



Saguaro National Park News Release

For Immediate Release

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Fire Restrictions Lifted at Saguaro National Park

Effective 8:00 a.m. Friday, July 20, Saguaro National Park will lift fire restrictions in both the Rincon and Tucson Mountain Districts. Precipitation associated with the onset of monsoon season has decreased fire potential, however Park visitors are still being urged to exercise caution while smoking, and with campfires.

Campfires are permitted only in picnic areas where fire grates or fireplaces are provided. Visitors must provide their own wood or charcoal. Collecting living or dead vegetation for firewood is prohibited.

Keep these tips in mind before you leave home as well as on the trail to make for an enjoyable outdoor experience during fire season.

- Before going hiking or camping, check with public land management agencies for fire restrictions or area closures.
- Plan ahead and prepare - know your route, sign in at the trailhead, let someone else know where you are going and be sure to know how to get out.
- If you use a campfire, make sure it is fully extinguished before leaving the area - be sure it is cold to the touch.
- If you are using a portable stove, make sure the area is clear of grasses and other fine fuels. Prevent stoves from tipping and starting a fire.
- Practice Leave No Trace principles - pack out cigarette butts and burned materials from your camping area.
- Be aware of sudden changes in the weather or changing weather conditions. For example, if you see a thunderstorm approaching, consider leaving the area.
- If you see a wildland fire, report its location. Avoid traveling near it.

For the latest updates on fire restrictions in Arizona, visit <http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc> or call the toll free Fire Restriction Hotline 1-877-864-6985.

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