

D LEVEL HIKING GROUP - TUESDAYS

Meet at the Eagles Nest Clubhouse at 6:30AM, depart at 6:45AM.

September 26 - Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track - Short Version (White Tank Mountains). Rating D. This is a 4.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 250 ft. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with a few ups and downs through washes. The high point gives you nice views back to the east. A short detour on the second half of the hike takes you to a Crested Saguaro. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx.. 30 miles

RT.<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>

October 3 – Cottonwood Trail to Pipeline Canyon Trail to Bridge (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D. This is a 4+ mile hike in Lake Pleasant Regional Park with an elevation gain of 400 ft. This is a fairly easy hike. The hike goes from the northwest corner of Lake Pleasant to a floating bridge that crosses part of the lake. It's a good spring wildflower hike if we get any winter rains. And keep your eyes peeled for burros - there are many in the area. No restrooms at the trailhead, but along the trail. There is a park fee of \$6.00. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. [SCG=4.0/800/2.3].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Pipeline-Yavapai-Cottonwood>

Estrella Mountain Foothills – Brethren North – SR/JL/BL/GS/UT Loop (Estrella Foothills Park). Rating D. This is a 4.8 mile Lollipop loop considered somewhat of a desert ramble with minimal elevation gain. Nice pleasant hike to get some of the holiday cheer off the waistline. Helps begin the post holiday conditioning program to get back in the groove. Trail condition - good hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No parking fee. Driving distance 13 miles.

October 17 – Bootlegger/Granite Mountain/Turpentine Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale). Rating D. This is a 4.5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of approximately 400 ft. It passes through a large boulder of interesting shapes. It finishes by going through a small area of turpentine bushes. There are 3 rock formations that look like camels along the final section of the trail. There are excellent views of the surrounding mountains as well as numerous granite rock formations. This is one of the most scenic trails within an hour of Pebble Creek. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance

October 24-25 - Overnight Hiking Trip to Sedona - C & D levels of hikes will be available - the D hike will be adjusted (shorter) than the C version.

Day 1 - *** NEW HIKE *** Loop hike of several trails in Red Rock State Park (Sedona). Rating C. A 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 500-700 ft. There are numerous views of well known Sedona rock formations as well hiking through a riparian area along Oak Creek.

Day 2 - West Fork Trail #108, Oak Creek Canyon (Sedona). Rating C. A 7.0 mi. round trip with an elevation gain of about 700 ft. This easy, almost level trail extends about 3 miles upstream through the narrow canyon of West Fork, a major tributary of Oak Creek. Sheer canyon walls rising hundreds of feet, luxuriant vegetation with beautiful fall colors, and the clear stream make this an idyllic spot. The stream, which you'll be crossing many times, usually only requires a little rock hopping. The trailhead is off the back of a day use parking area on the west side of US89A midway between mileposts 384 & 385 (10 mi north of Sedona). The trail crosses Oak Creek, then a dirt trail continues past the ruins of Mayhews Lodge and into West Fork Canyon. Restrooms are at the trailhead. \$10.00 per car entrance fee (half price with Golden Age Pass). Driving distance is approx 270 miles RT.