

About Tonto National Forest

The Tonto National Forest embraces almost 3 million acres of rugged and spectacularly beautiful country, including:

Saguaro cactus-studded deserts

- Pine-forested mountains
- The Mogollon Rim
- Lake Beaches
- Cool Pine Forests
- The Lower Salt River
- Semi-Desert Grassland
- Pinyon-Juniper Vegetation
- Ponderosa Pine
- Saguaro Lake
- Canyon Lake

This variety in vegetation and range in altitude (from 1,300 to 7,900 feet) offers outstanding recreational opportunities.

As the fifth largest forest in the United States, the Tonto National Forest is one of the most visited “urban” forests in the U.S., about 5.8 million visitors annually. Its boundaries are Phoenix to the south, the Mogollon Rim to the north, and the San Carlos and Fort Apache Indian Reservation to the east.

“We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give”

—Winston Churchill

Mesa Ranger District

The Mesa Ranger District is one of six Forest Service Districts in the Tonto National Forest. The District is located in the central southern portion of the Tonto National Forest, has over 444,000 acres, and is in proximity to the Phoenix metropolitan area with a population of over three million residents.

The Mesa Ranger Office is in northeast Mesa.

From U.S. 60

Take U.S. 60 (Superstition Freeway) to the Higley Road Exit. Drive north for about 4 miles to Ingram Street, and turn left (west).

From U.S. 202

Take U.S. 202 east to the Higley exit. Drive south about two miles, then turn right (west) onto Ingram Street.



Visit the Association of MRD Volunteers at:
www.mrdvolunteers.org

MESA RANGER DISTRICT

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MESA RANGER DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS



Photo by visionsofthesw.com

**A team of friends caring for the
land and serving people**

Creating Memories for a Lifetime

www.mrdvolunteers.org
Association of Mesa Ranger District Volunteers

“Some of the richest people in the world are not millionaires they are volunteers”

THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

When you become a volunteer at Mesa Ranger District, you select which teams you want to join. Our teams include:

Trail Maintenance Team

Maintains and repairs trails, constructs for drainage and water control, trims brush and removes debris, repairs and replaces signs, removes litter

Boy Scout Team

Identifies projects for Boy Scout troops or Eagle Scout candidates, assists in coordinating projects

Conservation Education Team

Prepares and presents programs on conservation education and forest resources to the public



Saguaro Lake (shown above) and Canyon Lake (to the right) are very active recreation sites in the summer.



Wilderness Steward Team

Greets and assists hikers at trail heads, hikes trails to provide information and assistance, reports information on trail conditions

The "Green" Team

Removes trash and litter, removes invasive weeds, installs other environmental improvements to landscape

Canyon and Saguaro Lake Teams

Helps maintain developed sites such as Canyon Lake and Saguaro Lake with weed control, litter pick up, painting, carpentry, sign replacement

Sign Construction and Repair Team

Constructs signs, repairs damaged signs, and installs signs

Off-Highway Vehicle Team

(Operated by Tonto Recreation Alliance at www.tontorecreationalliance.org) Serves as hosts and information stewards at trail heads or on the trails for off-highway vehicles (OHVs)

How to become a volunteer

Becoming a volunteer at Mesa Ranger District is easy. Either download the application from our website, or pick one up at the office. Send it in by fax, or mail it, and we will then contact you.

You'll start by attending our orientation for new volunteers. Next, we'll prepare a "Volunteer Agreement" that will specify the activities you'll be doing. Then, you'll get a chance to get out and work on some projects.

"Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."



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“Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.