

D LEVEL HIKING GROUP - Thursdays

Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 6:45 am, depart at 7:00.

March 1 – Baseline, Viewpoint Lookout, Rainbow Trail (Estrella Mountain Regional Park). Rating D. This is a 4 mile loop with a 400 ft. elevation gain. Beginning at the Baseline Trailhead to the Viewpoint Lookout back to Baseline and Rainbow Trails to the trailhead. A restroom is at the trailhead. Park entrance fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles
[RT.http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Rainbow-Toothaker](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Rainbow-Toothaker)

March 8 – Roadrunner/Frog Tank/Beardsley to East (Lake Pleasant) Rating D – This is a 4.2 mile hike with 400' of elevation Start at the Discovery Cent taking Road Runner Trail along the lake to Frog Tan to Beardsley about one mile east and return. This is an in and out hike long the lake which is currently 80% full and filling crossing the road on Frog Tank to Beardsley Trail, going one mile east and returning to the Discovery Center. At the conclusion of the hike the Discovery Center has interesting displays and the best close-up views for the Waddell Dam. A restroom is located at the trailhead and at the parking lot at the ends of Roadrunner Trail. Park entrance fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 80 miles.

March 15 – Mountain Wash/Lost Creek/Quartz Mine Loop (Skyline Park) Rating D+ This is a 4.6 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. in Buckeye's New Skyline Regional Park. The trail gradually climbs Mountain Wash Trail, the first part of the hike to Lost Creek Trail, which provides half the elevation over .3 of a mile before connecting to Quartz Mine Trail to loop back to the trailhead This is a combination of the three trails in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park/Skyline-Regional-Park>

March 22 Spur Cross Trail/ Metate Trails With option to Go to Dragon Fly (Spur Cross Rec Area - Cave Creek). Rating D. This is about a 4.8-5 mile loop with an elevation gain of 470 ft. The hike starts out on Spur Cross Trail to where it forks to Metate Trail and back to Spur Cross Trail with an option to go to Dragon Fly Trail. You will cross the creek and travel through a Saguaro forest with very tall Saguaro cactus. The whole area along the creek is a riparian area, which contains permanent pools of water and lots of vegetation. The trail makes a loop around the Jewel of the Creek Preserve, which contains many different bird species and up to 20 different dragonfly species. Porta-johns are just past the parking area in the park, but there is a park fee is \$3.00 per person or car pass. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. [SCG=5.5/600/2.5].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Metate-Dragonfly-Trail>

March 29 - Mesquite Trail (White Tank Mountains). Rating D+. This is a 5 mile in-and-out hike from Ramada 7 hike with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The trail goes west for 2.5 miles to a saddle with lots of flowers with good spring rains (questionable this year). Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee: \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx. 30 miles

RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>