

D LEVEL HIKING GROUP - TUESDAYS

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

September 25 - 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 \$7.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx.. 30 miles

[RT.http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop](http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop)

October 2 – 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>

October 9 - 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 16 – 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 23 - Black Canyon Trail – Skyline Segment (Rock Springs Trailhead - I-17 Exit 242) Rating D. This is a 3.7 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 430 feet. You hike to the Agua Fria River at about the 1.5 mile point. This section has great views of the river valley as you descend down to the river. You can walk along the river in both directions. The main climb is on the way back as you ascend from the river to the top of the ridge. There is a restroom at the trailhead. Trail condition - a good biking trail with one steep section just before getting to the river. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT - the last .25 miles are on a gravel road. The Rock Springs Café (great pies) is .8 miles from the trailhead and you will pass it to get back on I-17. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/BCT-Skyline-Segment>

October 30 - Competitive Track to Grandpa Saguaro. (Estrella Mountains). Rating D. This is a 3.5 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft. Grandpa is the 4th largest Saguaro cactus (over 49 ft tall). The trail goes up over a ridge with nice views of the surrounding area. It passes through typical desert terrain with many bushes and Saguaro cacti. There is a porta-john at the trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00. Driving distance is 26 miles RT.