

**Date:** May 21, 2024  
**To:** Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission  
**From:** R.J. Cardin, Director  
**Re:** Director's Summary of Current Events

Listed below are the department's activities during **March and April 2024**.

**Board of Supervisors Agenda Items:**

Date/ Status	Tracking Number	Summary
3/27/2024 Approved	C-30-07-011-2-03	<b>Amendment to IGA with Arizona Board of Regents:</b> Amendment 3 extends the terms of the agreement for five (5) years from November 2026 to November 2031 and will increase the amount for defined research and planning.
3/27/2024 Approved	C-30-08-034-1-09	<b>Amendment to use Management Agreement with EPR Parks, LLC:</b> Amendment 5 revises the development completion date for phase III no later than March 30th, 2027. All development costs will be at the expense of the concessionaire.
3/27/2024 Approved	C-30-24-011-X-00	<b>IGA with the City of Chandler for Shared Recreation Opportunities Programs, Marketing, and Events:</b> The agreement provides the County Director of Parks and Recreation to administer the agreement. The term is for five (5) years with a provision for an automatic renewal for one (1) additional five-year period.
4/24/2024 Approved	C-30-24-013-X-00	<b>Donations for Parks and Recreation:</b> Accept the monetary donation of \$1,605.00 For a memorial bench at Lake Pleasant Regional Park. \$1500.00 for a memorial bench at Hassayampa River Preserve. \$1500.00 donation for a memorial bench at Estrella Mountain Regional Park. \$250.00 donation for a memorial plaque at White Tanks Mountain Regional Park. \$250.00 donation for a memorial plaque at Utery Mountain Regional Park. \$278.00 donation of plants for Cave Creek Regional Park. \$6334.85 donation of plants for Estrella Mountain Regional Park. \$1000.00 donation to McDowell Mountain Regional Park.

**Administration/Finance Division**

**Parks Visitor Attendance Report (FY24 through April):** Page 12



**FY24 Budget Report (Period 8)**

Report ID:		FIN-BA-MC010		Budget to Actual										Page 1 of 1	
Run Date:		05/14/2024		by Department, Fund and Appropriation Unit Group											
Run Time:		10:17:40 AM		Fiscal Year: 2024 Period: 10											
Dept	Dept Name	Fund	Fund Name	Approp Group	Approp Group Name	Revised Revenue	Actual Revenue	Revenue Variance	Revised Expenditures	Actual Expenditures	Expenditure Variance	Budgeted Structure Balance	Actual Structural Balance	Structural Balance Variance	
D300	Parks and Re	100	General	OPER	Operating	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,042,819	\$972,222	\$70,597	(\$1,042,819)	(\$972,222)	\$70,597	
D300	Parks and Re	225	Spr Cross Rai	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrit	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$133,330	\$133,330	\$0	(\$133,330)	\$133,330	\$133,330	
D300	Parks and Re	225	Spr Cross Rai	OPER	Operating	\$301,035	\$298,232.57	(\$2,802)	\$290,181	\$258,126	\$32,055	\$10,854	\$40,107	\$29,253	
D300	Parks and Re	239	Parks Souven	OPER	Operating	\$253,407	\$303,252.69	\$49,846	\$230,338	\$247,891	(\$17,553)	\$23,069	\$55,362	\$32,293	
D300	Parks and Re	240	Lk Plsnt Rc S\	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrit	\$0	\$5,371.79	\$5,372	\$695,830	\$358,055	\$337,775	(\$695,830)	(\$352,684)	\$343,146	
D300	Parks and Re	240	Lk Plsnt Rc S\	OPER	Operating	\$3,394,397	\$3,565,154.90	\$170,758	\$3,627,423	\$3,418,517	\$208,906	(\$233,026)	\$146,638	\$379,664	
D300	Parks and Re	241	Parks Enhncr	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrit	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,149,890	\$518,038	\$631,852	(\$1,149,890)	(\$518,038)	\$631,852	
D300	Parks and Re	241	Parks Enhncr	OPER	Operating	\$6,484,522	\$6,807,991.64	\$323,470	\$6,207,031	\$6,561,434	(\$354,403)	\$277,491	\$246,558	(\$30,933)	
D300	Parks and Re	243	Parks Donatic	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrit	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,510	\$10,128	\$2,382	(\$12,510)	(\$10,128)	\$2,382	
D300	Parks and Re	243	Parks Donatic	OPER	Operating	\$31,800	\$65,273.07	\$33,473	\$31,790	\$7,016	\$24,774	\$10	\$58,257	\$58,247	
D300	Parks and Re	243	Parks Donatic	WMD3	DaisyMtnTrls	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$20,830	\$20,830	\$0	(\$20,830)	\$20,830	\$20,830	
D300	Parks and Re	296	Coronavirus F	NRNP	NonRecr NonPrit	\$15,590,234	\$2,121,724.20	(\$13,468,510)	\$15,590,244	\$2,121,724	\$13,468,520	(\$10)	\$0	\$10	
<b>Sum:</b>						<b>\$26,055,395</b>	<b>\$13,167,001</b>	<b>(\$12,888,394)</b>	<b>\$29,032,216</b>	<b>\$14,473,151</b>	<b>\$14,559,065</b>	<b>(\$2,976,821)</b>	<b>(\$1,306,150)</b>	<b>\$1,670,671</b>	

**Human Resources**

- Welcome/Promotions/Transfers
  - Steve DaCosta (Promo), Park Supervisor, Usery, 3/4/2024
  - Michael Mancheno, Park Custodian, Lake Pleasant, 3/6/2024
  - Adele Teti, Contact Station Assistant, Lake Pleasant, 3/12/2024
  - Jennifer Atella, PT Contact Station Assistant, McDowell, 4/17/2024
- Farewells
  - Jeff Boehm, PT Contact Station Assistant, McDowell, 3/23/2024
  - Lee Kelley, Park Maintenance Worker, McDowell 4/3/2024
  - Kristopher Swann, Trails specialist, Estrella, 4/11/2024
  - Michael Mancheno, Park Custodian, Lake Pleasant, 4/20/2024
- Current Vacancies
  - JR10442 P17169 – Park Maintenance Worker – McDowell
  - JR8779 P1481 – Park Supervisor/White Tank
  - JR8779 P76938 – Park Supervisor/Hassayampa
  - JR10741 P80302 – Park Custodian
  - P67608 – Executive Assistant

**Park Operations Division**

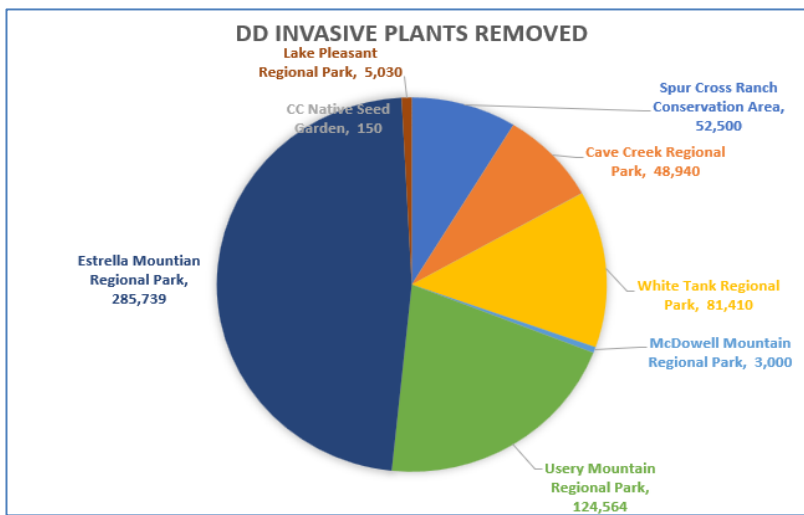
**Natural Resources**

- Desert Defender Invasive Species Removal: this year, staff and stewards hosted 75 Invasive removal events, with over 1100 hours and 324 volunteers focusing their efforts at six parks. We removed almost 600,000 invasive plants weighing over 6,000 lbs. (See Graph and Photo – page 3).
- March 23 - We completed our sixth biannual Citizen Science: Butterfly Monitoring session at five parks on a cloudy day, and the numbers appeared low. We counted 81 butterflies of 18 species. These numbers vary each year, requiring long-term data to determine trends, as they can fluctuate significantly during monitoring, especially in the case of sunny vs. cloudy day climates.
- The Regional Stinknet Planning Team published a professional guide to stinknet management, and the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension published a residential/homeowners' version on the SWVMA.org website.



**Parks & Recreation**

41835 N. Castle Hot Springs Rd.  
Morristown, AZ 85342



**Volunteers**

- Lake Pleasant:
  - Set up the Monday cleanup crew volunteer events. These events will occur every Monday from April through the end of October.
  - Coordinated a large cleanup with Desert Breeze Kayaking at Fireman's Cove. Several divers and kayakers participated.
- White Tank:
  - The City of Peoria's Adaptive Recreation section will bring some adult clients to volunteer. They plan to visit the park a few times a month with 10 - 30 volunteers.
- Natural Resources:
  - 27 Native Seed Collection events.
- Department:
  - All seven volunteer appreciation parties for FY24 have been completed.
  - Park host recruitment for the upcoming fall/winter season has started since several new hosts will be needed at our Westside parks.
  - Two Volunteer 13K events were completed in March at Cave Creek and Hassayampa.
  - April 10 - Spoke to a youth group at Sunrise Library (City of Peoria) on the importance of volunteering.



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### Hours (FY24 through April):

TOTAL Volunteer Hours, by month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YTD Total	Year End Total	Year End % Change
FY24 - All Hours	3,759	4,148	4,158	7,290	10,170	11,379	12,796	11,492	12,023	7,957	48	0	85,220	85,220	-4%
FY23 - All Hours	3,927	4,399	4,844	7,201	10,898	12,187	11,935	11,927	12,756	9,092	4,534	4,335	89,166	98,035	0%
FY22 - All Hours	3,268	3,362	4,038	8,069	11,154	13,295	13,935	10,061	13,144	8,954	4,835	3,777	89,280	97,892	3%

Financial Impact of Volunteers, by Month	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	YTD Total	Year End Total	Hourly Rate
FY24 Financial Impact	\$119,536	\$131,906	\$132,224	\$231,822	\$323,406	\$361,852	\$406,913	\$365,446	\$382,331	\$253,033	\$1,526	\$0	\$2,709,996	\$2,709,996	\$31.80
FY23 Financial Impact	\$117,614	\$131,750	\$145,078	\$215,670	\$326,395	\$365,001	\$357,453	\$357,214	\$382,042	\$272,305	\$135,793	\$129,833	\$2,670,522	\$2,936,148	\$29.95
FY22 Financial Impact	\$93,269	\$95,951	\$115,245	\$230,289	\$318,335	\$379,439	\$397,705	\$287,141	\$375,130	\$255,547	\$137,991	\$107,796	\$2,548,051	\$2,793,838	\$28.54

### Trades

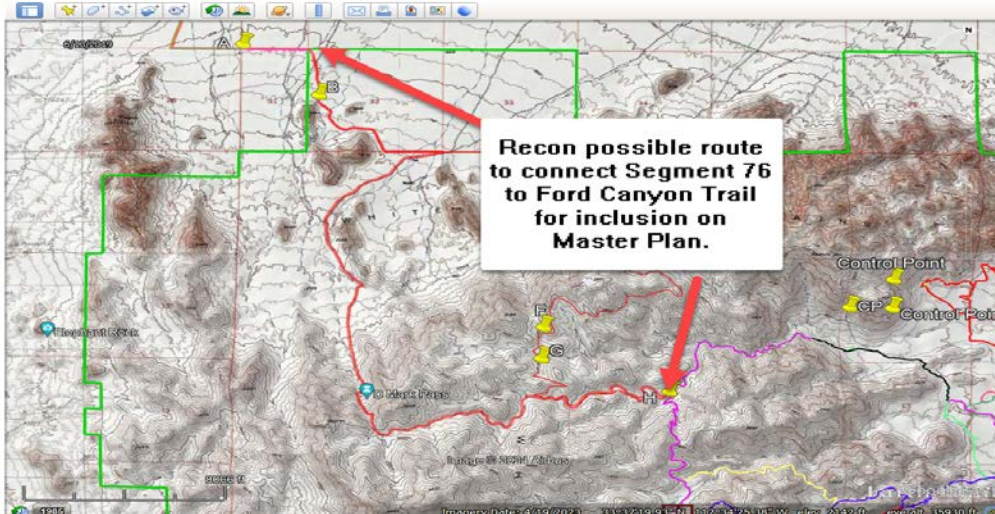
- During March, the Trades Crew
  - Completed 26 work order requests.
  - Completed 31 locator service calls.
- During April, the Trades Crew
  - Completed 26 calls for park service.
  - Completed 47 locator service calls.
- Parks:
  - Adobe - Ongoing - fence upgrade.
  - Buckeye Hills – Completed repairs to the skeet house roofs.
  - Lake Pleasant - Completed the fence project at Agua Fria; completed phase 1 of the four-lane erosion repairs; and set picnic tables at the group campground and ten lanes.
  - McDowell - Water Fountains - awaiting delivery of fountains.
  - Usey - Ongoing renovations of restrooms at the main entrance campground.
  - Vulture - Site plan review at headquarters.
- Safety:
  - Electrical Program Workshop with Risk Management - Program approved for implementation.
  - Portable Welder – Working with Risk Management to create Job Hazard Analysis.
  - PC Grinder Pump breakdown/repair with manufacturer representative from Signa Mechanical.





**Trails**

- Maricopa Trail:
  - Segment 2 - Temporary Closure due to Bald Eagle Nest along the trail in cooperation with Arizona Game and Fish. Confirmation of two Eaglets Hatched- expect the trail to reopen in mid-July.
  - Segment 11 - Sun Valley Parkway - Increased Inspections/Cleanup (Signs ordered to deal with overnight camping/parking and dumping).
  - Segment 16 - Spear S Trailhead - Increased Inspections/Cleanup.
  - Segment 24 – McDowell - Pemberton Trail - Repairs and Maintenance - 2 miles.
  - Segment 76- Performed Recon for Segment 76 inside White Tank Park and found a likely route to connect the Maricopa Trail Segment 76 at the Northwest Park corner to Ford Canyon Trail.



- Segment 78 – Lake Pleasant - Beardsley Trail - First Joint Inspection with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.
- Parks Trails:
  - Cave Creek - Inspected Go John Trail and performed maintenance.
  - Estrella- Performed inspections of all trails after the American Conservation Experience (ACE) crew finished; continued maintenance tasks on sections not completed by ACE; and ACE crew completed work on Competitive Track - 9 Miles.
  - Lake Pleasant - Inspected Cottonwood, Yavapai Point, Pipeline, Wild Burro, and Beardsley Trails.
  - McDowell - Inspected Coachwhip (maintenance); Dixie Mine Trail inspection and erosion repairs; installed new drains and repaired old drains; and grade breaks on Pemberton Trail as part of continuing Trails Projects Training.
  - San Tan - Inspected Malpais Trail and performed maintenance (trimming); installed replacement Iron Ranger at Entry Station; and heavy equipment repairs on San Tan Trail and Malpais Trail - 4 Miles.
  - Spur Cross - Inspected and maintained Elephant Butte Trail and Spur Cross Trail.
  - Usery - Completed repairs on Ruidoso Trail; inspected and performed minor work on Pass Mountain Trail; trimmed in all the wash trails; performed maintenance on Merkle Trail; discovered trail signs to be missing from Crismon Wash Trail (replacement signs ordered); closed vandal routes crossing Levy Trail; replaced signs on Signal Wash Trail; and inspected Lost Sheep, Moon Rock, Blevins, and Noso Trails. Installed three new Iron Rangers. Talon Trail repaired erosion damage and installation of water control features.
  - White Tank Park- ACE completed work on Competitive Track - 9 miles of track worked on; drains improved; banked turns improved and trimmed; inspected all front country trails; and performed maintenance tasks.



**Development Projects**

- Reviewed 50% plans for Cave Creek and Estrella campground projects.
- Reviewed 60% plans for the White Tank Competition Track and Nature Trailhead.
- Prepared Cultural Resource survey proposals for five (5) project sites.
- Updated 10-year CIP projects for FY25-FY35.
- Adobe - Completed irrigation repairs, which involved rebuilding two pumps and motors and replacing two control and two isolation valves.



- Estrella - Completed installation of new water feature in the Pollinator Garden; and 50% plans submitted by EPS for campground development.



- Hassayampa - Installed three inches of new compacted decomposed granite around Palm Lake and the picnic table area.
- Lake Pleasant - Completed the North Well Rehab, which involved replacing the pump, motor, column piping, and brush and bailing the well casing.
- McDowell – Master Plan for Bike Park completed. Conducted campground projects kick-off with park staff, including reviewing Salt River Project redline plans for additional power.
- San Tan -Heavy Equipment repairs on San Tan Trail and Malpais Trail - 4 Miles.
- Vulture – Phase II and III plan review completed.
- White Tanks – Solicited bids for parking lot repairs and repaving and issued purchase order.

**Adobe Mountain Regional Park**

- Projects:
  - The Maricopa County Flood Control and Department of Transportation right-of-way permits have been approved to upgrade the fencing on both sides of the gate. The chain link fencing will be replaced with metal fencing. Also, rail fencing will be installed on about 260 feet of park boundary off 43rd Avenue.

**Cave Creek Regional Park**

- Events:
  - The spring brought several weddings, five during March and early April.
  - March 15-17 - Ultraman had a three-day event. They started at Lake Pleasant for the morning swim of 6.2 miles, then a 90-mile bike ride, and finished here the first day. On the 16th, a 171.4-mile bike race was held throughout the valley, ending at our Ramada's. On the 17th, a 52.4-mile run to finish the event with a barbecue held at our Ramada's for the 20 participants.





- The Brain Aneurysm Foundation held a fundraiser/charity hike on April 6th. It was their first charity hike in the area, and they hope to make it an annual event.
- Park Master Plans:
  - Stakeholder meetings for Cave Creek, Spur Cross, and McDowell were held in the classroom on Wednesday, April 17th.
- Natural Resources:
  - The National Park Service came out from March 12-19 to treat invasive species. They treated areas around the maintenance compound, the edge of the roadways, by the rodeo grounds, the seed garden, and Slate Trail.

### **Desert Outdoor Center**

- Center Programming:
  - Five non-programming facility usage events were held this month, including a celebration of life, two weddings, a week-long Kairos retreat, and an overnight high school leadership training.
  - In April, 17 schools visited and participated in over 60 programs. Popular programs this month included Dino Detectives, Wind Blade Challenge, and, of course, the all-time favorite, Aquatic Life.
  - We were pleased to have Wild Wonders Homeschool Group bring out 35 participants to enjoy time interacting with one another in our beautiful desert.
- Park Programming:
  - The Interpretive Rangers offered 62 programs for March with over 778 participants. Due to winter and spring rains, the rangers predicted a good wildflower season and offered 18 wildflower and butterfly hikes that 186 visitors enjoyed.
  - March 17 - Rangers led our second Adapt in Nature program at White Tank in partnership with the City of Peoria's adaptive program, which brought 14 participants and three staff. This new program started in the Nature Center, where the Rangers introduced some desert-themed items to the group. Then, they followed up with a short hike into the desert to immerse their senses. Everyone had a great time, and we look forward to our next Adapt in Nature program in April!
  - In April, Interpretive Rangers offered 63 public programs attended by 521 visitors, enjoying popular programs such as the Desert Edible Hike, Clay Mine Tour (Cave Creek), and quite a few guided bird walks across the system this spring.
  - In support of the City Nature Challenge, an annual competition motivating people worldwide to find and document wildlife in their cities, the rangers offered 18 programs to promote and educate 287 visitors on using the iNaturalist app and participating in this community citizen science event.
  - April 18 - Rangers Kevin, Eric, and Derik lead 16 adaptive participants on an archaeological-themed hike as part of our second Adapt in Nature event in partnership with the City of Peoria.
  - The annual Mesquite Festival was held on April 20th at Hassayampa River Preserve, attended by about 120 visitors. Ranger Eric hosted a table on the wildlife ecology of Mesquite bosques; other presenters hosted tables around Palm Lake and by the Visitor Center—partnership with Wickenburg Conservation Foundation, Friends of Hassayampa, Desert Awareness Committee, and Bureau of Land Management.





- Training:
  - Rangers held a backcountry training and campout at Estrella Mountain Regional Park on April 17th; the primary training goals were to ground-truth possible backcountry citizen science and backpacking/camping fee-based programs that the rangers are developing.

### **Estrella Mountain Regional Park**

- Events:
  - Sunday, March 17 - The American Diabetes Association had a large bike ride. Part of the route sent hundreds of road bike riders through the north roads in the park. March 30-31 - Many ramadas were reserved for the Easter weekend. Area rains lightened the crowds, but most ramadas and picnic areas were about half full, with many people enjoying the spring beauty in the park.
- Maintenance:
  - Increasing pump pressure and consistency have resulted in multiple leaks that need repair.
  - Maintenance staff tore apart the plumbing in the Nature Center plumbing alley, replaced old cast iron with new PVC pipes, and replaced the urinal. The old iron pipes were clogged. The repair also eliminated an odor issue.
  - Tree trimming and bubbler repair are ongoing. Pollinator garden drip lines get clogged and damaged.
  - The weed spray effort to remove the invasive Globe Chamomile in the front areas of the park was largely successful. Where the invasive weed was sprayed, the plants stopped flowering and dried up.
- Natural Resources:
  - The water feature (stream and pond) in the park's pollinator garden is only a couple of weeks old but already attracts birds, wildlife, butterflies, and other pollinator species.

### **Hassayampa River Preserve**

- Maintenance:
  - Heavy landscaping was performed by staff and volunteer crews due to an abundance of rain recently and in preparation for The Nature Conservancy visit and the Mesquite Festival.
- Projects:
  - Palm Lake trail was resurfaced with decomposed granite.
  - Construction for the new exhibits and Visitor Center remodel are fully underway.
- Volunteers
  - Volunteer appreciation luncheon took place and was enjoyed by all.
  - Two individuals attended the Maricopa County's Volunteer 13K event.
- Events:
  - On Earth Day, April 20 - The park hosted an open house event, the Mesquite Festival, organized by the Wickenburg Conservation Foundation, park staff, and volunteers and attended by many of our friends and partners. Feedback from the public was highly positive about the uses of the mesquite tree, both past and present, as well as the beauty of the park and the amenities of the park system in general. Additionally, personnel fielded several questions about our new park, the Vulture Mountain Recreation Area. The event was a success, with 130 people attending.
  - Friends of Hassayampa paid for and guided three elementary school field trips.
  - Staff and volunteers hosted the Nature Conservancy's annual organization meeting. Prepared and assisted with events for 70 employees.

### **Lake Pleasant Regional Park**

- Events:
  - March 2 - Arizona State University Sailing Club held their ASU Cactus Cup for 60 participants.
  - March 9 - 265 Park visitors attended the Discovery Center Open House Event. Fish Whisperer, Scorpion Bay, Southwest Wildlife, Desert Breeze Kayak, Park Staff, and Volunteers presented their services and knowledge to the public.





- March 15 - AZ Ultraman held its 2nd annual event - 20 participants and 80 spectators.
- March 20 - Arizona Family Channel 3 talent filmed their spring promo in the Scute Loop Campground, site 117.
- March 23 - Aravaipa held its Annual Crown King Scramble triathlon event - 350 participants.
- March 27-28 - Sharpe Entertainment filmed an episode of "90 Day Fiancé, The Last Resort, Season 2."
- April 2 - The Arizona Game and Fish Department filmed a fishing tutorial at Two Cow Cove.
- April 7 - Arivaipa held its annual Dam Good Run with 600 participants and 200 spectators.
- April 11 - Central Arizona Project hosted its annual Legislative Intern Luncheon at Discovery Center, with 55 people in attendance.
- Operations:
  - March 13 - Staff attended the quarterly Lake Pleasant Fish Stakeholders Meeting with Arizona Game and Fish Department representatives and Pleasant Harbor to discuss the future of angling and sport fishing data requirements.
  - March 21 - Staff met with the Arizona Game and Fish Department to discuss the possibility of hosting classroom boater education courses onsite.
  - March 11 - Four contractors from HDR Inc., Denver, Colorado, conducted an "asset inventory and condition assessment" of Staff Support, Headquarters, Discovery Center, and the Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant Regional Park for the Bureau of Reclamation.
  - April 4 - Maricopa County Parks and Recreation, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and Bureau of Reclamation banded 3 of 5 eaglets in Eagle protection zones, Whiskey Springs and Coles Bay.
  - April 9 - Staff met with the Bureau of Reclamation Recreation to inspect Wild Burro Trail.
  - April 25 - Staff met with the Bureau of Reclamation Recreation to inspect Beardsley Trail.
- Projects:
  - April 15 - Electronic signage at entry and north was completed and operational.
  - Wind Warning signs are installed.
- Volunteers:
  - Monday Volunteer Cleanup Crew brings out 1-5 volunteers each Monday to help clean up the shores after the busy weekends.
  - March 22 - 10 volunteers from Clear Flow Corporation picked up litter.
  - April 20 - Annual Earth Day Volunteer Clean Up Event with 91 participants.
  - April 29 - Target Stores Volunteer Litter Pick-Up Event - 50 participants.

### **McDowell Mountain Regional Park**

- Events:
  - March 2 - The Belgian Waffle Ride was a gravel bike event with 600+ participants who rode through the park while completing their 120-mile route.
  - March 3 - The Mountain to Fountain 15k foot race started at the park and ended at Fountain Park in Fountain Hills.
  - March 8-10 - The Cactus Cup Mountain bike race hosted up to 800 riders.
  - April 6 - We hosted the event for St. Joseph, the Worker's Hike for Hope, on the Pemberton Trail.
  - An Equestrian Endurance event was also put on in the Four Peaks Staging area later in the month.
- Projects
  - Trades installed new shower valves in Restroom #6 in the North Loop of the Rowland Campground and in the Pemberton Staging Area.
- Natural Resources
  - Conducted a Saguaro Transect Study from the 2020 McDowell Fire in the burn area.



**San Tan Mountain Regional Park**

- Events:
  - March 2–13 - San Tan Trail Runners Club members did trail maintenance on the Hedgehog and the San Tan Trails.
  - April 6 - Volunteer JoAnne Lezeau set up a booth at the San Tan Historical Society Archaeology Expo held at the Queen Creek Museum. She handed out brochures and had activities for kids to draw petroglyphs.
  - April 19-20 - Arivaipa held its annual Sinister Nights events. On Friday, they had 61 mountain bike racers, and on Saturday, they had 385 runners.
- Volunteers:
  - March 20 - End-of-the-season volunteer appreciation luncheon.



**Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area**

- Natural Resources:
  - March 23 - Assisted volunteer and butterfly expert Marceline Vandewater and five citizen scientists with the Spring 2024 Butterfly Monitoring - eight species documented.
  - Desert Defender programs occurred in the conservation area on 3/21 and 3/28.
- Park Master Plans:
  - April 17 - A Stakeholder Meeting for the Spur Cross Master Plan revision occurred at the Cave Creek Regional Park Nature Center.
- Programs:
  - March 2 - Booth at the Cave Creek Archaeology Expo held at the Cave Creek Museum.
  - April 12 - The supervisor led a guided archaeology-themed hike for the local Desert Foothills Chapter of the Arizona Archaeological Society members.
- Projects:
  - The Trades Crew installed a new kiosk at the main trailhead area.
- Volunteers:
  - Service volunteers performed maintenance on Spur Cross Trail, improving drainage and removing protruding rock.
  - Members of the Sonoran Arts League returned to the park this month to begin touchup work on the field office mural.



**Parks & Recreation**

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### **Usery Mountain Regional Park**

- Events:
  - April 27 - Usery Mountain Archers held their ASA Qualifier match at the archery range.
- Maintenance:
  - Repairs to the backflow system were completed by Climatec, bringing the park into compliance with the City of Mesa requirements.
- Natural Resources:
  - The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) continues fuel reduction and brush clearing work along Usery Pass Road and on the AT&T Microwave Tower west of the park. The Perryville DFFM crew has been staying in the Group A and B area while completing this work.
- Programs:
  - Volunteers led two bird-themed programs in the park during April, which were well attended.
- Volunteers:
  - Two Eagle Scout projects were approved to benefit the park. One project will complete the rehabilitation of the archery range, and the other will restore the interpretive nature trail at Buckhorn Campground.

### **White Tank Mountain Regional Park**

- Events:
  - March 29 - The Maricopa County Leadership and Education Advancing Public Service (MCLEAPS) interns and the program coordinators toured to understand operations better. The participants were exposed to all sides of park operations.
  - March 9 - We hosted Aravaipa Running Mesquite Canyon Trail Runs. There were several different running distances, from 50 miles to a kid's fun run at a mile and a half. In total, there were 490 runners.



**Maricopa County Parks Visitor Report**  
**FY24, through April 2024**

FY24	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24
FY23	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23
FY22	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
Cave Creek	1,266	1,621	3,312	9,690	12,328	12,736	13,249	14,271	17,256	12,085		
FY23	1,373	2,028	2,551	8,499	13,383	13,384	14,534	15,537	19,650	14,181	6,299	2,727
FY22	1,381	1,198	2,515	6,747	7,873	15,242	13,502	13,094	18,600	13,639	3,764	2,737
Estrella Park	1,864	2,003	5,174	6,395	10,104	9,024	12,047	11,453	17,739	10,452		
FY23	2,342	2,644	3,346	6,640	8,382	8,022	12,165	16,631	18,998	14,597	5,346	4,277
FY22	1,184	1,278	2,605	5,891	7,398	12,222	14,310	12,180	15,092	13,180	4,560	3,519
McDowell Mtn	1,268	1,766	3,851	14,137	13,901	15,071	15,379	15,388	17,288	9,778		
FY23	1,685	1,845	3,792	13,861	18,134	17,277	17,201	16,816	22,719	15,714	5,747	2,418
FY22	964	1,310	2,032	7,745	8,208	15,958	15,560	15,706	18,281	17,854	5,163	1,886
San Tan Park	3,680	4,209	8,094	13,823	22,089	23,452	28,344	26,251	27,136	16,149		
FY23	4,215	6,029	7,407	14,861	23,586	20,889	26,361	25,488	30,452	18,996	9,836	6,486
FY22	3,753	4,506	4,105	9,045	18,584	21,434	30,452	26,402	29,732	13,033	7,574	4,506
Spur Cross	130	118	488	1,575	6,699	4,511	6,053	7,258	8,282	4,917		
FY23	180	316	488	1,976	4,789	3,578	6,430	6,477	8,221	4,900	1,139	586
FY22	299	395	500	1,484	2,859	4,031	7,069	8,168	5,818	4,352	1,211	494
Usery Mtn Park	7,169	6,670	10,119	17,968	32,940	34,058	34,879	37,369	44,888	26,124		
FY23	6,500	6,544	7,043	16,879	26,760	24,845	29,889	29,695	44,722	29,472	13,158	8,231
FY22	3,926	2,811	5,039	14,212	16,450	38,086	29,834	30,249	34,433	22,465	9,316	5,949
White Tank	4,393	6,164	9,396	17,812	26,356	28,524	33,741	39,129	46,464	25,763		
FY23	7,264	8,845	9,345	20,459	27,457	26,239	38,467	39,100	50,150	29,236	13,361	8,585
FY22	4,923	4,068	5,201	17,768	20,775	42,163	36,298	35,679	40,771	24,697	11,293	6,807
Hassayampa	339	411	795	1,133	1,752	1,536	1,461	1,951	2,716	2,375		
FY23	463	546	671	1,202	1,500	912	1,535	1,610	2,573	2,366	1,398	840
FY22	286	333	423	1,105	2,669	1,790	1,771	2,096	2,850	2,286	1,338	554
Lake Pleasant	146,522	76,963	81,319	73,010	47,229	37,638	42,195	62,353	95,518	101,975		
FY23	146,746	87,426	95,022	78,576	56,935	48,903	55,380	64,152	92,599	146,533	142,552	153,447
FY22	88,853	62,651	64,323	50,169	38,347	45,239	35,415	44,353	90,764	152,545	147,980	137,694
DOC	50	80	97	796	496	856	452	847	1,389	2,087		
FY23	183	225	151	639	972	1,302	875	493	2,516	1,618	1,855	402
FY22	0	0	0	0	43	0	84	1,178	1,160	2,276	2,071	506
Agua Fria	6	6	0	0	7	97	130	112	192	232		
FY23		113	0	20	92	32	39	41	62	342	0	0
<b>System Total</b>	<b>166,687</b>	<b>100,011</b>	<b>122,645</b>	<b>156,339</b>	<b>173,901</b>	<b>167,503</b>	<b>187,930</b>	<b>216,382</b>	<b>278,868</b>	<b>211,937</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
FY23	170,951	116,561	129,816	163,612	181,990	165,383	202,876	216,040	292,662	277,955	200,691	187,999
FY22	105,569	78,550	86,743	114,166	123,206	196,165	184,295	189,105	257,501	266,327	194,270	164,652