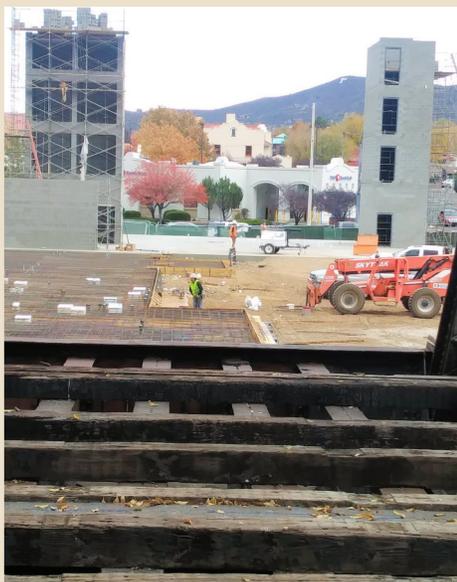


## West Granite Creek Park Improvements



Construction of the new Hilton Hotel in downtown Prescott as seen from the trestle along the Greenways Trail.

Planning is underway for major improvements to West Granite Creek Park. By the Fall of 2020 the look and functionality of West Granite Creek Park will take a big step forward with proposed improvements to the area west of LaGuardia bridge/Montezuma St. and the Greenways Trail. Public Improvements will include a Splash Pad and railroad themed playground north of the Hilton Garden Inn (currently under construction) as well as a community gathering area west of Granite Creek that could host the Farmers Market on the weekend and also provide an area for family or community gatherings as well as enhancements to the Greenways trail bridge and restrooms.

While Granite Creek Park was developed in the mid 1970s after 20+ years of assembling parcels and cleaning up the area that at that time was referred to as “Long Beach”, an area where many squatters had claimed as home. Long Beach’s beginnings date back to the turn of the century when the railroad came to town. When railroad workers asked where they could pitch their tents they were told to go “down by the creek” as it was close to the railroad depot and roundhouse.

As previously mentioned, the east portion of Granite Creek Park was developed with park amenities in the mid 1970s and is a highly visited park located close to beautiful downtown Prescott, the improvements to the west part of the Park will complete a long anticipated vision of tying together our historic downtown with the park and Greenways Trail while offering our citizens and visitors easy access to recreation, be it a day at the park with the children or a leisurely stroll along the trail.

*(Contributor Joe Baynes)*

### Recreation Services Advisory Board

*Tom Dwyer  
Sherri Hanna  
Linda Nichols  
Peg Travers  
Chris Welborn*

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**Joe Baynes**  
City of Prescott  
Recreation Services Director



Artist rendering of the proposed “railroad themed” playground equipment for West Granite Creek Park.

## The Trails & Natural Parkland

### Youth Mountain Biking Opportunities Growing in Popularity

The City of Prescott is keeping up with the exploding popularity of mountain biking among all ages. In recent years, the design for many of the City's trails has taken this sport into consideration.

There are now team sports opportunities in biking in many area schools. Organized in 2012, the Arizona Interscholastic Cycling League (AICL), an affiliate of the National Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA) has exploded in popularity, and six quad-city schools now participate in the program. *(See box at left.)*

They provide the education, training, licensing, and insurance for student athletes grades 6-12, coaches and volunteers. The teams are comprised of school-based teams, composite teams from more than one

#### NICA PRESCOTT AREA SCHOOLS

Prescott High School  
Prescott Middle School  
Basis Prescott  
Bradshaw Mountain High School  
Canyon View Preparatory Academy  
Tri-City College Prep High School

school, and independent racers who don't have a team to race with. Prescott area teams practice on area trails, including City of Prescott trails. In September 2019, NICA's #2 race was held at Pioneer Park, with Prescott High School finishing first in Division I. NICA race teams participate in five races a year throughout the state. In 2019, races were held in Flagstaff, Prescott, Fort Huachuca, Fountain Hills, and Waddell, with over 1,000 participants.

In April 2017, improvement and reconfiguration of the trails at Pioneer Park was completed. With both city and county trails now under City of Prescott management, the larger trail system has expanded to a total of 20 miles and meshes both systems, making them more cohesive, with more options. Response has been overwhelmingly positive, especially from mountain bikers who have found the single and double track trails more interesting and diverse, as well as desirable for NICA team races and school team practice sessions.

**For more information visit the AICL website at: [arizonamtb.org](http://arizonamtb.org)**

*(Contributor Nancy Nesbit with information from the AICL website and NICA)*



*(Photo courtesy of Prescott High School)*

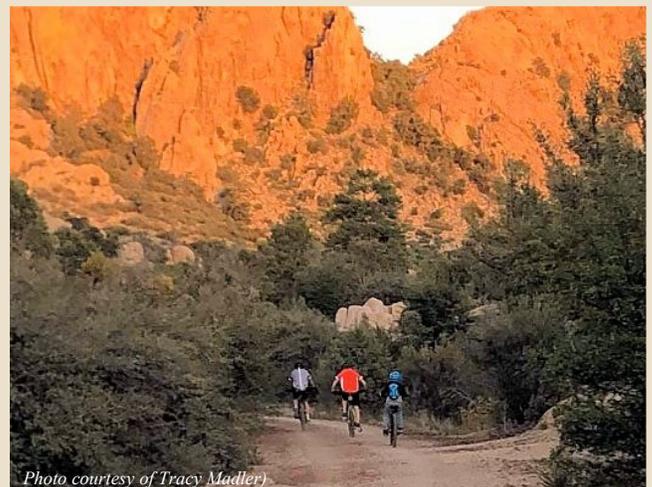
*(Photo left)* The Prescott High School team during a practice session along Peavine Trail.

*(Photo below left)* Chino Valley High School's Kash O'Brien races.

*(Photo below right)* Bradshaw Mountain Middle and High School riders during a practice session along Peavine Trail heading toward Prescott Valley.



*(Photo courtesy of Matt O'Brien)*



*(Photo courtesy of Tracy Madler)*

For information on volunteering to help in building Prescott's Trails or how you can contribute to the Trails System, click on the links at the trails page on the City's website online at: [www.prescott-az.gov](http://www.prescott-az.gov) or [www.prescotttrails.com](http://www.prescotttrails.com)

## Relationships - Prescott Mountain Bike Alliance (PMBA)

Prescott Mountain Bike Alliance (PMBA) is a 501(c)(3) organization and International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) chapter club that preserves, protects and promotes mountain biking, trail access and diverse riding opportunities on Prescott area public lands through community education, tourism, advocacy and unified action. They work with land managers and municipalities, including the City of Prescott, to improve area trails. They also collaborate with other user groups to ensure quality trail experiences for users, and promote responsible riding among mountain bikers. With over 250 miles of trail in the Prescott area, PMBA is the only organization in the area dedicated exclusively to the sport. Prescott features some of the most diverse mountain bike riding in the Southwest, with everything from singletrack winding up and over pine covered mountains to technical granite slick rock structures.

*(Information and photos courtesy of PMBA)*



For more information or to join PMBA visit their website at: [www.prescottmtb.com](http://www.prescottmtb.com)



PMBA group rides include 8 to 80 Ride, Thursday Night Guy's Ride, Women's Ride, and Youth Rides (above).

### DID YOU KNOW

- PMBA members have volunteered over 10,000 hours since 2010 for trail construction and maintenance.
- PMBA has successfully achieved thousands of dollars in grants from both governmental and private entities to fund projects like the Pump Track, Circle Trail, and more.
- PMBA has purchased and installed rollover gates on trails throughout the region to keep bikers conveniently riding through trails rather than stopping to open/close gates.
- PMBA created the "Bikes on Bells" program in 2012
- PMBA started a Youth Program in 2018 to provide free group rides, skills clinics, bike maintenance workshops, and more to local youth.
- PMBA has adopted the Ranch/62 trail and provides regular maintenance.



PMBA created the Prescott Mountain Bike Festival (above) in 2011 and has hosted the event every year since, including inviting bike vendors in for free demos and providing shuttles to area trails.



PMBA proudly worked with the City of Prescott, basin residents, US Forest Service, Over the Hill Gang, and many individual contributors and volunteers to enhance the network of trails in Spence Basin (above). PMBA membership dollars help them advocate for more trails in the Prescott area. Their volunteer work days also help build and maintain area trails.

## The Parks & Lakes - Flinn Park

Located downtown not far from the rodeo grounds, Flinn Park is one of the oldest neighborhood parks within the City of Prescott. Fondly referred to as the 'original Acker Park', the name was changed to Flinn Park in 1996, due to the wishes of J.S. Acker, when a new 83.6 acre natural parkland space was named after Mr. Acker, as J.S. Acker Park.

Although only three acres, the park includes most of the amenities one would expect, including a rustic ramada with restrooms and drinking fountain, updated playground, grassy area for informal games and play, and basketball court. With a variety of trees, this four-season park is colorful in the fall.

In addition to the amenities listed, a favorite spot among children of all ages is an outcropping of boulders located in a corner of the park just behind the playground. With a few informal trails, this area is fun to explore and gives children a feel for hiking in the boulders within a small area. *(Contributor Nancy Nesbit)*



*Photo courtesy of Nancy Nesbit*

A small outcropping of boulders is a favorite among children,



*(Photo courtesy of Nancy Nesbit)*

*(above)* The rustic ramada with attached restrooms has a capacity of 40 and is available for rent. *(See page seven.)*

*(below)* An updated playground is located just in front of the boulder outcropping shown in the photo left.



*(File photo)*

### Dr. John W. Flinn 1870 - 1944



An immigrant from Nova Scotia, Canada, Dr. Flinn resided in Kingman, Arizona from 1898 to 1902 when he moved to Prescott. An early pioneer of tuberculosis, he opened his famous tuberculosis sanatorium, Pamsetgaaf (pure air, maximum sunshine, equable temperature, good accommodation and food) in 1903 at West Gurley and South Willow Streets.

He was a charter member of the Yavapai County Medical Society. Dr. Flinn was also an honored

member of the State Medical Association and served as first Vice-President in 1913, and President in 1914.

A friend of J.S. Acker, he was the first administrator of the J.S. Acker Trust. It was Mr. Acker's wish that a park be named after his good friend Dr. Flinn.

#### Flinn Park

280 Josephine St., Prescott, AZ

#### Summer Hours

*(Memorial Day through Labor Day)*

7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

#### Winter Hours

7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

*Free Parking*

#### Amenities Include:

Restrooms                      Ramada  
Playground                      Turf Area  
Basketball Court

*(The Restrooms are closed from November through March)*

Ramada rental is available for events and celebrations.

*(See page seven)*

For information call the Recreation Services Department office at (928) 777-1122 or go online at:  
[www.prescott-az.gov](http://www.prescott-az.gov)

## Activities - TrekAbout Hiking Club's Leaders

Three organizations, Yavapai County Community Health Services (YCCHS), Highlands Center for Natural History, and the City of Prescott Recreation Services Department are the mainstays of TrekAbout Hiking Club. The hikes are led by an experienced individual from one of the three organizations; Sharmel Jordan (YCCHS), Sharon Arnold (Highlands Center), and Kelly Tolbert (Prescott Recreation Services). A fourth volunteer leader, Carl Gossard was recently added to the group. Hiking with TrekAbout is safer than hiking alone. With guides you are less likely to get lost, and TrekAbout members are among the first to experience the newest trails in the Prescott area. In joining TrekAbout you are likely to discover trails and beautiful areas you may not have known exist. Join the club to make new friends, have fun, get healthy and stay fit. *(Contributors Nancy Nesbit and the TrekAbout Leaders)*

For information on TrekAbout, call (928) 777-1122, or visit the Prescott Recreation Services office in the Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center located in the "Old Armory Building" at 824 E. Gurley St., Prescott, AZ 86301. Membership is \$18.00 a year and a calendar of hikes is provided to members.

There are two hikes per week graded on a scale of one to four (with four being the most difficult.)

(Hikes are on Tuesdays (2 hours) and Wednesdays (up to 4 Hours) and begin at 8:00 a.m.)

Hiking boots required, carry water and all dogs must be on a leash.

### Yavapai County Community Health Services

Sharmel Jordan has been a hike leader for eight years. She has worked for Yavapai County Community Health Services in the Prescott area for over 20 years, and loves the convenience of how easy it is to get out of town and go on a beautiful hike. "One of my favorite things to do is hiking with my husband and our dog Sadie, and take in the beauty of the forest. Prescott is a great place to live a healthy lifestyle and TrekAbout is a great group of people to hike with. Many of them have been hiking in the group much longer than I have. I really enjoy the hikers and hearing the group talk about their lives. It's one of the highlights of my job!"



Sharmel Jordan

### Highlands Center for Natural History

For years Sharon Arnold rode Arizona trails on horseback. Realizing that the horse was getting all the exercise, she took up hiking in 1990. Hiking and leading hikes became her passion. Hiking in riparian areas led to an interest in birding, another passion. When she moved to Prescott in 2003, she was a hike leader for two groups in the Valley of the Sun. Prescott opened up a whole new world of hiking. She joined a group, the Healthy Hikers, and became a leader again. Certified as a naturalist by the Highlands Center for Natural History, Sharon leads habitat interpretive hikes. Her membership in the TrekAbout group totals 16 years, and she became a leader three years ago. One of the best things about hiking is to share her love of the outdoors and meet new people.



Sharon Arnold

### Prescott Recreation Services Department

Through an internship for her Master's of Science Degree in Recreation and Tourism, Kelly Tolbert found the Prescott Recreation Services Department. She joined the team in April 2012 and is a Certified Park and Recreation Professional. Kelly became a TrekAbout leader in 2014 and considers it one of the highlights of her job. Kelly stated, "What I like about it-the people are great, getting exercise while also benefitting from the social aspects; seeing friendships formed. TrekAbout is good for everyone, but namely folks new to the area wanting to become familiar with the trails or folks who do not want to hike alone. The partnerships we have are invaluable as well."

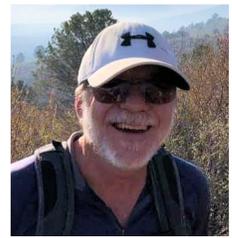


Kelly Tolbert

### TrekAbout Hiking Club Volunteer

Carl Gossard began hiking with the TrekAbouts Hiking Club in 2014 and volunteered to be a hike leader in 2019. He retired to Prescott in 2014 after spending 35 years with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), primarily serving in Wildfire Management.

"I started hiking with the TrekAbouts to learn the trails in the Prescott area. I keep hiking with the TrekAbouts because they are great people", says Carl. "I wanted to give back a little bit so I offered to be a hike leader. It is very rewarding to take new hikers on the on the many trails in the Prescott area."



Carl Gossard



Although at 6,000 feet in elevation, fishing at Goldwater Lake is a year-round activity.

## Fishing Report - Fisheries Plan

Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) produced a Fisheries Management Plan for Goldwater Lake in August 2019 for 2019-2029. The report stated that Goldwater Lake management includes an intensive use concept for rainbow trout, channel catfish, and large-mouth bass. Electrofishing surveys are periodically done by AZGFD to assess fish populations to determine abundance, density, and species composition. The surveys also include interviews with anglers. During the 2009-2010 creel survey, 87% of anglers were satisfied or extremely satisfied with their fishing experience. Only 2% were dissatisfied or extremely dissatisfied. AZGFD's objective is to have at least 80% of anglers reporting their fishing experience as fair, good, or excellent. *(Contributor Nancy Nesbit)*



More information on fishing our lakes, events, and licenses can be obtained from the Arizona Game and Fish Department online at: [www.azgfd.com](http://www.azgfd.com)

### 2019-2020 Winter Trout Stocking Schedule:

	January	February	March
Goldwater Lake:	None	10, 24	2, 16
Watson Lake:	None	3	None

*The trout stocking schedule dates listed represent the Monday of the week the stocking will occur.*

*These schedules are tentative and subject to change due to weather conditions at the sites.*

*Consult the Weekly Fishing Report before you go at: [www.azgfd.net/artman/publish/FishingReport/](http://www.azgfd.net/artman/publish/FishingReport/)*

## Spotlight On ... Michelle Stacy-Schroeder

Born in Palm Springs, California, Michelle grew up in Oxnard, California, and was in the U.S. Army from 1996 to 2004. She was deployed to Iraq April 2003 to May 2004. A single mom, she returned and became a second grade teacher. Struggling as a single mom, her parents encouraged her to move to Prescott where they resided. She made the move in 2006.



Michelle Stacy-Schroeder  
Recreation Services Manager

In January 2007 she took a job as a secretary with the City of Prescott Parks and Recreation Department (now the Recreation Services Department). In 2013 Michelle was promoted to the position of Recreation Services Coordinator and has been a successful tournament director of the Senior Women's Softball Tournament since 2009. Michelle continued to take on more responsibility and was reclassified as Recreation Services Manager in May 2019. Michelle's duties with the department now include field scheduling, special events, Accounts Payable for both the Recreation Services Department and Antelope Hills Golf Course, organizing and running the City of Prescott Veteran's Day Parade, and she serves on the Mayor's Commission for Veteran Initiatives.

An avid sports fan, Michelle follows baseball, soccer, and college basketball. A crafter, she mainly does graphics on t-shirts. She also likes travel, going to concerts, karaoke, and spending time with her family. Michelle lives in Dewey with her husband and has three children, a son 22 who lives in West Virginia, a 17 year old daughter who is a senior in high school, and a 12 year old daughter who is active in soccer.

*"Spotlight On" periodically features a different Parks and Recreation Department employee.*

## Rentals - Parks



Vista Park

### Ramada Rentals

Ramadas in city parks can be reserved for small or large groups, for an entire day or less. A reservation ensures your group of exclusive use of the ramada, and allows staff advance notice so that we can prepare for your group's arrival. We offer a 25 percent discount to City of Prescott residents. Just bring in your city water bill or Yavapai County Assessor's Office tax bill when you make your reservation to identify you as a resident of Prescott.

#### Large Ramadas

Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$150

Full Day (open to close) \$300

- Willow Lake Hilltop Ramada (capacity 150) \*\*
- Willow Lake Garden Ramada (capacity 150) \*\*

#### Medium Ramadas

Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$100

Full Day (open to close) \$175

- Granite Creek Park Ramada (capacity 100) \*\*
- Vista Park Ramada (capacity 100) \*\*
- Willow Creek Park Ramada (capacity 100) \*\*

#### Small Ramadas

Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$75

Full Day (open to close) \$125

- Watson Lake Lower Ramada (capacity 40)
- Flinn Park Ramada (capacity 40) \*\*
- Ken Lindley Park Ramada (capacity 40) \*\*

There is a 25% discount to City residents-show your City water bill or Yavapai County Assessor's Office tax bill at time of reservation for discount.

#### Other Facilities

Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$160

Full Day (open to close) \$310

- Goldwater Lake Ramada (capacity 100)
- Goldwater Lakeview Ramada (capacity 100)
- Goldwater Pinetop Ramada (capacity 100)
- Goldwater Ceremonial Pad (capacity 100)  
\$35 per hour, maximum 4 hours

Half Day (4 hrs. or less) \$200

Full Day (open to close) \$350

- Watson Lake Upper Ramada and Ceremonial Pad  
(capacity 150) *Due to proximity cannot be rented*

*Refundable deposits: \$200, all rentals*

*\*Commercial Event Rentals will require a Certificate of Liability.*

***\*\* A \$10 alcohol permit is required at all parks and lakes to consume beer and/or malt beverages only. Only Goldwater Lake and Watson Lake do not require the permit.***

### Large Grass Areas

We have large grassy areas at Granite Creek Park and Watson Lake Park that can be reserved for large picnics, weddings, etc. A reservation fee will ensure your exclusive use of the area. Advance notice of your proposed event will allow us to control our irrigation schedules so that your event will take place uninterrupted by "controllable showers". (25% discount to City residents-show your City water bill or Yavapai County Assessor's Office tax bill at time of reservation for discount.) For groups of 50 or more a Grass Area Application is required. Proof of Grass Area approval and park rental receipt will be required **to be in the possession of the applicant's authorized representative attending the event.** Reoccurring events (2 or more times a month) will be subject to a \$200 fee per event (updated 4/7/2010).

Hourly Rental: \$35 per hour plus an additional \$200 refundable security deposit.

An outdoor stage area at Watson Lake Park including power pedestals for vendors, may be reserved by special arrangement (fees apply). Please contact the office for more information. Rental fees and damage deposits will depend on the size and nature of the event, proposed admission fee, etc.

### Special Event Park Rentals at Watson Lake

Upon request, Watson Lake can be rented for special events. Full park reservations (Upper Ramada, Lower Ramada and Grassy Area - only) can be reserved for a daily cost of \$800 with a \$500 refundable clean-up and damage deposit. Use of the full camping area will be an additional \$450 a day. Partial camping (19 sites) will be \$225 a day. All rental fees, including the \$500 refundable damage deposit will be due no later than 20 days prior to event. Large scale events held at Watson Lake during peak season (Memorial Day to Labor Day) will be subject to a 25 percent fee increase. \$3.00 parking fee will be charged at Watson Lake and Willow Lake for all vehicles entering your event. Parks staff will collect parking fees at the entrance to the park. Requests for Special Events will require a Special Event Application and approval by the Special Event Committee. (25 percent City resident discount does not apply to full park rentals.)

**For information on camping visit our website. See page 2 for parking fees and passes at Peavine Trail, Goldwater Lake, Watson Lake, and Willow Lake. Telephone our office at (928) 777-1122 or visit us online through the City website under services at:**

**For detailed information regarding liability insurance, rules, policies, and other applicable requirements on rentals contact our office at (928) 777-1552.**

Information regarding park facilities, activities, and rentals can be obtained through the City website at: [www.prescott-az.gov](http://www.prescott-az.gov)

**Tennis Courts and In-line Hockey Rink**  
The tennis courts located at 824 E. Gurley St. and the In-line Hockey Rink at Pioneer Park are open to the public on a first come, first served basis.

# Rentals



## FIELD RENTAL FEES

<i>Field Rental Fees (January 1, 2014)</i>	Residents	Non-Sponsored Club Teams & Indiv. Reservation	City Sponsored 2nd Season
Field Rental (per field)	\$60/4 hrs.	\$75/4 hrs.	\$40/4 hrs.
Field Prep (Baseball and Softball Only) per field	\$35 (per prep)	\$44 (per prep)	\$35 (per prep)
Field Prep (Soccer and Football only, Goals not provided)	\$150	\$180	\$150
Field Lights (per field)	\$20/hr.	\$24/hr.	\$15/hr.
Damage & Security Deposit	\$500	\$500	N/A
Fence Relocation - Plastic (per field)	\$100	\$125	N/A
Rain Delay - per staff member	\$20/hr.	\$25/hr.	\$15/hr.
Concessions: In-Facility	\$50/day	\$63/day	\$50/day
Concessions: Free-Standing	\$25/day	\$32/day	\$25/day

City of Prescott leagues and events will be scheduled before other rentals are accepted and have priority over other reservations.

For information about city sponsorship (Prescott AYSO, Prescott Little League, Prescott Girls Softball Association and Prescott Youth Football), please contact the Recreation Coordinator at (928) 777-1552.

## GRACE SPARKES MEMORIAL ACTIVITY CENTER - Gymnasium and Conference Room



**Recreation Services Department**  
Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center  
*(Old Armory Building)*  
824 E. Gurley St., Prescott, AZ 86301  
Telephone (928) 777-1122  
Visit us on the City website at:  
[www.prescott-az.gov](http://www.prescott-az.gov)

GYMNASIUM USE	
Commercial Use	\$100 per hour
Damage and Clean-up	\$300 per event (refundable)
Private Use	\$50 per hour
Damage and Clean-up deposit required	\$200 per event (refundable)
MEETING ROOMS	
Use of Flagstone room and/or Kitchen	\$30 per hour (in addition to gym rental fee)
Gym Floor Cover Charge (if applicable)	\$100 per occurrence
<i>Note: Tables and chairs will be provided if available at no extra charge.</i>	

This newsletter is a collaborative effort between City of Prescott employees and volunteers. Compilation and graphics provided by Nancy K. Nesbit, Volunteer Park Ranger.  
This newsletter is available online at: [www.prescott-az.gov](http://www.prescott-az.gov)  
You can also pick up a copy at our office at the Grace Sparkes Memorial Activity Center.