

# MAY 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Saturday, May 2, 2009

### 8:00 a.m. - Sentenac Work Project

7 hours

Instructors: Scot Martin and Larry Hendrickson

**No charge, but please call to sign up: (760) 767-4063**

Plan now to contribute some energy and elbow grease to a worthy cause - the removal of non-native and invasive plant species that threaten to choke out native wildflowers and other plants. Tools provided. Bring lunch, water, and gloves if you have them. Higher degree of difficulty.

**Call ABI (760) 767-4063 for specific meeting time and place.**

### 10:30 a.m. - Talk - ♿ - Desert Drug Store

45 Minutes

Join naturalist Abby Barker to discover the Native American drugstore, the creosote bush. . This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If too warm Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

## Sunday, May 3, 2009

### 7:00 a.m. - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 hours

Volunteer naturalist Joe Hopkins will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for him as you hike to the palm oasis. As an experienced naturalist, he can answer many of your questions about the park. If bighorn are about, he is sure to find them! This is not a guided hike.

### 8:00 a.m. - \$\$ - Anza-Borrego's Roof: Hike to Combs Peak

8 hours

Leaders: Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson **Fee: Members \$20; Non-members \$25**

Meet at ABDSP Visitor Center parking lot

Stand on top of the highest point in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park! The 360° views are outstanding, and a wonderful reward for tenacious hikers who can manage the cross-country scramble from the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) up to the top. This strenuous hike involves about 5 miles of walking along the PCT, with some steep off-trail travel to reach the peak. Participants must be in good condition and should wear sturdy hiking boots. Bring a lunch, hat, and plenty of water.

We will carpool to the trailhead. If you are coming from the coast, call us for an alternative meeting place. **Registration required; call ABI for more info (760) 767-4063.**

### 1:30 p.m. - Walk - ♿ - Hardy Desert Survivors

45 minutes

Join Naturalist Abby Barker as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors in the garden, the desert plants. This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If too warm Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

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ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. PROGRAMS ARE HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

**DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.** ♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED. PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.

# MAY 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Wednesday, May 6, 2009

**8:00 a.m. – Hike – Pictographs – What Were They Trying to Say? 2.5 hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Paul Larson on a moderate 3-mile roundtrip hike through a beautiful desert valley to a panoramic overlook. Along the way, we will look at some interesting plants, morteros and rock art. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the visitor center.

## Saturday, May 09, 2009

**11:00 a.m. - Talk ♿ - Solar Cooking Demonstration 1 hour**

Solar energy - the old/new technology. Volunteer Naturalist Eleanor Shimeall demonstrates solar oven cooking and explains why this technology is so important. Meet at the Nierenberg Amphitheater outside the Visitor Center. If too warm event will be held in the Discovery Lab.

## Wednesday, May 13, 2009

**8:00 a.m. – Hike - Earthquake Valley Panorama 3 hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists, Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund, for a moderate 4-mile hike up Plum Canyon to an overlook high over Earthquake Valley. Discover some interesting plants and geological features along the way. Meet at the entrance to Plum Canyon off Highway 78.

## Saturday, May 16, 2009

**2:00 p.m. – Talk - ♿ - Desert Drug Store 45 Minutes**

Join naturalist Abby Barker to discover the Native American drugstore, the creosote bush. . This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If too warm Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

## Sunday, May 17, 2009

**1:30 p.m. – Walk - ♿ - Hardy Desert Survivors 45 minutes**

Join Naturalist Abby Barker as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors in the garden, the desert plants. This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If too warm Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

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# MAY 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



**Saturday, May 23 - Monday, May 25, 2009**

## **Desert Animal Extravaganza**

Instructors: Joe and Donna Hopkins

**Fee: Member \$10 per session or \$25 for full series; Non-Member \$15 per session or \$40 for full series (children under 12 free with an adult)**

Meet at Borrego Springs Middle School, room 104

Bring your love of the desert and sense of adventure and join Park Volunteer Naturalists Joe and Donna Hopkins for a Memorial Day weekend of searching for and observing desert animals. Activities will include car-caravanning looking for sheep, an early-morning hike looking for birds, lizards, and more sheep, evening searches for snakes, blacklighting for scorpions, trapping rodents, and more! While there are no guarantees when looking for wildlife, there is an excellent chance of seeing many of these creatures as they search for food and water in the heat of the desert summer. Come and enjoy this special time of year in the desert in the safety of a group, and learn how you can look for animals on your own.

**Saturday, May 23, 6:30 pm - 11:30 pm:** Focus on scorpions and snakes (some short strolls)

**Sunday, May 24, 6 am - 11:30 am:** Focus on bighorn sheep, lizards, and other creatures (light hiking)

**Sunday, May 24, 6 pm - 11 pm:** Focus on scorpions, snakes, bats, toads and frogs

**Monday, May 25, 6:30 am - noon:** Hike up Borrego Palm Canyon in search of sheep, lizards, birds, rodents and other creatures.

**Registration required; call ABI for more info (760) 767-4063.**

## **Saturday, May 30, 2009**

**10:30 a.m. – Walk - ♿ - Hardy Desert Survivors**

**45 minutes**

Join Naturalist Abby Barker as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors in the garden, the desert plants. This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If too warm Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

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## DESERT SAFETY

- ✓ **Carry water AND drink it**  
Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.
- ✓ **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**  
Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.
- ✓ **Prepare yourself.**  
In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.
- ✓ **Have a plan.**  
Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.
- ✓ **Do not split up the group**  
Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.
- ✓ **Leave snakes alone.**  
Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.
- ✓ **When emergencies happen ...**  
Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!

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