



CAVE CREEK PROSPECTOR

SPRING 2025

A publication by the
Town of Cave Creek

LEARN ABOUT TOWN'S WILDFIRE SEASON PREPAREDNESS

The Cave Creek Fire Department will host a community meeting to discuss the town's preparedness for any wildfires in our area. The meeting is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9, at the Desert Foothills Library. An earlier meeting occurred on March 12 at the Cave Creek Fire Station. In addition to the Cave Creek Fire Department, Daisy Mountain Fire District and the Tonto National Forest will have representatives at these meetings to provide information.



The Town

These wildfire experts will share with residents how the community has the firefighting resources and regional partnerships to attack a wildfire to help protect property and life in the event a wildfire should occur. Residents are encouraged to attend to learn about the town's preparedness and what actions a homeowner can take to protect their property.

The town uses an app called CodeRed to help keep residents informed in an emergency, such as a wildfire or flood. In the event of a fire or flood, the CodeRed emergency telephone notification service will alert those registered with a recorded message about the emergency and what actions you should take to ensure your safety. You will find more information and registration for CodeRed at www.cavecreekaz.gov/codered. If you registered with our CodeRed system, now is the time to ensure your information is current.

CREATE A DEFENSIBLE SPACE AROUND YOUR HOME

Small brush fires can easily turn into large wildfires if precautions aren't taken. Yard growth, such as weeds, leaves, brush, and small branches that are around your home, could be the primary source of wildfire fuel. To support the community in creating defensible space in their yards for fire prevention, the Town of Cave Creek will have a drop-off event for residents (only) to discard green waste. Drop off on Saturday, April 19, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Water Ranch, located at 4300 E. Carefree Hwy.

Please bring proof of your Cave Creek residence (either a driver's license, utility bill, addressed piece of mail) and be prepared to unload your debris in areas designated by Town staff once you arrive. Once unloaded, staff will take care of the rest.

**IF YOU SEE SMOKE FROM A FIRE
DON'T ASSUME IT HAS BEEN REPORTED –
CALL 911.**

 CodeRED



NEW DEVELOPMENTS TAKE SHAPE IN TOWN

Though Cave Creek is a beautiful small town that looks to maintain its Western lifestyle charm new construction projects are still being presented. The Development Services Department which encompasses Building and Fire Code Compliance and the Planning & Zoning divisions, has seen a steady influx of new permit applications in 2025. As of March 1, 30 new permit applications had been reviewed by Town staff.

To help speed up permit and inspection application submittals through department approval, the department has gone completely digital. Both permit applications and inspection requests are now made entirely online. Inspections are also performed digitally, and the customer/contractor is immediately notified of their pass or fail status.

CURRENT LARGER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS UNDERWAY:

- Galloway Crossing – 32 apartments on 4 acres east of Stagecoach Village
- Cave Creek Bungalows – 8 detached rental units next to the Tourism Bureau Office
- Focus on the Family – Located at the site of the old Tumbleweed Hotel, 6333 E. Cave Creek Road
- Hidden Rock – 6525 E. Cave Creek Road, surrounding Kiwanis
- Foothills Foodbank on Carefree Hwy and 40th Street
- Phoenix Interconnect - New water interconnect project with the City of Phoenix



Focus on the Family chapel.



The Phoenix Interconnect 1 million gallon water tank on Cave Creek Road will provide a backup water supply for Town.

WATER CONSERVATION BEGINS WITH YOU

Much of Arizona and the southwest have endured drought since the late 1990s. However, the Colorado River, which supplies water to seven states and Mexico, has felt the effects of a lack of runoff from snow and drought. Cave Creek's single source of water is the Central Arizona Project (CAP), and due to the ongoing drought conditions, CAP may need to cut water allocations by 25% starting in 2027 due to the low flow of the Colorado River basin. As a result, water conservation has become even more urgent and offers one solution to stretching our water supplies by collectively reducing water use.

Water conservation starts with you, and it is an essential component of the Town's water resource management and strategy. The town aims to reduce water use while balancing a healthy, sustainable quality of life for our residents. Practicing a low-water-use lifestyle is one way that we can all help stretch our limited water supplies while saving time and money.

To learn more about ideas on how you can conserve water, check out the Conserve Our Water information page on the Town's website at <https://cavecreekaz.gov/Water-Conservation>.



TOWN COUNCIL ROUNDUP

CAVE CREEK COUNCIL MEMBERS



Seated front row, left to right: Council Member Cynthia Driskell, Mayor Robert Morris and Vice Mayor Kathryn Royer. Back row, left to right: Council Member Thomas McGuire, Council Member Tom Augheron, Council Member Dusty Rhoades, and Council Member Joe Freedman.

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

December 2024

- Adopted the Communications Strategic Plan
- Median Enhancement Project approved to beautify town medians on Cave Creek Rd.

January 2025

- Approved Community Grant Committee recommendations of awardees for a total amount of \$40,000
- Approved agreement between the Central Arizona Water Conservation District and the Town for delivery of Arizona Water Banking Authority water supplies in case of shortage
- Authorized Town Manager to execute a purchase agreement to acquire land adjacent to Town Hall for future use by the Town.

February 2025

- Carefree Cave Creek Chamber of Commerce 60th Anniversary Proclamation
- Supported resolution declaring support for local control of short-term rental housing and urged State Legislature to recognize the importance of local regulation of short-term rental housing.
- Authorized membership into the Arizona Metropolitan Trust for Health, Accident, Life, and/or disability benefits for eligible Town employees

March 2025

- Approved expanding Town Manager's purchasing expenditure threshold

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.

DESERT FOOTHILLS LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

Jewish Culture & Heritage Festival Through April 30

Celebrate Jewish culture, heritage, and traditions throughout April and uncover and explore the vibrant and varied experiences of Jewish people. Throughout this special event, visitors will learn about various aspects of Jewish culture, heritage, and history, including beliefs and practices, folklore customs, literature/authors, film, performing and visual arts, and cuisines in dozens of engaging programs, exhibits, and activities. Register today at www.dfla.org. Questions, please call 480-488-2286.

A Conversation with Nita Prose – Author of "The Maid"

Thursday, April 10, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Nita is the author of "The Mystery Guest and The Maid," which has sold over 2 million copies worldwide and was published in more than 40 countries. She will join us to discuss her newest novel, The "Maid's Secret" (the third book in the Molly the Maid mystery series). Nita will speak with Barbara Peters of The Poisoned Pen, take questions, and sign copies of "The Maid's Secret." Registration is Required. Register at www.dfla.org. If you have questions, please call 480-488- 2286. The cost is \$50/person.

Storytime with the Phoenix Zoo: Animal Habitats

Friday, June 13, 10:30 - 11:30am

The Phoenix Zoo's Live on Location crew will be at the library! Follow along with Bear in the book "Welcome Home, Bear" by Il Sung Na as he explores different habitats and tries to find the best home. Then, meet the zoo's animal ambassadors and learn about their habitats. Free; no registration required.

The Magic and Illusions of Eric Giliam

Thursday, June 26, 10:30 - 11:30am

Former World Teen Magic Champion Eric Giliam performs a dazzling spectacle of magic, illusions, and sleight of hand in his high-energy show, which includes music, comedy, and audience participation. Eric has been among the Summer Reading Programs' most popular performers for the past 10 years! Free; no registration required.



DAISY MOUNTAIN BREAKS GROUND FOR FIRE STATION

Daisy Mountain Fire and Medical Department held a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of construction on Fire Station 144. This facility will be the seventh fire station for Daisy Mountain Fire and Medical, which provides all hazards emergency medical services, fire suppression, and various other specialized skills and services to a community of 65,000 residents that spans roughly 250 square miles north of Phoenix and east of Interstate 17. The Daisy Mountain Fire District serves the communities of Anthem, Black Canyon City, the Town of Cave Creek, New River, and Desert Hills, an area that is growing rapidly. The property, located at 2402 E. Cloud Rd. in Desert Hills, will help reduce emergency response times and enhance service delivery to residents in the area.

STAY IN THE KNOW

Keep up to date with the latest news and information from the Town. When registered, you can follow the topics that interest you most: General Town News, Town Council Meeting Information, Town Business Owners/Managers updates and meeting notices, and Utilities Advisory Committee Meeting Information. Subscribe to the Town of Cave Creek Communication emails by registering here or scanning the QR Code.



THE KIWANIS CLUB HOSTS ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Kiwanis Family Fun Day and Cave Creek Museum will welcome first responders – fire, police and military representatives. The visitors will give presentations of what they do every day and young guests will have the opportunity to talk with each child individually. The children will receive giveaways as well.

Date: Saturday, April 12 **Location:** Downtown Carefree

Time: 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM (New extended hours!)

Tickets: \$10 per person | \$5 for children – Tickets can be pre-purchased or purchased at the gate.

For more information, visit www.kiwaniscarefree.org.



DESERT AWARENESS

Learn About Desert Plants with Desert Awareness Committee Programs

WALK, TALK, AND TASTE IN THE PARK

Stroll through the .25 mile trails at Desert Awareness Park and meet our education team guides along the way who share information about the plants you pass. Learn when and how to harvest as you stand before the plant. Gather in the interpretive center after your walk to taste foods prepared from these plants. Trail is sandy and uneven. Wear appropriate footwear. Complete circuit to all the stations will take between 45-60 minutes. Event is free.

For information call the Holland Center office at 480-488-1090.

DATE: Saturday, April 12 at 8 - 11am

LOCATION: Desert Awareness Park, Vermeersch & Cave Creek Rds.

EARTH DAY NATIVE LANDSCAPE SEMINAR

Celebrate Earth Day with the Desert Awareness Committee's Master Gardeners and learn how native desert plants can enhance your landscape with less water. Learn how to have a healthy yard with desert landscaping of trees, bushes, and cacti as well as other desert adapted plants. Hear about pruning and maintenance considerations when selecting plants for your landscape. Free to all.

DATE: Tuesday, April 22 at 6:30 - 8pm FREE

LOCATION: Holland Community Center 34250 N 60th Street, Scottsdale 85266

GUIDE TO ALL-HAZARD EVACUATION

No matter where you live in the community, staying aware of hazards is essential. Learn how you can prepare your family and home before an emergency. Taking action now and being better prepared can help you and your family evacuate quickly before the threat reaches your doorstep.

READY – Prepare Now: Prepare for the hazards that can threaten your community.

- Register with Code Red (If you already have Code Red, check to make sure your information is current)
- Follow the Town of Cave Creek and Daisy Mountain Fire District on social media: Facebook, Instagram, and X. Check the Town's website for more information during an emergency.
- If you have livestock, follow the Arizona Foothills 911 Facebook group page for good safety and animal relocation information.
- Take steps now to prepare for seasonal threats. Make a family communication plan that includes family phone numbers, out-of-town contacts, and family meeting locations.
- Assemble an emergency supplies kit (Go Kit). Start with the five P's; people and pet supplies, prescriptions, papers, personal needs and priceless items.
- Check with your neighbors, family, friends, and elders to ensure they are **READY**.
- Keep up to date on local news, weather watches and warnings.

SET – Be Alert: There is significant danger in your area.

- Residents should consider voluntarily relocating to a shelter or with family/friends outside the affected area.
- Grab your emergency supplies kit.
- Keep in mind unique needs for your family or special equipment for pets and livestock.

Stay aware of the latest news and information from public safety officials. This might be the only notice you receive. Emergency services cannot guarantee they will be able to notify everyone if conditions rapidly deteriorate. **Be SET to GO.**

GO – Evacuate: Danger in your area is current and life-threatening.

- Residents should evacuate immediately to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area.
- If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand emergency services may not be able to assist you further.
- Follow instructions from emergency personnel, stay on designated evacuation routes and avoid closed areas.

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



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Cave Creek, AZ 85331

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HEAT AWARENESS & SAFETY

Each year, more than 200 people need rescuing while hiking in parks and preserves in Arizona.



- You know your limits, as well as those with you. Make an informed decision on which trail to trek, and your trek will be more enjoyable.
- During the warmer months, hike during the early/late hours when temperatures are slightly cooler.
- Wear appropriate footwear, a wide-brim hat, and light-colored, loose-fitting clothing that will breathe well in the heat. Wear quality sunglasses with lenses that offer 100% UVA and UVB protection. Wear sunscreen and make sure to reapply regularly throughout your hike.
- Begin hydrating BEFORE you set out for your hike, and rehydrate frequently. Carry enough water for your entire workout. Remember to bring plenty of water for your children and canine friends. When your water is half done – turn around because you are half done!

Fun tip: Consume cold fluids during and after hiking. Flavoring your fluids may make you more likely to keep sipping. Hydro Flasks are awesome, reusable water bottles that keep fluids cold for hours. Make a 'mocktail'. Add some frozen blueberries, squeezed lemon wedges, a dash of salt, and slapped mint for a delicious flavor and extra electrolytes. Make sure you slap the mint with your hands so the oils extract!

- Stay on designated trails.
- Tell someone where you are recreating and when you expect to return.
- Turn around and return to the trailhead when your water is half gone.
- Carry a cell phone, and make sure it is fully charged.
- Don't hike alone.
- Use maps to know where you are going and what kind of terrain you are hiking on.

FOOD BANK

Spring Cleaning for a Cause: Purge Your Pantry and Help Stock Food Bank Shelves Before Summer

Summer is one of the slowest seasons for food donations, but hunger doesn't take a vacation. Many children who rely on school meals during the year will need extra support, and families will turn to the food bank for help. Foothills Food Bank & Resource Center invites you to Purge Your Pantry by donating non-perishable food, hygiene products, and cleaning supplies to help local families in need. The drive will run April 10 – May 30, 2025. This year, the Food Bank hopes to collect 50,000 pounds of food and essentials in 50 days to keep our shelves stocked through the hottest months. In 2024, the community helped raise more than 48,000 pounds.

How to Help:

- Donate unopened, unexpired pantry staples, hygiene products, and cleaning supplies.
- Drop off donations at Foothills Food Bank Warehouse
6038 E. Hidden Valley Drive, Cave Creek
Monday-Friday: 8am - 2pm and Saturday: 8 - 10 am
- Host a food drive in your neighborhood, workplace, worship center, or community group.

Call to schedule your food drive pick-up.

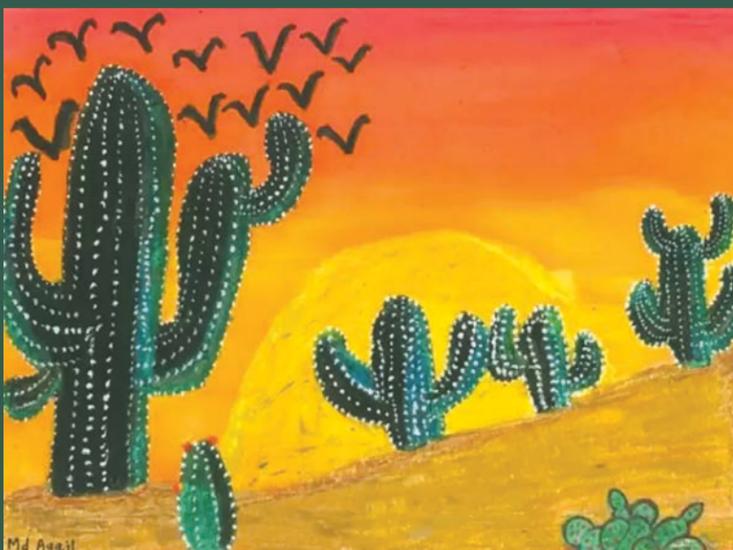
For more details or to schedule a pick-up for large donations, visit FoothillsFoodBank.com or call 480-488-1145.



CAVE CREEK MUSEUM PRESENTS: "A DOZEN WAYS OF DYING IN THE DESERT"

This presentation introduces us to our prickly, spiny, thorny and horny (toad) neighbors in our desert community. The goal of the discussion is to tell the stories of the often-misunderstood flora and fauna we live among to help you feel at home in our Sonoran Desert.

Cave Creek Museum
Presents: A Dozen Ways
of Dying in the Desert
April 5 at 2:00 - 4:00pm



WANT A HEALTHY SNACK WHILE OUT ON THE TRAIL?

Here's a list of hiking-friendly snacks:

Salt (sodium chloride) = salted nuts, trail mix, pretzels, crackers, popcorn, pickles, and jerky

Potassium = bananas, melons, oranges, grapefruit juice, and kiwis

Magnesium = pumpkin seeds, figs, cashews, and peanuts

Calcium = almonds, cheese, dry milk, fortified cereals

(Information gathered from Maricopa County Parks & Recreation, National Park Service, and the National Weather Service websites.)