

ON THE COVER



Let's Go Camping!

BY CAROL L. ALLEN

Cool, clear air. Sparkling stars on velvet sky. Heady fragrance of pine. Soft breeze. Gentle stream songs. Delicious aromas of brewing coffee, of sizzling bacon. Silence. Peace. Refreshment.

These are some of the descriptors I could use as I remember my days of camping in Washington State and in Alberta, Canada. Mind you, I could also say “cold”, “freezing”, “chilling”, but those would apply to late-season camping in the Northwest. Not here in the Southwest.

In fact, generally that is one of the great advantages of living here: being able to camp all year long. We are fortunate also to have a variety of venues: by lakes, rivers, and streams; by meadows and mountains, and by warm campsites. Thanks often go to Arizona State Parks, Maricopa County Parks, the National Park Service, and others for maintaining wonderful destinations for us to enjoy outdoors.

However, now that I've waxed poetic, it's time for practical. Just ask the Andersons who have provided a thorough resource for all campers, beginning or experienced, in this issue. Read on. Enjoy. And, see you soon at a “campsite near you”. ■



CAMPING TIPS FOR EVERYONE

DJ PROCTOR, MOUNT PLEASANT, MICHIGAN

It's The Ideal Outdoor Adventure

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Camping is the ideal outdoor adventure – it can be inexpensive and close to home, and gets you out in the fresh air and away from the news stories. If you're new to camping, don't feel like you need to go out and buy a bunch of stuff. You can probably borrow a lot of what you need from friends and family, or find used gear online. Find out if your neighborhood or church has a “Buy Nothing” program. Once you sign up, you can get a lot of gear for free, and also give away things you don't need. You can barter, too!

I've been camping since I was a kid, and I absolutely love it. John and I and Mochi have our gear down to the minimum and we can load it all up in a Jeep and be on the road in less than half an hour. And Mochi, our Brittany spaniel, gets the entire back seat to herself! Here are some tips for you if you're new to camping.

Do A Trial Run

Camping can be as expensive as you want it to be, but when you are just starting out, you'll probably want to keep



John has the tent set up and the sleeping bags and pillows in place just in time for sunset.

CAMPING TIPS, continued on page 12

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Cool in a campsite.



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WESTERN WILDLIFE
Mountain lion relocated.

AZGFC Seeks Nominations For 2024 Commission Awards

Deadline to submit nominations is Aug. 21.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is soliciting nominations for its 2024 Commission Awards. The awards recognize Arizonans who have contributed significantly to the conservation of the state's wildlife, its outdoor heritage, and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD).

There are 13 award categories (see list below). Nominations may include individuals, organizations, clubs, foundations or government agencies. AZGFD employees are not eligible for nomination.

To nominate someone, download a nomination form, fill in the requested information, and click “submit” at the bottom of the form. Nominations must be received by the department no later than 5 p.m. Aug. 21, 2024.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission will select the 2024 Commission Award recipients at its Sept. 6, 2024, meeting. The awards will be presented at the annual Arizona Game and Fish Commission Awards Banquet to be held on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, at the Pointe Hilton Tapatio Cliffs Resort, 11111 N. 7th Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85020.

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission held its first annual awards banquet on Jan.



12, 1991. Since then, more than 400 recipients have been recognized with Commission awards.

All of the costs associated with the awards banquet must be paid for by ticket sales and sponsorship donations, including the complimentary tickets for award recipients and their spouse or guest. Table sponsorships for organizations are available in several categories and include logo advertisement in the event program, and sponsorship recognition during introductory PowerPoint presentation.

2024 Award Categories Award Of Excellence

Any individual, group, organization, club, foundation, or agency that has excelled in efforts to benefit wildlife, wildlife habi-

tats, or programs of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Youth Conservationist Of The Year

Any individual, 18 years of age or younger, who has excelled in efforts to benefit wildlife and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Media Of The Year

Any media source (radio, television, magazine, newsletter, or periodical) that has published articles or materials beneficial to public interest about wildlife or wildlife-related topics and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Conservation Organization Of The Year

Any organization, group, foundation, or agency that has excelled in efforts to enhance the welfare of wildlife, wildlife-related recreation, and the mission of the Game and Fish Department.

Conservationist Of The Year

Any individual, not associated with a professional agency, who has excelled in efforts to enhance, conserve, and manage wildlife or their habitats.

AWARDS, continued on page 19

AUGUST 6

More Opportunities

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) once again will be offering hunting opportunities that will provide hunters with a chance to draw an additional elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, and Gould's turkey permit-tag, while generating revenue to support wildlife conservation efforts across the state.

The draw will close at 5 p.m. (Arizona time) Tuesday, Aug. 6. Applicants who are drawn for a limited-entry permit-tag will be contacted by the department (during the week of Aug. 12), at which time payment will be required before the permit-tag can be mailed.



be submitted by email to fishregscomments@azgfd.gov through Aug. 16, 2024. Comments can also be submitted by U.S. mail to Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn: Curt Gill, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086.

AUGUST 9

Wildlife Photo Contest

Do you have a knack for capturing great photos of wildlife? Then you won't want to miss the Arizona Game and Fish Department's 18th annual wildlife photo contest.

This contest is for images of Arizona wildlife. All photos must depict wildlife native to and found in Arizona, and all photos must have been taken in Arizona settings. Please review the Official Rules prior to entering.

Entrants are responsible for complying with the Official Rules or may result in disqualification. The deadline is 5 p.m. (Arizona time) Friday, Aug. 9, 2024.



Proposed Hunt Regulations

The Arizona Game and Fish Department's proposed recommendations for the 2025 fall and spring seasons for turkey and bison are available for review at www.azgfd.com/hunting/regulations/hunt-guidelines-process/.

All questions or comments about a particular game management unit or hunt can be emailed to AZHuntGuidelines@azgfd.gov

The public also is invited to call any of the department's regional offices statewide and ask to speak with a game management biologist. No formal presentations are planned.

The proposed hunt recommendations will be presented to the commission for its consideration during a public meeting Aug. 9 at Little America Hotel, 2515 E. Butler Ave., in Flagstaff, Ariz. The agenda will be posted at www.azgfd.gov/commission.

To learn more about the hunt recommendations and hunt guidelines processes, visit www.azgfd.com/hunting/regulations/hunt-guidelines-process/.

AUGUST 16

Proposed Changes To Fish Regs

Public forum webcast is scheduled from 6-7 p.m. July 29 to further discuss the proposals and take public comments

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking public input on proposed changes to the 2025-26 Arizona fishing regulations. Written comments can

Editor's Note: Please submit announcements for AZBW/WOT's calendar of events — "Downstream" — to editor@azbw.com. To guarantee placement, as room allows, items must be received by the tenth (10th) of the month prior to publication. Every effort is made to ensure accuracy, but we assume no responsibility for print errors or omissions. We also reserve the right to edit each item. Please include the name of the event, the date and time, the location, the organization, and contact information. You can also submit your event individually at westernoutdoortimes.com/classifieds.

AUGUST 21

Commission Awards

The Arizona Game and Fish Commission is soliciting nominations for its 2024 Commission Awards. The awards recognize Arizonans who have contributed significantly to the conservation of the state's wildlife, its outdoor heritage, and the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD). Nominations may include individuals, organizations, clubs, foundations or government agencies. AZGFD employees are not eligible for nomination. To nominate someone, download a nomination form, https://secure.lglforms.com/form_engine/s/MPVK5ml5NW8ixxOWcLkn6g. Nominations must be received by the department no later than 5 p.m. Aug. 21, 2024.



AUGUST 24

Register For Elk Workshop

Want to learn about elk - and maybe even view hundreds of them in one place at one time? Then don't delay signing up for one of two workshops, hosted by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, on Aug. 24 in Flagstaff, Ariz. The workshops are scheduled for 8:45-11:45 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

To register for the 8:45-11:45 a.m. session: <https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/214570>

To register for the 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. session: <https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/214571>

THROUGH AUGUST

Pool Parties In Downtown Tempe

<https://www.downtowntempe.com/go/alibi-rooftop-lounge>
Alibi Rooftop Lounge



108 S. University Dr.

Night Glow: Illuminate your evenings with our Night Glow Rooftop Pool Series!

Dive into a vibrant atmosphere of neon lights and poolside fun under the stars. Join us for an unforgettable, glowing summer experience! Get ready to glow at 'Night Glow' - Do you want to hang out at a rooftop pool and lounge at a enjoying cocktails, and a glowing atmosphere? We knew you would! At the skyline of Downtown Tempe hovering above Mill Avenue we turn the Alibi Pool and Rooftop Lounge into a glowing venue with great dance music. As the season gets hot come and cool down with us every Friday night this summer. 9 pm to close on Fridays. Located at Alibi Rooftop Lounge on the top floor of the Canopy Hotel on University just off Mill Ave.

- Friday, Aug 9, 2024 9pm - 1am
- Friday, Aug 16, 2024 9pm - 1am
- Friday, Aug 23, 2024 9pm - 1am
- Friday, Aug 30, 2024 9pm - 1am

Love The '90s? Step back in time and groove to the beats of the '90s at our **'I Love the '90s Summer Pool Series** at Alibi Rooftop Pool. Dive into nostalgia with retro vibes, and refreshing poolside fun, making every summer day a throwback celebration!

- Saturday, Aug 10, 2024 12pm - 5pm
- Saturday, Aug 17, 2024 12pm - 5pm
- Saturday, Aug 24, 2024 12pm - 5pm
- Saturday, Aug 31, 2024 12pm - 5pm



UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2

Ocean Experience At The Science Center

An immersive, one-of-a-kind, adventure-driven touring exhibition designed to raise awareness for the world's oceans. (<https://azscience.org>)

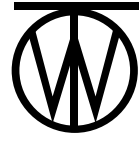
SEPTEMBER 6

Nautique Southwest Regatta

10:00am - September 8th, 2024 @ 8:00pm

London Bridge Resort
1477 Queens Bay
Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403
www.londonbridgeresort.com

Nautique has teamed up with The World Wake Association (WWA) once again to host world-class Nautique Regattas. These Regattas are an exclusive experience for Nautique boat owners and are FREE to all who attend. Quickly becoming annual traditions, these family-friendly events are full of action-packed fun on and off the water and create lasting memories and friendships. Activities include the ability to schedule a private demo with Nautique Team athletes, attend educational sessions, and the kids can participate in the GromFest event. Other activities include a weekend-long Poker Run, giveaways from the top brands in the industry and memorable times for all. Come see friends and make new ones as you enjoy the Nautique lifestyle! ■



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MEMBERSHIPS



AWARDS



2008 & 2013
AZGFC Media of the Year

2009 National Water Safety Congress Award of Merit

2016 AZGFC Writer Of The Year

THE FINE PRINT

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Our waterways are ready, but are you?

To learn more about boating safely in Arizona visit www.azgfd.gov/boating or call: 623-236-7258

**Wear a life jacket.
Every trip.
Every time.**

Under state law, life jackets are required to be worn by children 12 years old and younger, but it's strongly urged that everyone wear one while on the water. Life jackets save lives.

Before heading out on the water, it's important that boaters check to ensure that their life jackets are in good condition and that they are the right size and fit for passengers. Look for:

- Any rips or tears
- Missing straps
- Broken fasteners
- Ensure that the flotation hasn't shifted.

Life jackets should be inspected each boating season due to the environment's impact on their materials and replaced if necessary.

Register Your Watercraft

Make sure your vessel's registration is current before heading out on the water! Skip the line and renew your watercraft registration online at www.azgfd.gov/boating



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STACEY NEDROW-WIGMORE/BOATUS

Docking, anchoring, or rafting within 20 feet of boats running generators or engines increases the chances of carbon monoxide poisoning and possibly even death.

Four Safety Tips For Summer Boating

According to the nationwide TowBoatUS on-water towing fleet, the busiest time of the year for America's recreational boat owners is, hands down, the Fourth of July holiday period, which typically includes some days, even weeks, before and after the official holiday. It also may be the longest time many boaters will spend the day on the water at anchor, enjoying fishing holes and raft-ups. Are they ready?

The BoatUS Foundation for Boating Safety and Clean Water has four tips to help boaters spend time safely at anchor.

1. Be anchor smart. Before heading out, is your anchoring gear is up to snuff? Bitter end secured? You may not have used it yet this boating season, so be sure all is good to go for whatever anchoring arrangement – a picnic hook,



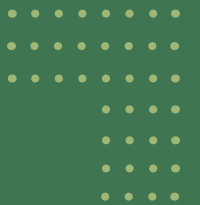
STACEY NEDROW-WIGMORE/BOATUS

Boaters will need to have patience during the summer holiday period, especially at launch ramps, says Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS)

SAFETY TIPS, continued on page 5

James Jenista, DDS

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BoatUS: Five Reasons To Thank Your Local ABYC Marine Tech

Here's to getting boat work done right – and keeping you safe on the water!

If there is one thing boaters all agree on, it's the need for quality marine service and repair work. At the heart of any good boat maintenance program is a qualified marine technician with the necessary training, knowledge and skills to tackle the job.

With the American Boat & Yacht Council (ABYC) celebrating its 2024 Outstanding Technician Award, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) thought it would be a good time to highlight the crucial role of an ABYC marine technician. ABYC sets the standards for the design, construction and repair of recreational boats, and technicians certified by ABYC follow these guidelines to ensure safety and quality in their work. BoatUS offers five excellent reasons (of many!) to thank your local ABYC Certified Marine Technician.

1. Stopping a silent killer: Carbon

monoxide detectors have an expiration date to comply with ABYC standards. Replacing your boat's expired unit will help protect your family against CO poisoning.

2. Preventing a potential sinking: Replacing the corrugated plastic bilge-pump hose they find in your boat with properly rated, smooth-walled hose to ensure your bilge pump can remove water as effectively as possible as described under ABYC standards.

3. Not allowing your boat's running gear to rot away: To prevent corrosion of your boat's underwater metal parts like shafts, propellers and outdrives, it's important to maintain the cathodic protection system. An ABYC Tech can regularly check and maintain this system to ensure it continues to work effectively.

4. Preventing an electrical fire: To ensure boat safety, it's crucial to use the right overcurrent protection, such as fuses



BOATUS

An ABYC technician can ensure your boat's electrical system, including critical shore power connections like this, are up to snuff.

and circuit breakers, according to ABYC standards. These devices prevent electrical wires from overheating or catching fire by limiting the maximum current they can safely handle.

5. Stopping a potential electric shock drowning before it happens: Adding an electrical-leakage circuit interrupter



ABYC

An ABYC technician can ensure critical running gear doesn't rot away like this outboard motor mount.

(ELCI) to your shore power system is required by ABYC standards on new boats. This will protect against possible AC stray-current issues that could lead to electric shock drowning in a worst-case scenario.

To learn more about ABYC standards for recreational boats, or to find an ABYC certified professional marine technician, go to abycinc.org/boaters. ■

AZGFD Cautions Boaters, OHV Users During Monsoon

Monsoon weather has arrived, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD) cautions boaters, anglers and off-highway vehicle (OHV) users that weather conditions can quickly change and become dangerous.

The severity of monsoon storms can range from a minor dust storm to a violent thunderstorm capable of producing hail, deadly lightning and flash flooding.

"Arizona is known for its often unbearable summer heat; it's also known for great places to get outdoors, whether that's on an OHV in the high country or one of our many lakes or rivers," said Josh Hoffman, boating safety education coordinator.

"It's important that people keep the day's weather in mind, however. If severe weather is likely, or storms are starting to build up around you, it's a good time to safely get off the water or trails and head indoors."

Paddlers, whether in a kayak, canoe, or on a stand-up paddle board (SUP), should pay close attention to the weather, as they can be more vulnerable to dangerous monsoon weather.

AZGFD Offers The Following Advice To Protect Those Recreating During A Monsoon:

When On A Boat, Personal Watercraft Or Paddle Board —



- While life jackets are legally required for anyone under 12, everyone should wear a life jacket at all times while on the water. Storms can create large waves that could knock a passenger from the boat. A life jacket does you no good if it's stowed when you're thrown.

- Monitor the weather and use a weather radio or a weather app for updates from the National Weather Service. If storms are predicted, or are building, pull the boat out of the water or consider postponing the outing.

- Secure all gear above and below deck. If you are on a paddle craft, rig for a flip.

- Keep everyone aboard away from electrical and ungrounded components, and remain as low in the boat as possible.

- If there is lightning, disconnect all

SAFETY TIPS

Continued from page 4

extra fenders for a raft-up, or shoreside tie-up requiring a second line. When arriving to your celebration spot and setting anchor, ensure you let out enough scope for the depth and predicted weather conditions. Show some courtesy if things get crowded. On the other hand, don't be that guy who runs into an anchorage throwing a wake or who is completely oblivious to those around him.

2. Avoid CO poisoning. Generators give boaters the creature comforts they want. However, don't run the generator if you've got swimmers in the water at the back of the boat – a common place for guests to congregate on floats and pool toys. This is where exhaust ports often located, spewing dangerous, odorless carbon monoxide.

3. Don't stress it. It's a long day on

the water. Be careful with stressors including noise, vibration, sun, wind, waves and other motion. U.S. Coast Guard research shows that four hours of exposure to these can produce a kind of fatigue, or "boater's hypnosis," which slows reaction time almost as much as if you were legally drunk. Adding alcohol makes it worse.

For your boat, don't stress your battery playing music all day. TowBoatUS reports calls to its 24-hour dispatch for battery jump services surge – as if on cue – just when boaters want to head home.

4. Get home safely. Before departing an anchorage, wait to turn on the engine until everyone is back aboard and ladder is up, and proceed with utmost caution. It's always better to wait a few minutes for everyone to clear out and give a chance for wakes to subside before departing. Be patient and, again, give as much courtesy as you can. Everyone aboard should be acting as a lookout. Never take a shortcut home after dark ■

electrical equipment. Stay clear of metal objects as much as possible.

- Slow down, but keep enough power to maintain headway and steering.

- Turn on navigation lights.

- If possible, head for the nearest shore that is safe to approach. It might be best to ride out the storm in open water rather

than try to approach the shore in heavy wind and waves. But never try to ride out a storm in a paddle craft.

- Boats should head the bow into waves at a 45-degree angle. Personal watercraft should head directly into the waves.

MONSOON, continued on page 7

Will Your Emergency PLB or EPIRB Work When You Need It?

Be sure to check the battery expiration date located on the case of your Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) or EPIRB. Most sets have a 5 years replacement date.

WE CAN HELP!

Maritime Communications, Inc. is an authorized ACR Battery Replacement center.

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Jerelyn Biehl Honored With Women's Sailing Award

Educator improved education and competitive racing for girls and women.

DEBBIE HUNTSMAN
NWSA VICE PRESIDENT

The youngest of three children, Jerelyn Biehl was born into a sailing family. She learned sailing from her parents and as a teenager absorbed all things boating at her father's marine store. She shared sailing with kids during summers in high school and college. After competing for the University of California, Los Angeles Sailing Team, she met her husband on the race-course. They fostered a love of sailing in their sons, Graham (a two-time Olympian) and Cameron (a world champion).

Educating, Enriching

At the 2024 National Women's Sailing Conference held at the Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans, Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS) and the National Women's Sailing Association (NWSA) honored Biehl with the Leadership in Women's Sailing Award, recognizing her record of achievement in inspiring, educating and enriching the lives of women through sailing.

Biehl has supported women's and girls' sailing for more than 40 years at the local, national and international levels. Recognizing the influence of role models, she served as a board member of the California International Sailing Association (CISA), which held an annual advanced racing clinic. She and CISA worked hard to ensure there were female coaches and instructors to encourage and teach high-level sailing skills to girls.

Small Team Made Skiff Happen

Biehl worked to create more recog-



Jerelyn Biehl, commodore of San Diego Yacht Club, on Opening Day 2019.

...nition and support for girls' racing in the 29er class, which eventually led to a change in the World Sailing requirements for women's Sailing World Championships, which had been too restrictive. Around the same time, the International Sailing Federation (ISAF), now World Sailing, was looking for a women's skiff to complement the men's skiff in the Olympics. Biehl and a small team worked tirelessly to make this happen.

In 2019, as the second female commodore of the San Diego Yacht Club, Biehl made a concerted effort to promote women's involvement that year. The majority of club committees were chaired by women, and she introduced a "Sail with the Commodore" series that helped train women who had never raced or had little racing experience. They were given working roles on boats to build their sailing skills. The program also trained and encouraged 130 women to take their boats to Catalina Island for the club's first women's cruise.

Goal Of Getting Boaters To Stretch

She was also involved with the 49erFX Class Association, served as CISA president and board member, was on the US Sailing Olympic Sailing Committee, and



In 2019, as San Diego Yacht Club commodore, Jerelyn Biehl introduced a "Sail with the Commodore" series, which trained and encouraged 130 women sailors to take their boats to Catalina Island for the club's first women's cruise.

was US Sailing interim vice president.

"Jerelyn Biehl has taken on roles that assisted in assuring quality education and fairness in racing, with the goal of attracting more women to the variety of competitive Olympic classes or getting recreational boaters to stretch their comfort zone," noted NWSA president Debby Grimm.

One Of Many Recognitions

The 2024 BoatUS/NWSA Leadership in Sailing Award is only one in a long list of recognitions Biehl has received, including a 2022 induction into the International Snipe Class Hall of Fame, the 2002 US Sailing One Design Leadership Award of the Southern California Yachting Association, and two San Diego Association of Yacht Clubs awards.

Biehl continues her positions as vice

commodore of San Diego Association of Yacht Clubs, SDYC Sailing Foundation Board president, and CISA board member. She resides in San Diego, California.

Thankful Over All These Years

Upon notification of the award, Biehl said, "I can't express how thankful I am to have had all the volunteers and fellow women sailors with me over these years to make such progress. We finally have 50/50 representation in sailing in the Olympics! I'm very grateful for the people who surrounded and supported me, including my parents and family, the members of San Diego Yacht Club, and many friends I've had the pleasure to race and work with."

For information on past award recipients, visit womensailing.org/leadership-in-womens-sailing-award. ■

Boating Plaques Are For Safety Or A Chuckle

Just as there are serious moments on a boat, especially when safety is involved, there's always a place for humor. With Fun and Informational Plaques from Bernard Engraving, it's simple to add important messaging that keeps people secure or elicits a chuckle.

With over 100 funny and catchy phrases to choose from, Fun Plaques cover all



the bases, from boats to parties to "official" notices regarding the role of spouses and the chain of command. They have attractive gold foil lettering and nautical borders against a black ABS plastic background, or white on a red background for some versions. Each has an adhesive backing strip for easy mounting on virtually any solid surface.

For commercial vessels, Bernard Engraving offers a range of standardized Informational Plaques to conform with US Coast Guard requirements and recom-

mendations. Colors range from black and white to high-visibility yellow, orange and red, depending on the plaque.

MSRP varies, with Fun Plaques starting at \$4.17. Bernard Engraving also offers over 150 smaller Identification Plates that are useful for labeling onboard systems, equipment and storage.

Contact local dealers or Bernard Engraving, P.O. Box 320034, Fairfield, CT 06825. 800-654-2094; sales@bernardengraving.com; www.bernardengraving.com. ■

THE SOLUTION

Opening a tightly sealed deck plate can be challenging. And using a makeshift tool, such as a screwdriver, risks damaging anything it contacts if it slips. The solution is the DPA-4 Deck Plate Key from Beckson Marine. This three-in-one multi-purpose tool makes loosening screw-out, pry-out and twist-out deck plates fast and effortless. orderdesk@beckson.com

MONSOON

Continued from page 5

- For more information on boating in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.com/Boating/.
- When On A Shoreline, Or Operating An OHV —
- Always wear proper safety gear, including a helmet, eye protection, long-sleeve shirt, pants, over-the-ankle boots, and gloves.
- Seek shelter indoors if storms are developing, or are nearby.
- Never cross running water. While it can look shallow, it might be deep enough that it could push the vehicle downstream or get it stuck in loose sediment.
- Drive slowly to not lose control on muddied trails.
- To avoid being struck by lightning, avoid open fields, high ground, trees, poles or other tall objects, and standing bodies of water.
- Be aware of, and avoid, flash-flood zones.
- For more information on riding an OHV in Arizona, visit www.azgfd.com/OHV/. ■

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As a college English teacher, editor, and writer of both fiction and non-fiction for many years, I am available online (or by U.S. mail) for tutoring, editing, proofreading, copyediting, and writing. I have skills in academic research at both high school and college levels and can also assist those working toward their GEDs, those who need help with resumes, and with both advertising and proposals.

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Arizona Has Several Trout Species

Rainbows are most abundant.

BY MARGIE ANDERSON

Most of the trout in Arizona are stocked fish, which means that trout fishing is mostly a “put and take” game. The Arizona Game and Fish Department puts the trout in, and we take them out. Most of the fish that are stocked are small, what the Game and Fish calls “catchable” trout, but some of our lakes and streams have genuine trophy fish, and the Game and Fish Department usually throws in a couple of bigger fish in each stocking just to give you an incentive to fish.

Rainbows are probably our most abundant trout, but we also have brook trout, brown trout, cutthroat, Apache trout, and some native trout. The native trout include Apache, Brown, Brook, Gila and



This is Tony G, who took us to Papago Park to teach us how to fly cast. A nice open lake like this is ideal when you're learning, so you don't have as much risk of putting your fly in a tree right away.



This guy is proud of the trout he caught, and no doubt it will make a delicious dinner.



These two trout fishermen are fishing on Becker Lake, which also has a beautiful nature trail. A great summer getaway.

Rainbow trout. Each kind of trout has different characteristics and preferences. Knowing something about these preferences can help you find and catch these fish on a regular basis.

Brook Trout

This fish got its name because of its preference for small streams, but it can also be found in cold-water ponds and lakes. Bright red spots with blue outlines mark the brook trout's sides, and they have dark lines on their backs and dorsal fins. Their tails are somewhat square. Brook trout need colder water than rainbows or browns. Brook trout usually stay near the bottom of pools and streams, especially when the surface water is warm, but when they go on a feeding frenzy they will rise to a fly.

Brook trout will also take all kinds of insects, nightcrawlers, and minnows. To catch brook trout, your best bet is to use something small and keep it near the bottom unless you see fish breaking the surface. You can find brook trout in the colder lakes in the north country, like some of the rim lakes and the White Mountain lakes, and also in the Black River.

Brown Trout

Brown trout can tolerate water a little warmer than brook trout like, so they can be found in a few places that can't support brook trout. Brown trout are golden brown with some orange and red spots on their sides. Fly-fishermen can catch browns on dry flies when fish are rising, or on streamers and bucktails fished close to the bottom in pools or lakes. Brown trout will also take nightcrawlers and other baits.



Cutthroat Trout

Apache Trout

Apache trout are gold-colored trout that inhabit clear, cool streams in the White Mountains. They are native to the upper Salt River watershed (Black and White rivers) and the upper Little Colorado River watershed. Some of the White Mountain Apache lakes have Apache Trout, and you can visit the White Mountain Game and Fish department at www.wmatoutdoor.org, or call the office at (928)338-4385.

Apache trout are like yellow rainbow trout, says the Arizona Game and Fish Department, so fish for them like you would rainbows.

From The Game And Fish Department “For those anglers targeting Apache Trout or Gila Trout in Arizona, the Ari-

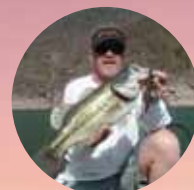
zona Game and Fish Department asks that they please take the time to fill out the survey form on the Game and Fish website after each fishing trip targeting Apache Trout or Gila Trout. You can find it easily by going to www.azgfd.com, then putting Apache Trout in the search bar. The form collects information on when and where anglers fished for Apache Trout or Gila Trout, the type of fishing gear they used, and how many fish they caught. Filling out this survey is completely voluntary and responses are completely anonymous. This information will be used by the Arizona Game and Fish Department to better manage Apache Trout and Gila Trout in Arizona.”

Cutthroat Trout

Cutthroat trout are easily identifiable by the red mark on their chins that makes it look as though their throat had been cut. They are a distant relation of the rainbow trout, but less active. They rarely jump, and are very shy. To catch one you need to keep your line light and your hooks and lures small.

Cutthroats are cold-water fish that don't take to temperature extremes, and when in the same streams as rainbows, they'll be in the pools and eddies. Try bucktails and streamers, or small baits like pieces of nightcrawlers or Berkley Power Bait.

TROUT, continued on page 10



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AZGFD Begins Rulemaking Process To Amend Its Article 4 (Live Wildlife) Rules

Public comment accepted through Aug. 8. Also for review are fishing regs.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has issued a Notice of Intent to Pursue Rulemaking to begin the process to amend its Article 4 rules (live wildlife) to implement the recommendations made in the recent five-year review report.

The amendments proposed in the five-year review report are intended to increase the effectiveness of the rules to meet the department's mission, ensure consistency with state and federal statutes, and to increase the clarity of the existing rules.

Except for the amendments proposed for the rule that allows the possession of live wildlife taken under a hunting or fishing license rule, the department does not believe any of the proposed changes will increase the regulatory burden beyond that which is already required, and



Apache Trout

will instead serve the goal of simplifying processes, increasing the understandability of the rules, and increasing public accessibility for department services. After evaluating the scope and effectiveness of the proposed amendments specified in the review, additional amendments may be proposed.

The department will accept written comments regarding the live wildlife rules for 30 days, ending on Aug. 8, 2024.

Visit www.azgfd.gov/rulemaking to view the Article 4 rules (click on the link to the AZGFD Laws and Rules Book) and the Article 4 five-year review report.



Catfish

All questions or comments about the Article 4 rules can be submitted to rulemaking@azgfd.gov or via the online comment form.

AZGFD Seeks Public Input On Proposed Changes To 2025-26 Arizona Fishing Regulations

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is seeking public input on proposed changes to the 2025-26 Arizona fishing regulations. The proposed changes are:

- Create unlimited daily bag and pos-



Crappie

session limits for illegally introduced warmwater fish in Becker Lake.

- Close KP Creek to angling to protect recently introduced Gila trout.

ARTICLE 4, continued on page 15

TROUT

Continued from page 9

Rainbow Trout

This is our most abundant trout, and just about any water that is cold enough has rainbows. The Game and Fish Department even stocks rainbows in the Urban Lakes of Phoenix and Tucson during the winter months, and the Salt River just below Saguaro Lake has rainbows all year long. Some other southeastern and central waters that have trout include Parker Canyon Lake, Rose Canyon, Riggs Flat, and Apache Lake.

When trout are rising, dry flies will take rainbows, but since they don't like water much over 60 degrees, they'll stay down when the surface temperatures start getting warm. Streamers fished on the bottom can be productive in summer, and so can small, deep-diving crankbaits and spoons. In-line spinners are always popular trout lures, but remember to fish them near the bottom in warm weather. There won't usually be many fish in the middle waters.

Still Fishing

Trout also take well to still fishing. Try putting a small hook on 4- to 6-pound-test line with a tiny split shot about a foot to a foot and a half up the line. For bait, you can hardly beat the old standbys like Berkley Power Bait, marshmallows, corn, and salmon eggs. Cast your bait out to a likely spot, then set the pole down. Propping your pole up on a rock so the line is up in the air a little will help you keep a

better eye on the line.

Once your bait sinks to the bottom, reel up the slack in your line and just leave your pole alone. Trout can bite so lightly that the movements of your hand holding the rod will make you miss a bite. I just leave the pole propped up on a rock or something and watch the line constantly. If the line starts to get slack in it, or it jumps a little or moves off to the side, set the hook! I hate to admit it, but about 50% of the time those trout manage to pick me clean without getting hooked. It's a good idea to take plenty of bait along on any trout fishing expedition.

Fishing In Streams

Fishing in streams is a little different. Since staying put in fast water takes a lot of energy, most fish will be in slower areas like in front of and behind rocks and other obstacles, and in the slower currents in deep water holes and undercut banks. In really deep pools, the fish will mostly be on the bottom. If the weather is cool and the surface temperature is low, you can sometimes get trout to rise to a dry fly, but if it is warm you will be better off fishing the bottom.

When you are fishing a stream, it pays to be stealthy. Creep up softly because stomping along the creek bank will alert everything in the water to your presence. Cast your lure or bait along the banks and upstream from any good-looking spot. Let the current carry your offering to the trout--it looks more natural that way.

A Tip From Fly Fishermen

If you are using a very light bait like a salmon egg with no weight, take a tip

from fly fishermen and put a strike indicator on your line. This is a brightly-colored floating piece of foam that sticks on your line. When a fish takes your lure, the indicator dips under the surface. It's like a bobber for stream fishermen, and you can get them at tackle shops.

Current in streams is a little slower on the bottom and along the banks because of the friction from the earth and stones. Current usually digs a hole in front of and behind obstacles like rocks and trees, and the bigger these holes are, the more fish they may hold. The eddy downstream from the obstacle will usually be better. Actually, most of a stream is water that probably won't hold fish, so you need to keep moving and casting to good spots to catch trout.

Tough In Traffic Areas

Any place that gets a lot of traffic is probably a tough place to catch good fish. In lakes and pools, your best bet is to fish the bottom all the time, unless there is a hatch going on. And when this happens, the fly-fishermen will beat out the spinning gear team every time. If you prefer to use spinning gear, stick to light line and deep-running lures or baits that you can put on the bottom.

In warmer weather, early in the morning or late in the evening are the best times for trout fishing. Remember that trout are cold-water fish, and they really don't like it when the water is up in the sixties. They will stay near the bottom most of the time, and only come up shallow to eat when the surface temperature goes down.

Not Just A Top-Water Thing

If you are not a fly-fisherman, you may think that fly-fishing is strictly a top-water thing. This is far from true. Streamers, nymphs, and bucktails are some of the flies that are fished deep, and sinking fly lines get them down there. Fly-fishing looks very complicated and difficult at first, but it really isn't. When you are starting out, you can get a fly-fishing outfit that includes the rod, reel, line, leaders, instructions, and even a fly. Loomis makes a good kit, and so do several other manufacturers. For our little stocked trout, a size 4 to 6 outfit will do nicely.

The basic fly cast is actually pretty easy to do--you just have to practice a little. The biggest difficulty for a person who is used to fishing spinning or bait-casting gear is to get used to the notion that you are actually casting the line, not the lure. If you snap your wrist like you do with your bass gear, you'll snap the fly

right off the line. The best way to learn to fly fish is to take some instructions from someone who really knows his stuff. There are a lot of good fly-fishing shops in Arizona, and there are also fly-fishing clubs. Arizona Fly Casters (<https://azflycasters.org/>) is one, and they have monthly meetings with speakers and instructions, as well as fly-fishing outings.

Good Trout Waters Near You

No matter what part of Arizona you live in or visit, chances are there are good trout waters somewhere near you. So whether you like fly-fishing, spinning a stream, or just relaxing on the bank soaking corn, you can have a great time catching Arizona trout. The Arizona Game and Fish Department always knows where the trout are biting, so if you want to know the hottest spots, give your local office a call.

Arizona's Trout Challenge

The Game and Fish website has this to say about Arizona's native trout: Arizona's Trout Challenge Program was developed to encourage anglers to learn more about fishing opportunities in the state. Arizona Game and Fish Department manages many waters statewide to provide anglers the opportunity to catch several different species of trout, including two found only in the Southwest, Gila Trout and Apache Trout. There are two ways to complete the challenge —

Catch all five species of wild trout in Arizona. These species include Apache, Brown, Brook, Gila and Rainbow trout. *Anglers who completed the wild trout challenge without a Gila Trout while the Gila Trout requirement was suspended may submit a photo of a wild Gila Trout they catch for verification along with the stream it was caught at, date caught, and gear type used (fly or lure) to the email or mailing address listed below. You do not need to re-submit the full application. After the Gila Trout is verified it will be added to your certificate and a new wild trout challenge certificate will be issued.

Catch at least six of the eight total species in Arizona (including hatchery-raised trout): Gila, Apache, Brown, Brook, Rainbow, Grayling, Cutthroat, and Tiger trout.

You can get all the details about the Trout Challenge, plus the application form on the Arizona Game and Fish website at <https://www.azgfd.com/fishing-2/fishing-challenges/azgfd-trout-challenge/>

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CAMPING TIPS

Continued from page 1

your gear as inexpensive as possible. Fortunately, there are a lot of good, inexpensive tents, sleeping bags, stoves, and other necessities available. You may even be able to borrow some of what you need from family or friends.

Camp In Your Back Yard

One way to find out what you need and what you don't need is to do a trial run – camp out in your back yard and see how it goes. This is also a great way to make sure you know how to set up and knock down your tent. Those pop-up tents in particular set up instantly, but there is definitely a learning curve when it comes to folding them back up. A good online video is the best way to learn that. You may not have any cell service where you are camped, so it's best to master the tent at home.

On your trial run, set up your tent, roll out your sleeping bags, and do all the cooking outside. You'll soon discover what's essential and what you can leave home. If you plan to bring your dog along, the trial run is the perfect time to get him or her used to the tent. Some pups are hesitant to go into the tent at first. Just be patient and give him time. Our little French Brittany was a bit spooked by the way the tent popped up, but once we climbed inside she came right in. She's a great little camper now.

National Forests

There are commercial campgrounds that you can set up in, and there are also pay-per-site campgrounds in National Forests, National Parks, and State Parks. These usually have nice flat smooth areas for your tent, as well as tables, fire pits and grills, drinking water, and restrooms.

National Forest Explorer

The US Forest Service has an app you

can download called National Forest Explorer. Be sure to open the app and click on the forest you plan to visit – there may be information that needs to be downloaded in order to be current, and you'll want to do that while you have Wi-Fi. We generally prefer dispersed camping, which is simply finding a place in the woods off the road where we can set up the tent and spend the night, but you still need to know of any special regulations that are in effect.

I strongly suggest you visit the National Forest website if you plan to camp in one. For instance, in Arizona we often have long periods of time when all campfires and even charcoal fires are forbidden on all the National Forests in the state, whether you are in a developed campground or not. This is common during forest fire season. No worries there – even though it's a bummer not to be able to sit around the campfire at night, a simple Coleman propane stove means you can still have a hot meal and your morning coffee. You can even toast marshmallows over the gas flame.

Camping With Dogs

In addition to making sure your dog is okay with being in the tent, common sense rules apply when bringing your dog along. Be sure to check to see if dogs are allowed if you are planning to stay in a campground. If he is noisy or aggressive, leave him home if you are in a developed campground. Also, keep your dog leashed at all times. It's the law in campgrounds, but even when we are camped out in the woods by ourselves, we keep our dog on a leash. One way to give them a bit more freedom while on a leash is to string a rope between a couple of trees and connect the leash to that – they can run back and forth that way.

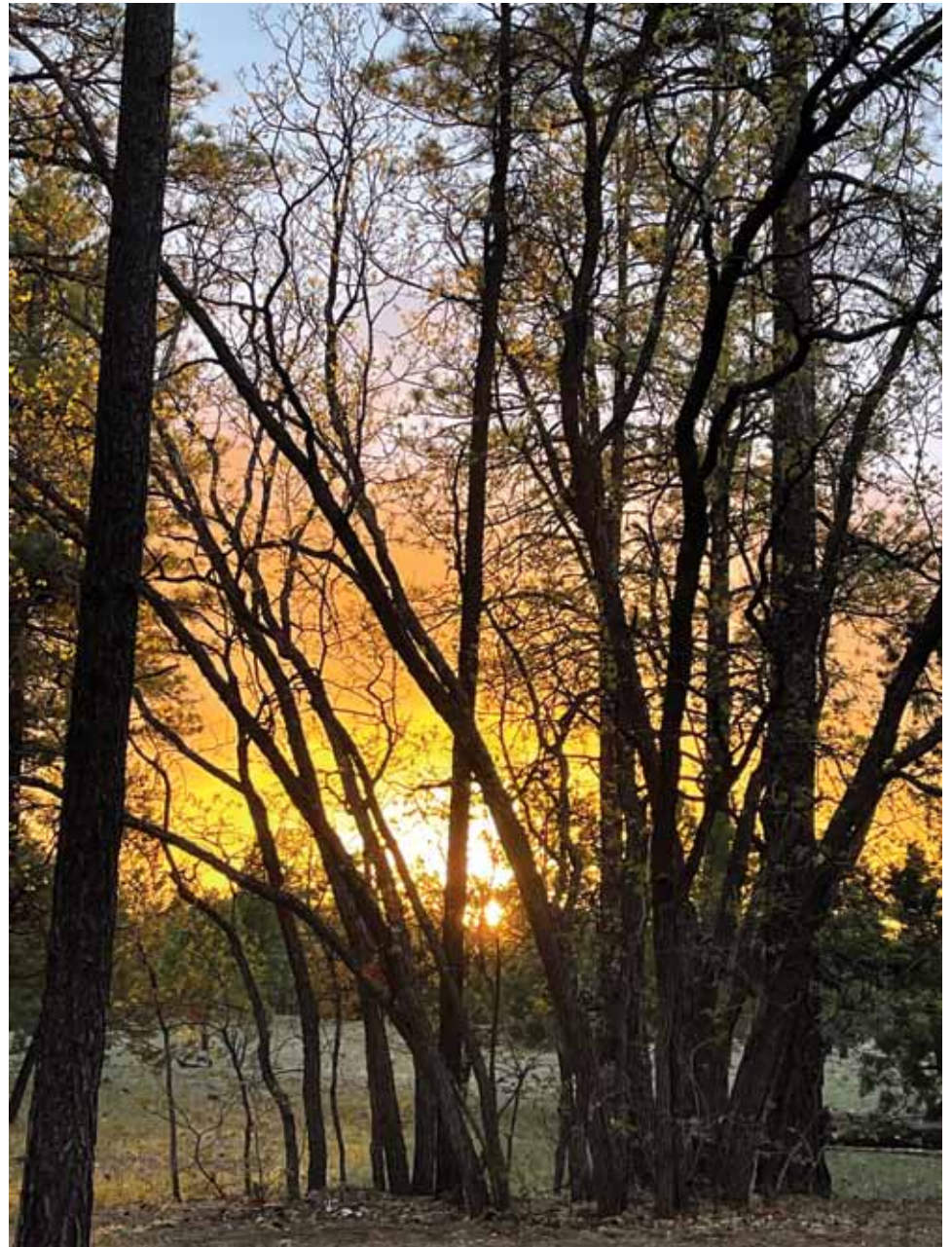
You Never Know

Even if you feel sure your dog will stay with you, you never know what he will do if he sees another animal close by. You don't want any encounters with skunks or porcupines or bears. Make sure your dog can't reach the cooking area or knock down the tent – string his tether line up close to you but far enough away to avoid catastrophe.

Don't leave your dog's food out overnight because it might attract skunks or raccoons or even bears. If your dog doesn't behave well in the tent, try letting him sleep in the car – maybe in a crate. Bring along his own bed from home and put it in the tent or wherever he is going to sleep. He'll feel calmer with the familiar smell and feel of his bed. Don't forget to take him for walks as well – the forest is just as much fun for him as it is for you.

Not Alone, Please

Don't leave your dog alone in the campsite if you leave, even if he is in a crate, especially in a developed campground – he may cry or bark the entire



Nothing beats watching the sunrise through the trees from your nice warm sleeping bag.

time he's alone, and you could be asked to leave. When we took our little Brittany on her first campout and she was great – she slept at our feet in the tent all night (on her bed from home) and we never heard a peep out of her.

Fun Stuff To Do With Kids

One of the major reasons people want to camp is to spend time with their kids. Kids absolutely love to camp – and it's a great opportunity to get to know them better and even teach them things that they will think are great fun. My dad was a Chippewa Indian and he started taking us camping almost as soon as we could walk. Some of my favorite memories are of sitting around the fire, taking turns telling stories. He also used camping trips as an opportunity to teach us valuable skills, and you can teach your kids these same skills, like map reading and survival skills.

Maps: A Crucial Skill

If you don't know any survival skills, this is the ideal time to learn them along with your kids. Reading a map is a crucial skill that many people think is no longer necessary. All the maps you need are on your phone, right? But phones die. Paper maps don't.

If you're in the woods and not in a developed campground, you can just hike down the Jeep trails near your campsite. You can use your map to locate springs and tunnels and things nearby.

Benchmarkers

One thing my dad and I always did was look for benchmarkers. These are marked on maps with a number and the letters BM. You'll know when you find one because usually out in the middle of nowhere they are metal disks set in concrete. We always take a photo and circle them on the map when we find them. Dad used to set up little treasure hunts with us using the map – pretty simple ones, but we felt very accomplished when we got to the goal and found the reward – which could be as simple as a waterproof note-



A benchmarker: I find them everywhere!

book and pencil, or even a new compass of our own.

One of the most fun things kids can do is build shelters. You're not usually allowed to cut trees or branches without a permit on national or state land, but there are almost always plenty of big branches and lots of brush around that you can drag to your building site. The great thing about kids building shelters is that it's fun, but it also wears them out so they'll sleep well at night. If they do a good enough job, maybe they can sleep in their shelter!

Simple Shelters

The shelter can be a simple lean-to or even a teepee – whatever strikes the kids' fancy. Make sure they get into the habit of kicking branches and logs over with their feet instead of using their hands so they can check for bugs and critters. If the branches or small logs are too long, you can help cut them to the right length. I've never known a kid that didn't love building his or her own shelter. Usually the branches aren't big and heavy, but it still pays to check for sturdiness before letting them sleep inside.

Another valuable skill to teach your kids is how to build a fire. If fires are forbidden, of course, you can't do this right now, but the time will come when fires are allowed again. Get some non-match ways

CAMPING TIPS, continued on page 14

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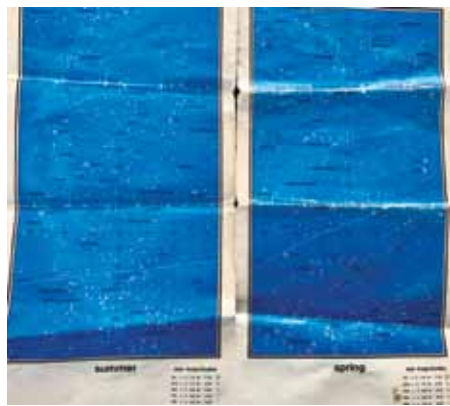
CAMPING TIPS

Continued from page 12

to start a fire and teach your kids how to use them. I taught my granddaughters how to use a simple striker tool out on the back patio with some cotton balls for tinder. Kids feel like a pioneer when you let them build the fire without matches. Find some dry grass or peel off the fibers under the bark on your shelter logs for tinder. Once they get a spark on the tinder, you can use a GoFire packet to keep it going long enough to get some wood on it.

Incredible Stars

When the sun goes down, the stars are absolutely incredible, especially if you are used to seeing the night sky over a big city. My dad always brought the star chart along on camping trips, and he taught us to recognize the north star and many constellations. He even told us the myths behind the constellation names. Believe it or not, this skill came in very handy one dark night on Bartlett Lake, long ago before the road in was paved and the shore was pitch black at night. I was able to navigate us back to the ramp using just the lake map and the stars. The star chart in the photos is the one my dad taught us with, and it's



My star chart might be old, but it still does the trick!

pretty beat up but it still works. You just stand facing south (again, the compass comes in handy) and hold the chart up. The chart shows how the sky looks when it first gets dark. You can find all kinds of star charts online and in map stores.

If your tent is big, you can use the side of it as a movie screen at night. Or you can tie a sheet up to a rope stretched between two trees. We have a tiny projector that plugs into an iPhone so that we can project movies onto anything we want. A little Bluetooth speaker lets us all hear the soundtrack. When it's time for bed, a simple little lantern with a nightlight function is a great thing to have for the kids. If they need to get up in the night, they can easily find the lantern and light their way.

When Nature Calls

By the way, if you need a latrine, a five gallon bucket with a trash bag liner and some cat litter inside works great. Just slice a pool noodle and push it down over the edge of the bucket for a seat that also holds the bag in place. You can just seal up the whole bag and dispose of it when you find a trash can.

Speaking of trash – many campgrounds do not have trash service, and of course you have no trash service if you are out in the woods on your own. You have to take all your trash home with you. My policy is to reduce the amount of trash we make to the bare minimum. We don't use paper plates or cups (if fires are allowed though, you can burn these) – we have lightweight camping tableware that is easy to clean and store.

Minimize The Throw-Away Stuff

I try to open all food packages at home and pack the food in hard containers with watertight lids. That way I can put them in the cooler and nothing gets wet or crushed, plus I don't have trash to deal with. When the contents are eaten, the containers stack and store easily. We each have our own water containers – in-



Our camping gear is compact and easy to pack, but keeps us comfortable and well fed.



A lightweight set of camping dishes cuts down on trash is a lot easier to eat off of than paper plates.

ulated bottles – and we fill them from a big Stanley jug with a lid that latches on so it won't spill even if it tips over in the back of the truck.

We also bring some collapsible 5-gallon water jugs for things like washing hands and dishes. I make coffee with a JetBoil. It boils the water in about a minute and a half, and I have a Stanley French press. We use Stanley insulated coffee mugs so the coffee stays nice and hot. The mugs look more like glasses, so they fit in the car drink carriers too – and they won't spill.



The JetBoil boils water in 90 seconds so I can have the coffee going FAST. I also use it to rehydrate our backpacking meals.

Plan Ahead For The Perfect Getaway

Whether it's a chance to get out of the house and stretch your legs, or just to relax in the woods with your kids, a camping trip is the perfect getaway. Do a little planning beforehand and you'll have a great time.

Final Tips And Advice

One thing we learned about camping is that your sleep area needs to be comfortable or you'll have a miserable experience. We tried inflatable pillows and they were awful, so now we just use regular bed pillows – use Space Bags to make them easy to pack. A small throw blanket is great if it's really cold – you can use it to keep your head warm. A decent sleep-

ing pad is essential as well, so you don't end up with rocks poking you in the back all night. If your tent is big enough, you can even use one of those pump-up mattresses. I have a very small battery operated pump that is perfect for blowing up the mattress on a camping trip. Hammocks are good, too, if you don't fall out.

Sleeping bags are rated by temperature. For instance, the Cinch 40° by ALPS Mountaineering is designed to keep you warm in temperatures down to 40°. Be sure to get one that is rated for where you will be.

Get a duffel bag and designate it as a camping bag. Put the table ware, camp cooking set, utensils, paper towels, foil, matches, toilet paper – all the basics – in that bag so all you have to do before a trip is check the bag, then toss it in the truck with your tent, chairs, and bedding.

When you set up the tent, keep the screens zipped so flying insects don't get in before you do.

Try to get dinner and dishes done before dark. It's so much easier. There are lots of great ideas for camp dinners online, and many of them can be wrapped in foil so there is virtually no clean-up. Just crumple the foil up and toss in your trash bag. Be sure to lock the trash in the vehicle at night to keep animals away.

To help keep trash at a minimum, invest \$32 in a GSI Outdoors Cascadian 4-person Table Set. You can get a set where each place setting is a different color. You get a plate, bowl, and cup for everyone. They are light and easy to pack and clean. Store them in your camping bag. Find one at <https://shorturl.at/cyaeu>

Don't forget to pack flashlights for those bathroom trips at night. Also, keep a pair of flip-flops handy so you don't have to try to put your shoes on or walk barefoot in the dark.

Try to keep your camp as electronics-free as possible. You can't reconnect if everyone is buried in their phones.

You can't count on there being conveniently placed logs and stumps at your campsite, so having some **folding camp chairs** is a good idea. RIO has some excellent chairs starting at under \$40. We also have a little folding table with a nylon top that we bring along.

A cheap ice chest is almost worse than no ice chest at all. Also, you will probably need more room than you think so buy a good-sized ice chest. Freezing a couple of jugs of water will not only help keep the cooler cold, you can drink it as it melts and it won't get all your food wet.

Even if you're allowed to have a fire, you're still going to want to have a nice camp stove. Fires get pans so dirty, and that soot is hard to clean off. Coleman has been making great camp stoves for decades, and they have lots of different sizes and styles. You might also want to get a small backpacker stove like the JetBoil so you can always have water going for coffee and cocoa and doing dishes. ■

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TripleWall Productions specialize in outdoor video production as well as all your video-production needs.

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Create Summer Memories At Arizona State Parks

Arizonans know we're in the midst of another scorching summer, but that doesn't mean you have to stay inside soaking up the A/C. Get outside this summer and cool off in the high country or enjoy the refreshing waters of our lakes and rivers. Remember to prioritize heat safety by staying hydrated, wearing sunscreen, and planning your activities during cooler parts of the day. Escape the heat while enjoying the great outdoors. Epic summer memories rarely happen from the couch.

Whether you're a seasoned outdoor enthusiast or trying a new activity for the first time, Arizona's state parks offer so many opportunities to connect with nature and create unforgettable summer memories. Dive in, explore more, and let the adventure begin!

Flutter Into Adventure

Discover the vibrant world of Arizona's butterflies

Discover the vibrant world of Arizona's butterflies! With over 330 species, Arizona showcases a stunning variety



of these delicate pollinators. Visit parks like Red Rock, Kartchner Caverns, and Tonto Natural Bridge to see monarchs, swallowtails, and more. You'll be amazed by nature's vivid colors and watch in wonder

as Arizona's butterflies bring simple beauty and a relaxing charm to all that take a moment to appreciate them. Plan your visit and experience the magic of these beautiful creatures today.

Roper Lake State Park

Escape the summer heat.

Escape the summer heat and discover the serene beauty of Roper Lake State Park, where you can enjoy a refreshing dip in the lake, fantastic fishing, and a variety of other great outdoor activities. Nestled near the base of Mt. Graham, Roper Lake offers a peaceful campground



and cozy cabins, perfect for unwinding after a day of adventure. Whether you're casting a line for bass, catfish, or bluegill, or exploring the lake via personal watercraft, Roper Lake promises memorable outdoor experiences throughout the year.

Plus, the park is a birder's paradise, with diverse avian species to enjoy throughout the seasons.

When the summer sun becomes too intense, the cool pines of Mt. Graham are

MEMORIES, continued on page 18

Buy One, Get One Camping Promotion Returns To Maricopa County's Regional Parks

(Maricopa County) – Who's ready to enjoy a free night's stay in one of Maricopa County's regional parks? Starting September 18, the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department is bringing back its popular Buy One, Get One camping promotion! The promotion allows park visitors who pay the camping fee for one night or more at a participating desert mountain county park to receive one night of equal or lesser value for **free** during that same stay.

"Maricopa County is home to 12 beautiful regional parks where residents and visitors alike can enjoy activities like boating, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, and camping," said Chairman Jack Sellers, who represents the East Valley communities of District 1 on the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors. "You don't have to wait until temperatures cool down to start planning your fall camping trip - take advantage of the 'Buy One, Get One' camping promotion being offered now at four of the County's regional parks to set aside time for exploring nature and spending time with your loved ones."

"We're excited to announce that the Buy One, Get One camping promotion will be returning this fall. Last year, we adjusted the campaign dates a bit to allow everyone to take advantage of the promotion before we head into the busy holiday



season. The promotion has been activated on our online reservation system, so park visitors may start booking their fall stays immediately," said R.J. Cardin, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Director.

To book a camping reservation and receive a free night, contact the parks at (602) 506-2930 or book your reservation online at maricopacountyparks.org. The promotion is valid for stays booked between September 18 and October 31, 2024.

Participating parks include

Cave Creek Regional Park. Located north of Phoenix, this park offers the illusion of being miles away from civilization. The campground has 55 individual developed campsites.

McDowell Mountain Regional Park. Nestled in the lower Verde River basin, this park is a desert jewel in the northeast



Valley. This park has 76 developed campsites perfect for RV or tent camping.

Usery Mountain Regional Park. Located on the east side of the Valley at the western end of the Goldfield Mountains and adjacent to the Tonto National Forest, this park offers 74 individual-developed campsites. Sites can accommodate an RV

PROMOTION, continued on page 18

ARTICLE 4

Continued from page 10

- Open Bear Wallow, Hayground, and Stinky creeks to catch-and-release angling from May 1 to December 31.

- Continue catch and release only on all fish species at Cluff Ranch Pond #3, excluding rainbow trout, through May 31, 2026. Thereafter, the statewide bag limit would apply for all species except channel catfish, which would have a four fish daily bag limit.

- Expand the legal areas where tilapia are allowed to be used as baitfish when collected onsite.

- Change crappie bag limits in Apache, Canyon, Saguaro lakes and Lake Pleasant to 15 crappie per day to match the bag limits at Bartlett and Roosevelt lakes.

See more detail about the proposed changes and rationale behind them here: <https://shorturl.at/d2axo>

Written comments can be submitted by email to fishregscomments@azgfd.gov through Aug. 16, 2024. Comments can also be submitted by U.S. mail to Arizona Game and Fish Department, Attn: Curt Gill, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086.

The proposed regulation changes are scheduled to be presented to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission at its public meeting Sept. 6, 2024, in Kingman, Ariz. The public is welcome to attend. An agenda will be posted in advance of the meeting at www.azgfd.gov/Agency/Commission. ■

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First Responder Remembered

His oncology nurse was saved by firefighter nearly thirty years ago.

BY MARK V. MOORHEAD
CURATOR OF EDUCATION, HALL OF FLAME MUSEUM OF FIREFIGHTING

For the past five years, Chuck Montgomery has been Executive Director of the Hall of Flame. But once upon a time he was a City of Glendale (AZ) Fire Captain / Paramedic, responding to emergency situations all around the Phoenix area. Chuck is facing his own health challenge right now, in the form of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, and he was recently startled to find that one of the people now working to save his life remembered him, from more than twenty years ago, for saving *her* life.

Now a Registered Nurse at City of Hope in her mid-40s, Christy was 16 years old when she was in a serious auto accident at 51st Ave. and Beardsley. Thrown head-first through a broken windshield, the teen cut her throat on the windshield glass pulling herself back into the vehicle. When Chuck and Rollie, his partner at the time, arrived at the hectic scene with their crew of Engine 155, located on 63rd Ave and Union Hills, they found her mother unconscious and critical and Christy hemorrhaging critically from her throat wound.

Chuck and his partners on the fire en-



Chuck Montgomery And Nurse Christy

gine were able to stabilize both patients, and while Christy's mother Donna was in a coma for around two weeks, they both survived the accident. He remembers them bringing a gift basket to the station many months later with a little toy fire truck — yellow in the style of Glendale engines.

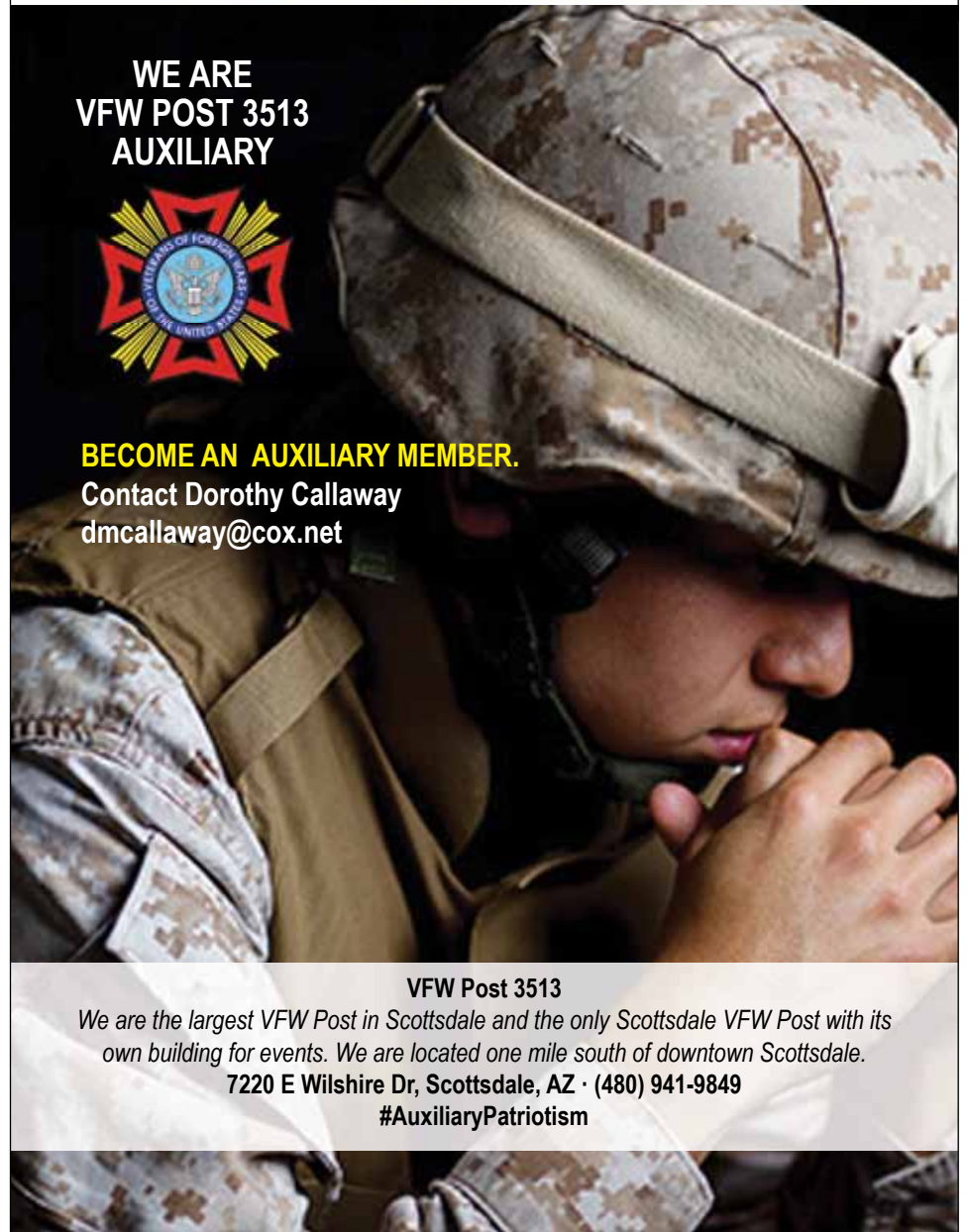
Neither Christy nor her mother ever forgot Captain Chuck and Engineer Rollie, and when she was working in the cancer clinic where Chuck was receiving chemotherapy treatment this week, she remembered him once they began talking and he said he was the only Chuck who ever worked in the Glendale Fire Department. She proudly showed him the scar on her neck that she got nearly thirty years ago. ■

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PORT WESTERN WILDLIFE

Game And Fish Relocates Mountain Lion Caught On Campus Of Tucson Medical Center

Wildlife officers from the Arizona Game and Fish Department released to the wild a mountain lion that had wandered onto the campus of the Tucson Medical Center on Friday and became entrapped in an enclosed courtyard.

The department was alerted to the presence of the subadult male mountain lion around 10:30 a.m. Friday. With the assistance of officers from the Tucson Police Department, the wildlife officers were able to successfully dart and tranquilize the mountain lion without injury around 12:30 p.m. and moved it to the department's Tucson regional office in a transport carrier.

Game and Fish officials determined that because the mountain lion was healthy and had not exhibited any previous nuisance behavior, aggression toward



humans, or other unacceptable behaviors, it was fitted with a GPS radio collar and released at a location in the wild away from the Tucson area.


Video of the mountain lion's release (from two different angles) is at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/11CRi2frTgCAibCJFlqEoxxbGc7oHntPA/view?usp=sharing>. ■

KEEP WILD DESERT TORTOISES WILD

Taking a wild desert tortoise home is illegal in Arizona. Additionally, most desert tortoises stay in the same small area their entire lives. If moved to a new location, the reptile will not know where to find food and shelter, and it likely will die. Interested in adopting? Visit <https://shorturl.at/PXBGi>




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PROMOTIONAL

Continued from page 15

or tent camping.

White Tank Mountain Regional Park. At nearly 30,000 acres, this is the largest regional park in Maricopa County. Most of the park is made up of the rugged and beautiful White Tank Mountains on the Valley's west side. The park offers 40 individually developed campsites for tent or RV camping.

Guidelines

Visitors interested in taking advantage of this offer must:

Book reservations online at maricopa-countyparks.org.

To receive the offer, you must use one of the following promotional codes:

1 Night Free (valid for one free night during a one to seven-day stay) or

2 Nights Free (valid for two free nights during an eight to fourteen-day stay).

The offer is valid for designated camping spaces but not for primitive camping, group campground reservations, or unit fees.

Rain checks will **not** be issued if space is not available.

The offer is not valid at Adobe Dam Regional Park, Estrella Mountain Regional Park, Hassayampa River Preserve, Lake Pleasant Regional Park, San Tan Mountain Regional Park, and Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area.

The offer is only valid for camping stays between September 18 and October 31, 2024.

At approximately 120,000 acres, Maricopa County is home to one of the largest regional park systems in the United States. The parks are located throughout the county and within a 45-minute drive from downtown Phoenix. Some restrictions do apply. To learn more about Maricopa County's regional park system, visit maricopa.gov/parks. ■

MEMORIES

Continued from page 15

close enough for a quick retreat before returning to the comforts of your Roper Lake campsite or lakeside cabin.

Just a short 10 minute drive from Roper, Dankworth Pond State Park offers another tranquil escape with excellent fishing, birding, and hiking opportunities. Visit Dankworth at sunrise or sunset to experience the full effect of this scenic slice of Southern Arizona. This is a great picnic destination...fuel up with a sunrise breakfast or end the day with a sunset picnic with a view. The serenity and charm of this petite state park will add an unforgettable element to your experience.

Whether you're seeking relaxation or excitement, Roper Lake and Dankworth Pond state parks provide the perfect summer getaway. Embrace the natural beauty and diverse activities these parks offer, and make this summer an unforgettable outdoor adventure!

Unplug And Unwind

Escape to serenity at the Verde River!

Cool off this summer at Rockin' River Ranch State Park in Camp Verde! This 209-acre park offers stunning landscape views laced with hiking trails and plenty of Verde River access. Escape the sun's intense rays beneath the dense shade canopy along the river. Keep an eye out for the park's abundant wildlife, including river otters, deer, and a variety of birds and waterfowl, during your experience. A wildlife sighting will be a nice cherry on top of your relaxing river experience! Open Friday through Sunday, it's the perfect getaway to connect with nature while enjoying a quick respite from scorching heat. ■

AWARDS

Continued from page 1

Natural Resource Professional Of The Year

Any individual who through a professional agency affiliation has excelled in efforts to enhance, conserve, and manage wildlife or their habitats.

Volunteer Of The Year

Any individual who, as a registered volunteer with the Department, has excelled in efforts to support and benefit the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Educator Of The Year

Any individual whose educational activities have advanced and supported the welfare of wildlife, wildlife-related recreation, or the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Mentor Of The Year

Any individual who has acted in the role of a mentor and whose efforts have resulted in the promotion and support of future wildlife conservation efforts and the development of future wildlife conservation leaders in Arizona.

Advocate Of The Year - State

Any individual who has engaged in political advocacy for the betterment of wildlife conservation and in the support of the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Advocate Of The Year - Federal

Any individual who has engaged in political advocacy for the betterment of wildlife conservation and in the support of the mission of the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Business Partner Of The Year

Any business partner that actively promotes Game and Fish through innovative approaches, community involvement, and a customer service focus that benefits the citizens of Arizona and supports the Game and Fish's mission of wildlife conservation.

Buck Appleby Hunter Education

Instructor Of The Year
Any hunter education instructor who actively participates in hunter education activities and demonstrates the highest level of customer service, dedication and professionalism during these activities. Award category recently approved by the AZGFD Commission in honor of Buck Appleby, a long-time hunter education instructor who passed away in 2010.

A list of 1991-2023 Commission Award recipients can be found here: https://azgfd-portal-wordpress-pantheon.s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/11141558/1991-2023-Past-Commission-Award-Recipients-Winners_July2024.pdf

Did You Know?

The Arizona Game and Fish Department receives no general fund tax dollars. The majority of funding to manage more than 800 native wildlife species comes from Arizona's hunters and anglers. ■



Post 720 celebrated its 100th anniversary in early 2021.



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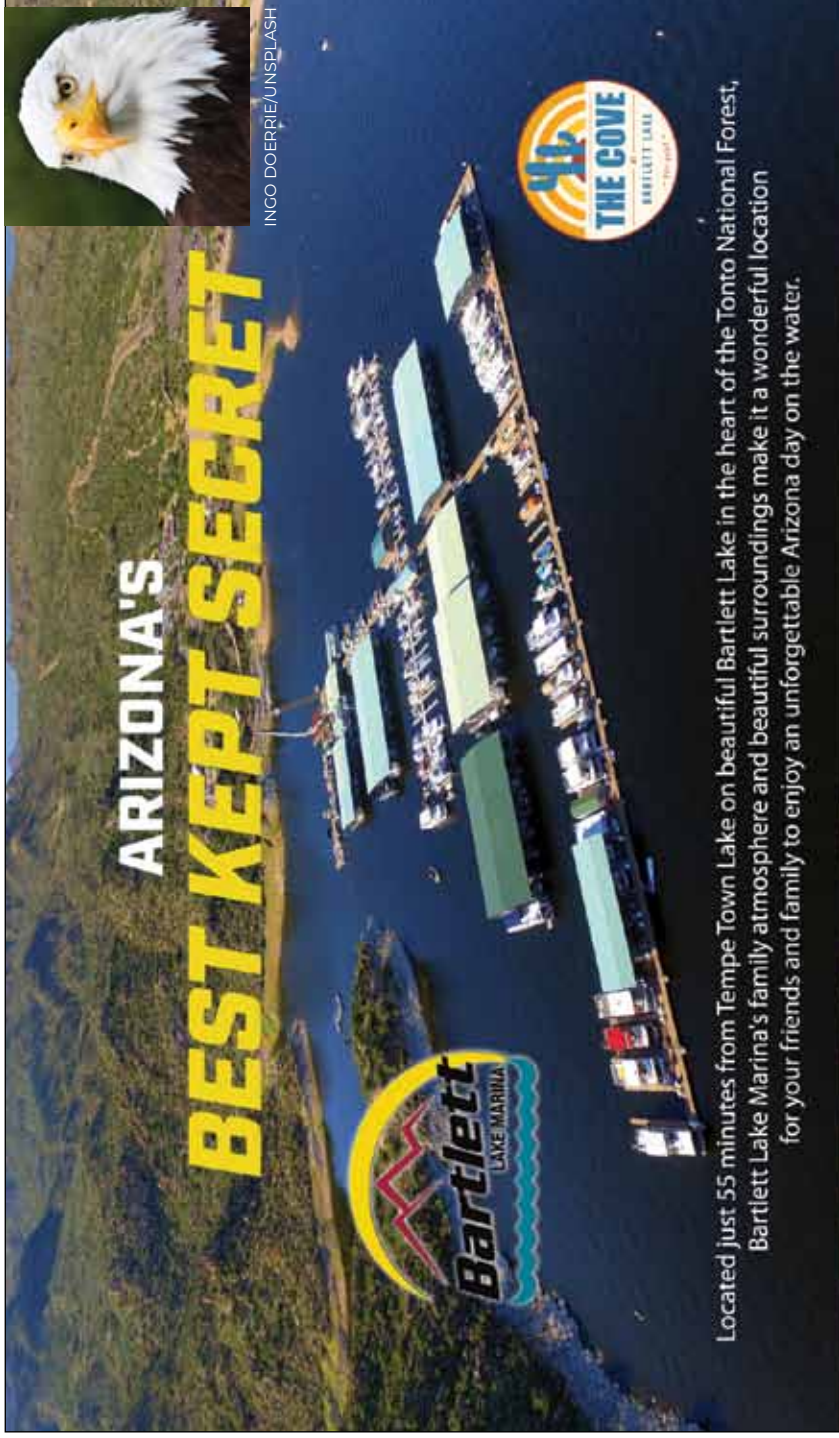
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Bartlett Lake Marina has a boatable surface area of 2,815 acres - more than Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake, combined. Fed by the pristine waters of the Verde River, Indians of this valley spoke descriptively in their legends of the river's "sweet waters".

Outdoor enthusiasts frequent Bartlett Lake for a variety of recreational opportunities, including shoreline camping in Arizona's natural desert terrain. While in this part of the Tonto National Forest, visitors may see mule deer, bald eagles, javelina, coyotes, and many indigenous desert plants, including the majestic saguaro, mesquite trees, and blooming ocotillo.

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Arizona's State Parks has many opportunities.

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