



CAVE CREEK PROSPECTOR

FALL 2024

A publication by the Town of Cave Creek

CAVE CREEK FIRE STATION #1 GRAND OPENING IN DECEMBER

The new Cave Creek Fire Station Dedication Ceremony and Open House is Tuesday, December 10 at 9am.

Located at 37402 N. Cave Creek Road, the new fire station. The new station will be 9,676 sq. ft. with a three-bay apparatus room to house a new 1,500-gallon fire engine, a 3,000-gallon water tanker, a brush truck, a trail ATV, and host an ambulance. The Town of Cave Creek owns the equipment and the building, while the Daisy Mountain Fire District provides the firefighters. As many residents remember, there were two major wildland fires in May of 2020. The Cave Creek Town Council decided to increase fire protection and emergency medical services within Town limits with the goal of joining the regional Automatic Aid System.



Since December 2023, the Cave Creek Fire Department firefighters have been operating out of a temporary facility so that the work on the station can proceed faster and without interference. Look for more information about the grand opening on the Town's website at www.cavecreekaz.gov.



Fire Engine



Water Tanker

TOWN JOINS BARTLETT DAM FEASIBILITY STUDY STEERING COMMITTEE

At the Sept. 16 Town Council meeting, Cave Creek Town Council authorized the Town Manager to submit a Letter of Intent to the Salt River Project (SRP) requesting to join the Bartlett Dam Modification Feasibility Study as a non-voting member. If accepted, the Town's membership cost is estimated at \$208,000, split over the next four years.



Twenty-two municipalities, tribal nations, and agricultural partners are working with SRP and the Bureau of Reclamation to complete a feasibility study evaluating how to expand Bartlett Dam. The study is expected to take until 2027 to complete, after which it will be submitted to the Federal government for funding for construction.

Construction of the expanded dam is projected to be completed before 2033. However, the potential reduction in the Town's Colorado River water allocations are anticipated to take effect in 2027. According to Utilities Director Shawn Kreuzwiesner, the water obtained from the expansion of Bartlett Dam would not add to the Town's overall water portfolio and could not be used to support new growth. The main benefit to the Town would be as a backup water supply for future shortages in the Town's Colorado River allocations.

By joining the project, the Town would only be financially committed after the feasibility study is completed. Once the project construction is approved, the Town will still need to decide whether to continue to pay for participation in the Bartlett Dam expansion project.

2024 GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 5, 2024

In Arizona, general elections take place every other year. This year's general election will include the contest for President of the United States. Other races include certain congressional offices, all state legislative officials, school board races, judges, local contests, as well as qualified propositions put forward by citizens and the legislature.

Questions?

Go to <https://elections.maricopa.gov/>



TOURISM OFFICE PROVIDES INFO AND RESOURCES FOR LOCALS, TOO

The Cave Creek Tourism Bureau (CCTB) isn't just for visitors; it's for locals too. On any day (10am-2pm), you'll find friendly tourism bureau volunteers happily sharing information, brochures, road and trail maps, a mini-gallery of local art and a smile. In October, the tourism bureau and the Town hosted a concierge tour where a bus full of Valley tourism industry folks enjoyed a fun drive around Cave Creek and learned about the wonderful things our town has to offer. The CCTB is also a great place to volunteer and meet visitors from all over the world.

Phone: 480-525-2049

6061 E. Cave Creek Road, Suite 7 (facing Hidden Valley Drive) in the Town Core area.



TOWN COUNCIL ROUNDUP

CAVE CREEK COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Robert Morris
Vice Mayor Kathryn Royer
Council Member Tom Aughterton
Council Member Ernie Bunch
Council Member Cynthia Driskell
Council Member Tom McGuire
Council Member Dusty Rhoades

To review previous and upcoming Town Council agenda items, go to www.cavecreekaz.gov/agendas.

NOTABLE TOWN COUNCIL ACTIONS

All meetings start at 6:00pm
in the Town Council Chambers,
37622 N. Cave Creek Road

June

- Presentation of Prop 479 by MAG Regional Council and Transportation Policy Committee
- Approved 90-day contract extension with Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
- Quarterly Utilities Report

July

- Approval of contract for Phase 1 of Tally Ho and Tandem drainage and street improvement

August

- Approval of Official Canvass of the Primary election held July 30, 2024
- Approval of Phase 2 of Tally Ho and Tandem drainage and street improvement
- Quarterly Fire and Emergency Medical report

September

- Cynthia Driskell appointed Council Member with the appointment ending December 2, 2024 (Filing vacancy of Council Member Paul Eelkema who resigned before the end of term)
- Approved purchase of fire water tanker (tender) for Cave Creek Fire Department
- Approved contract with IMS Infrastructure Management Services for pavement management plan
- Approved agreement with Cave Creek Rodeo Days, Inc. for reimbursement of costs to construct the Skybox at the Cave Creek Rodeo Grounds
- Approved purchase of Neptune water meters and software
- Directed Town Manager to submit a letter of intent to Salt River Project (read more on page 1)

All meetings may be watched live on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/97966005071>.

You can see a recording of the meeting on the Town's YouTube Channel.

See the Town Council agenda at www.cavecreekaz.gov/agendas for more information on how to participate and submit comment cards.

DAISY MOUNTAIN FIRE AND MEDICAL ENHANCING COMMUNITY SAFETY

The East Desert Hills and West Cave Creek have seen substantial growth, and the devastating impact of wildfires in the district and the neighboring Town of Cave Creek in the summer of 2020 heightened the demand for emergency services for the area. Daisy Mountain Fire District (DMFD) is constructing a new fire station at 24th Street and Cloud Road, strategically located to serve both communities, reduce response times, enhance emergency services, and create a safer environment for residents and businesses. The station will serve as a firefighting hub and a center for community outreach and education on fire safety.

The new fire station will be the seventh station within the Daisy Mountain district service area, which spans over 250 square miles. It will house specialized fire trucks and highly trained medical teams equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge technology, ensuring a rapid and effective response to emergencies.

Station 144 is a collaborative effort between DMFD and the Town of Cave Creek. The two organizations will share the operational costs of the station, which underscores their shared commitment to safeguarding the lives and properties for the residents of all our area communities. The new station is scheduled to open in late 2025.



Desert Foothills

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*Founded in 1954, Desert Foothills Library is the **ONLY donation supported, nonprofit, public library** in Maricopa County!
Serving, not only as a library and resource, but a gathering place for our community. Boasting over 100 programs a month, there is something for everyone at the Desert Foothills Library!*

Check Out What YOUR Community Library Has to Offer!

Chapter2Books

The LARGEST bookstore north of the 101, with thousands of books, puzzles, DVDs, CDs, and more at great prices.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Books, audio books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, periodicals, Southwest Collection, Computer Lab, Tech Help, online lending, and more!
Library cards are FREE for all Maricopa County Residents!

ADULT PROGRAMS

Over 100 programs a month! From cooking classes to health and wellness classes, arts & crafts, lectures, AZ authors, movies, performances, and more!

KIDS' PROGRAMS

Unique and entertaining programs for youth that promote literacy, early learning, and, of course, fun! For ages 0 to grade 8.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Come hang out in our dedicated teen lounge, Teen Club 1117! Do homework, play games or check out our calendar for monthly teen activities.

ROOM RENTALS

Looking to host a meeting, party, or even a wedding?! From 4 to 200+ people, we've got the perfect space for your event, including a full demonstration kitchen!

WATERFALL TERRACE

Enjoy a good book accompanied by the tranquil sounds of our waterfall under the shade of our pergola.

LAND TRUST TRAIL

Walk our gorgeous Desert Foothills Land Trust Trail by accessing the trailhead right from the library parking lot.

38443 N. School House Rd. Cave Creek, AZ 85331 - 480.488.2286

For a full programs calendar and more information visit www.dfla.org or stop by today!

CAVE CREEK MUSEUM OFFERS FUN FALL ACTIVITIES

The Arizona Gold Mining Experience™ 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the Month at 10am

The Cave Creek Museum's AZ GOLD MINING EXPERIENCE™ is unique with its display of the complete hard rock ore extraction process, with the mine shaft, tramway, ore carts, crushing and extraction that are always on display, but operated only during these events.

Gold Fever Adventure – Oct. 26, Nov. 9, Dec. 14, 1:00 - 4:30pm

Cave Creek Museum has partnered with Rackensack Canyon Tours to bring Arizona's first and only total gold mining experience to life. This first-of-its kind adventure tour is the perfect way to learn about Arizona's fascinating gold mining history while finding the "Gold Fever" within yourself.

Spaghetti Western: Dinner with a Side of History Nov. 12, 4:00 - 7:00pm

Author Roger Naylor & "Arizona's National Parks and Monuments" – Dec. 7, 2:00 - 4:00pm

Presenter Roger Naylor shares his excitement of Arizona's national parks – 34 units in all, blanket Arizona from border to border.



Arizona's only fully operational ten-stamp ore crushing mill. The ten 1,000-lb stamps slam down in synchronized motion to pound the ore removed from the mine into a fine gravel.

PROTECT THE SYSTEM – THINK BEFORE YOU FLUSH

Flushing products like wet wipes, paper towels and other cleaning products will cause expensive repairs to your residential sewer lines, septic systems, and Cave Creek's sewer system. ONLY flush toilet paper. If the product is labeled "flushable" it's not. Please don't.

DON'T FLUSH

- Any wipes even if they say flushable!
- Diapers
- Bandages
- Cotton swabs
- Paper towels
- Feminine products
- Hair

www.CaveCreekAZ.gov

Help Conserve Water With These Water Saving Tips

Fall and Winter has less daylight which means your plants and grass need less water.

Trees:

Desert adapted: water every 30 – 60 days
High water use: water every 14 – 30 days

Shrubs:

Desert adapted: water every 30 – 45 days
High water use: water every 10 – 14 days

Ground covers and Vines:

Desert adapted: water every 21 – 45 days
High water use: water every 10 – 14 days

Cacti and succulents:

Normally don't need winter watering, but if water is needed: water to a depth of 8 – 12".

*A desert adapted plant is one that can subsist (but maybe not look its best) on annual rainfall.

(University of Arizona Cooperative Extension)



UPCOMING TOWN OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

(Town Hall will be closed
in observance of these
upcoming holidays)

Veteran's Day
Monday, Nov. 11

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, Nov. 28

Normal Town Hall
business hours are
Monday through Thursday,
7am till 5pm

WHO DO I CALL?

THREAT TO LIFE OR PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCIES – CALL 911

NON-EMERGENCY: (602) 876-1000

Town Hall
(480) 488-1400 – Monday through Thursday
7am to 5pm

Cave Creek Fire Department
Cave Creek Town Administration – (480) 488-6600
Daisy Mtn Fire Dept. Administration – (623) 465-7400

Town Marshal – (480) 488-6636

Carefree-Cave Creek Consolidated Court
(480) 488-1689

Desert Foothills Library – (480) 488-2286

Sheriff's Office – (602) 876-1742

Call 911 for Emergencies
SouthWest Gas – Suspect a leak?
Call 911 and (877) 860-6020

APS Customer Care Center – (602) 371-7171

Town of Cave Creek Utility Department (Water and Sewer)
(480) 488-6620

After hours or weekend emergency water repairs
(602) 667-4574

Garbage pick-up is provided by several
companies, so residents need to contact their chosen service
provider to establish service or service questions.

Area Disposal – (480) 515-4300

Republic / Allied Services
(602) 237-2078

Waste Management Customer Service
(602) 268-2222

SouthWest Gas – Suspect a leak?
Call 911 and (877) 860-6020

Maricopa County Animal Control
(602) 506-7387

Snake Removal (602) 253-1191



Town of Cave Creek
37622 N. Cave Creek Road
Cave Creek, AZ 85331

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CAVE CREEK RODEO DAYS TO REIMBURSE TOWN FOR SKYBOX REPLACEMENT

In the Summer of 2022, a storm heavily damaged the Skybox at the Cave Creek Rodeo Grounds. The Skybox had been used to host dignitaries and sponsors of Cave Creek Rodeo Days and special events. At the Sept. 16 Town Council meeting, the Town Council approved a reimbursement contract with Cave Creek Rodeo Days authorizing the Town to pay for constructing for the new Skybox. Over the next seven years, Cave Creek Rodeo Days, Inc. will make seven annual payments totaling \$515,000 to reimburse the Town.

The Town solicited bids from qualified contractors for this project and received six responses. API General Contractors was awarded the contract to construct the Skybox for not exceeding \$595,000. The Town of Cave Creek received \$80,000 from an insurance claim on the loss, but this amount was well below the needed amount for rebuilding the structure.

For more information about the Cave Creek Rodeo and Cave Creek Rodeo, Inc. go to www.cavecreekrodeo.com.



UTILITY MASTER PLAN IDENTIFIES LONGTERM WATER AND WASTEWATER STRATEGIES

At a Town Council Workshop in September, the Town's staff and the engineering firm of Black & Veatch presented an updated Integrated Utility Master Plan. The master plan contains short-term and long-term strategies for managing our water and wastewater supplies and infrastructure, which are key to the quality of life we all enjoy in Cave Creek.

The Integrated Master Plan evaluates the existing water, wastewater, and reclaimed water systems to ensure the Town is prepared to provide for residents and address challenges that will likely impact its future water supplies. The plan also identified ways to improve water and wastewater system performance and efficiencies. The plan includes recommendations for future improvement projects with cost estimates and priorities.

Once adopted, the master plan will provide guidance on investments in capital and maintenance projects as well on managing the Town's water and wastewater systems.

PHOENIX INTERCONNECT PROJECT WORK CONTINUES THROUGH SPRING OF 2026

Cave Creek provides water service to approximately 4,400 customers in Cave Creek and Desert Hills. The community's surface water supplies are all from the Colorado River, delivered via the Central Arizona Project (CAP). The Town connects to this water from a single 12.5-mile pipeline with four in-line boosters feeding one treatment plant.

Working in partnership with the City of Phoenix, Cave Creek is enhancing the reliability of the Town's water supply by building a new potable water supply connection with Phoenix. The new connection will provide up to 1.4 million gallons per day, or approximately half the Town's current peak-day demand.

The pipeline project started in April 2024 and is scheduled for completion by spring 2026.



TOWN OF CAVE CREEK LOCAL LANDMARKS

The Town of Cave Creek is as diverse as its residents, local businesses, culture, entertainment, and wildlife! To celebrate the rich heritage and promote exploration of the unique places that have shaped and housed the Town's vibrant character (and characters!), the Town of Cave Creek launched Cave Creek Local Landmarks. Iconic buildings and spaces in Town are recognized by a bronze plaque award that interconnects the celebrated landmarks with a storytelling map.

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS

Local Landmark Plaque Presentation – Desert Awareness Park,
Oct. 31 | 9am | 38100 N Vermeersch Road, Cave Creek, AZ

Local Landmark Plaque Presentation – Black Mountain Summit,
Nov. 21 | 10am | Schoolhouse Road, Cave Creek, AZ