

# West Desert Defender

A Quarterly Newsletter from the Committee to  
Save the West Desert Preserve

· 3rd Quarter 2006 · Green Valley Arizona · (520) 648-7352

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Our mission:

To protect and support the residents of Green Valley's quest for a county park.



## State recreational permit needed .

The Arizona State Land Department has recently posted no-trespassing-without-a-permit signs at various entrances to the West Desert Preserve, a 2000 acre parcel of state land held in trust west of Green Valley. Apparently in response to increased public interest by over 30 local homeowner associations supporting the proposed

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## Pima Pineapples are here in the Preserve

Marylee Adamson and Peggy Smith of Green Valley led a group of six volunteers from the Green Valley Hiking Club to identify and locate the rare and endangered Pima pineapple cactus. Since April 1, 2006, Ms. Adamson and Smith have found 70 Pima pineapple cacti in the northern

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## Biking on the Desert Trails

Mountain biking on trails out your back door or within a couple miles of your home is not only fantastic, but saves on gas and time to drive to trail heads. The Green Valley West Desert Preserve is a great open space of about 2000 acres we have on the west side of our community. Fifteen miles of winding single track and mellow double

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## The List continues to grow ...

As of July 13, 2006, there are 35 confirmed Green Valley Homeowner Associations that are supporting our cause. These 35 HOA's represent 5,686 homes or 37.3% of the total HOA homes in Green Valley. Each HOA has written a letter of support for the West Desert Preserve to Pima County officials and the Green Valley Community Coordinating Council (GVCCC). The complete list of support associations can be found on *page 2*.

**Committee to Save  
the West Desert  
Preserve**

**—News  
Briefs—**

- *GVCCC endorses West Desert Preserve*
- *Ray Carroll endorses West Desert Preserve*
- *35 HOA's endorse West Desert Preserve*
- *37% of Green Valley HOA Households support our project.*

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**Website:**  
SavetheWestDesert  
Preserve.org

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# The List of HOA Supporters

- Portillo Place Paul Reiser, President
- Esperanza Estates Max Perry, President
- Solano at Las Campanas Pat Allen, President
- Green Valley Desert Hills 4 Board of Directors
- Desert Hills VI Alan Fisch, President
- Portillo Hills I Frank McCormick, President
- Casa Paloma I Dick Smith, President
- Desert Hills I Townhomes Robert Berry, President
- Villas West Condo Assn. Vicki Salzetti, Vice President
- Green Valley Desert Hills II Oscar Cornejo, President
- Council of Casita Co-Owners Barbara Clark, President
- Portillo Ridge Donna Severidt, President
- Green Valley Estates W.A. Lucia, President
- Desert Hills Estates Dave Ulmer, President
- La Cañada Desert Homes I Jon Otto, President
- Green Valley Townhouse Assn Betty DeVoto, President
- Sunrise Point Lyn Brown, Vice President
- Country Club Vistas III Larry L. Rand, Vice President
- Highpoint Sharon De. Sykes, President
- Encanto Estates Stan Tilly, President
- Capistrano at Las Campanas Carol Bates Smith, President
- Canoa Vistas II Jane Lovat, Board Member
- The Links at Santa Rita Springs John Fanning, President
- Desert Hills I Earl W. Sires, Acting President
- The Villages of Green Valley Jim Hemmer, President
- Green Valley Villas East Tom Ward, GVCCC Rep: Villas East
- Springpointe Norman Smith, President
- San Ignacio Vistas II Tony Canton, President
- Madera Vista Townhouses Walter Kaiser, President
- Viewpoint Raymond A. Carroll, President
- Casa Paloma II Jim Parker, President
- San Ignacio Heights Ralph Hartsock, President
- Portillo Hills II Robert Lembcke, President
- Canoa Seca Estates John Wozniak, Secretary
- Ventura West at Las Campanas Linda Hansen, Community Assn Mgr.

**The Committee to Save the West Desert Preserve appreciates your support!**

## Permit needed

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West Desert Preserve, the state of Arizona has attempted to curtail individual and group access to this land without the proper written permission. The cost of a yearly recreational permit is \$15.00 for an individual or



\$20.00 for a family or \$50.00 for a group. Individuals, families or groups without the necessary permits found in the West Desert Preserve may be ticketed. For information call the State Land Department at (602) 364-2753 or write them at 1616 West Adams, Phoenix, AZ 85007 or go to their web

site: [http://www.land.state.az.us./programs/natural/rec\\_offroad\\_permit.htm](http://www.land.state.az.us./programs/natural/rec_offroad_permit.htm). This latest development from the state land department may temporarily slow us down but it will not stop our long-term commitment to provide a county park for residents of Green Valley. Contacting the state for a recreational permit is recommended by the Committee to Save the West Desert Preserve until a better solution is found.

## We've got Pima Pineapples!

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portion of the West Desert Preserve. Efforts are underway to locate additional cacti as part of a program for the Pima County Parks and Recreation department as well as for the Committee to Save the West Desert Preserve.

The Pima pineapple cactus is a small, hemispherical succulent plant that can grow as a single-stemmed or multi-headed cactus. It can grow to be four to seven inches tall and three to four inches across. The Pima pineapple resembles a small barrel cactus. Upon closer inspection, it is easy to see that this species is dif-

ferent because of the numerous spine clusters with a single straw-colored, hooked central spine surrounded by anywhere from 6 to 15 radial spines, depending on the size of the cactus.

Large yellow or pale yellow to orange or bronze yellow flowers appear in mid-July following the summer rains. Elongated, pale green seed pods develop by the fall. This cactus is found between the 2,300 and 5,000 foot elevation in Pima and Santa Cruz Counties in Arizona and in northern Sonora, Mexico. The species is rare and grows in alluvial basins or on hillsides in rocky to sandy or silty soils in semi-desert grasslands and Sonoran desert scrub.

## Biking on desert trails

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track attracts local mountain bikers. These trails are cow paths improved and maintained by the local Green Valley Bike & Hike store and local bikers and hikers. Bikers, hikers, pet walkers, and cattle peacefully coexist for recreation and grazing and enjoy the pristine desert en-

