat and cool the dog’s body with water.
- If the dog is conscious, give access to cool drinking water.
- Get to a veterinarian immediately.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP**

If you see any suspicious behavior including the following violations in the Preserve, please report it by calling the Scottsdale Police non-emergency number:

- Loose or Roaming Horses/Livestock
- Dogs Off Leash
- Vandalism or Cutting of Fences

**TRAILHEAD ADDRESSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brown’s Ranch Trailhead</th>
<th>33030 N. Arroyo School Scottsdale, AZ 85262</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lost Dog Wash Trailhead 13001 N. 124th St. Scottsdale, AZ 85259</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gateway Trailhead 18333 N. Thompson Peak Pkwy. Scottsdale, AZ 85255</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pima Dynamite Trailhead 28777 N. Pima Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85262</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granite Mountain Trailhead 35560 N. 124th St. Scottsdale, AZ 85262</td>
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</tbody>
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**General Rules**

- The Preserve is open from sunrise to sunset.
- Stay on designated and posted trails.
- No smoking, fireworks or open flame.
- No motor vehicles including electric bikes.
- Dogs must be on a leash (no longer than 6 feet) at all times and owners must immediately pick up and deposit waste in a trash receptacle.
- Take off and landing of drones is prohibited.
- Do not disturb wildlife or alter, deface, place or remove any materials, including rocks, animals or vegetation, alive or dead.
- No alcohol or glass containers.

**TRAIL ETIQUETTE**

- Be considerate of other trail users - we are all here for the same reason.
- Downhill traffic should yield to uphill traffic.
- All trail users should yield to horses. Avoid sudden moves or loud noises which could startle them.
- Bicyclists and trail runners should yield to all other users. Slow uphill to an alert other users when approaching from the rear.
- Bicyclists should consider using a bell or similar device.
- Always travel at safe speeds.
- Do not use trails when wet or muddy.
- Sound travel far in the desert environment, so please speak quietly.

**BROWN’S RANCH HISTORY**

The earliest evidence of humans in the vicinity of Brown’s Ranch dates to approximately 9,000 years ago. Nomadic bands of hunters and gatherers traveled through this area hunting deer and small game, and collecting seasonally available plants. After 1,000 AD, agriculture became more important as a source of reliable food. The Hohokam, primarily sedentary desert farmers, established large, permanent settlements in the valleys, with hunting and gathering parties visiting the Brown’s Ranch area seasonally. The Hohokam began to fade from the McDowell Mountains in the 1300s, as they withdrew to the valleys. Yavapai and Apache bands entered the area in the 1600s, hunting and gathering, and occasionally raiding nearby Pima settlements. In the late 1800s, gold was discovered in the nearby Bradshaw Mountains, which led to a rush of prospectors, farmers, and ranchers. This increased presence of newcomers was an unwelcome invasion for the Yavapai and Apache. Their resistance resulted in the establishment of a series of U.S. Army posts. With removal of Native Americans to government reservations, the area that would become Brown’s Ranch was now considered safe for settlement. Brown’s Ranch was founded in 1917 by E.O. Brown, a Scottsdale entrepreneur. At its peak the ranch encompassed 44,000 acres, supporting 3,000 to 5,000,000 head of cattle. Descendants of E.O. Brown lived on the ranch until 1970. Since that time, the ranch and surrounding lands changed owners several times until eventually acquired by the City of Scottsdale in 1999 for inclusion in the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve.