

# Glendale Trail System

with Thunderbird Conservation Park

Glendale Parks & Recreation  
623-930-2820

[www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation)



We welcome you to enjoy the many miles of trails Glendale has to offer. Please use this as a guide to safely explore the trail system throughout the city. Enjoy Glendale's great outdoors!

## PARTNERS 'N PARKS & ADOPT A TRAIL

There are two ways you can get involved in Glendale's parks and trails systems, if you love the outdoors and helping to maintain and preserve open space in our city. The Partners 'n Parks program is a fun and rewarding volunteer program that offers residents an opportunity to give something back to their community by helping to maintain a park or certain aspects of it. The city of Glendale has 96 parks and green spaces throughout the city that are available for a group or individual to adopt. If the trails are more an area of focus for you, the Adopt a Trail program asks groups to participate in clean-up projects to enable hikers, bikers and riders to continue enjoying the beautiful trails throughout the city.

Volunteers provide valuable assistance to the maintenance and ranger staff, and make our parks and trails more enjoyable for our community. For more information, call 623-930-2691, or visit [www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation).

## TRAIL TIPS

- Stay on designated trails.
- Tell someone where you are hiking and when you expect to return.
- Carry and drink water. Remember it's the water in your body, not the water in your canteen that keeps you fit. Carry enough water for your entire hike. Remember water for your dog. When your water is half gone, turn around and return to the trailhead.
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear.
- A cell phone can be a lifesaver. GPS tracking is also useful.
- Don't hike alone.
- Use a walking stick for support and to fend off threatening wildlife.
- Record your experiences with a camera.
- A signalling mirror can help rescuers locate you if you are injured.

Contact Glendale Park Rangers: 623-695-3004

## TRAIL RULES AND GUIDELINES

Some of the rules and guidelines listed are covered in the Glendale City Park Code (Ch. 27). Those that are laws have the code number in parentheses.

**THE TRAILS** - Hiking off the trails is not permitted and dangerous. (27-51c) • Motor vehicles are not permitted on trails. (27-45a) • Creation of trails or short cuts is not permitted. (27-44c) • Trails are multi-use unless otherwise signed. • Observe the accepted trail etiquette:

- Avoid soft and muddy trails. Deep tracks make it difficult for others.
- Allow faster traffic to pass.
- When in a group, don't block the trail. Allow room for other users.
- Horse & rider have the right of way. (27-49d)
- Bicyclists yield to hikers and horse and rider.



**PETS** - Dogs and cats only are permitted on the trails, but must be restrained by a leash (six feet or less) at all times. (27-48a) • Pet droppings must be properly disposed of immediately. (27-48a) • Pets may not chase wildlife. (27-47a)

**TRAIL STOCK** - Ride only on roads and designated trails. (27-49a) • Restrain your mount at all times. (27-49a) • Ride safely and with due care. (27-49a) • Trail stock may only be tied to improvements designed for such use. (27-49b) • Trail stock is not permitted to graze in the park. (27-49e)

**BICYCLES** - Ride only on roadways and designated trails. (27-45a) • Ride safely and yield the right of way to other trail users. (27-45b) • Ride at a reasonable speed. (27-45c) • Announce your presence when approaching other trail users. • Approach each bend as if someone were around the corner.

**WILDLIFE** - Enjoy watching the wildlife along the trails, but do not go off the trail to do so (27-51c) • Do not chase, harass or harm any wildlife in the park. (27-47a) • Remember that even snakes have an important role to play in the ecosystem. Back off and give them room to escape. Most animals won't bother you unless they feel threatened.

**PACK IT IN - PACK IT OUT!** - Do not discard trash along the trails. (27-52a) Carry items to the park trash receptacles. Help us keep the trails beautiful, and pick up any trash you may find • Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the trails. Alcohol speeds up dehydration in the body and may cause heat-related illness. • Do not take glass containers onto the trails. (27-52b)

**WEAPONS** - Sling shots, bow and arrows or knives with over a 3½-inch blade are not permitted on the trails. (27-46) A hiking stick can serve to fend off any wildlife

## GLENDALE'S TRAIL SYSTEM

Trail parking is denoted with the on the map. All trails below are designated as "easy," except those at Thunderbird Conservation Park. See information inside this brochure for designations for those trails.

### Know Your Ability and Choose the Right Trail

Every year, more than 200 people are rescued while hiking in Valley parks and preserves. Make an informed decision on which trail to hike. Choose a trail that is within your ability and your hike will be more enjoyable. Some of the rules and guidelines listed are covered in the Glendale City Park Code. Those that are laws have the code number in parentheses.



### THUNDERBIRD CONSERVATION PARK

59th Avenue, ½ mile north of Deer Valley Road

- Open sunrise to sunset
- Over 20 miles of trails
- A desert conservation park
- Parking available off main entrance, 67th Avenue and Patrick Lane and off Pinnacle Peak Road at 55th Avenue

### SKUNK CREEK LINEAR PARK

51st Ave. & Utopia Road to 73rd Ave. & Paradise

- Open sunrise to sunset
- A linear trail of 3.5 miles connecting to Thunderbird Paseo Park and various neighborhood parks
- A trail system running along Skunk Creek
- Park at Foothills Park at 57th Ave. & Union Hills Dr.

### GRAND CANAL LINEAR PARK

75th Avenue and Camelback Road to New River Trail

- Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- A linear trail of 7.5 miles
- A linear park running along the Grand Canal, with a lighted, paved trail and an equestrian trail. Trail heads west to University of Phoenix Stadium, Westgate Entertainment District, Glendale Youth Sports Complex, Glendale Heroes Regional Park and then to 75th Avenue North of Camelback Road
- Parking available on 75th Avenue just north of Camelback Road, 83rd Avenue and Bethany Home Road and 107th Avenue and Bethany Home Road
- Equestrian parking located on 51st Avenue, south of Bethany Home Road.

### THUNDERBIRD PASEO PARK

51st Ave. & Cactus Road to 73rd Ave. & Paradise Lane

- Open sunrise to sunset
- A linear trail of nearly 4 miles connecting to Skunk Creek Linear Park
- A linear park running along the Arizona Canal with a paved trail and an unpaved equestrian trail
- Parking available at 59th Avenue just south of Thunderbird Road and on 67th Avenue just south of Greenway Road

### NEW RIVER TRAIL

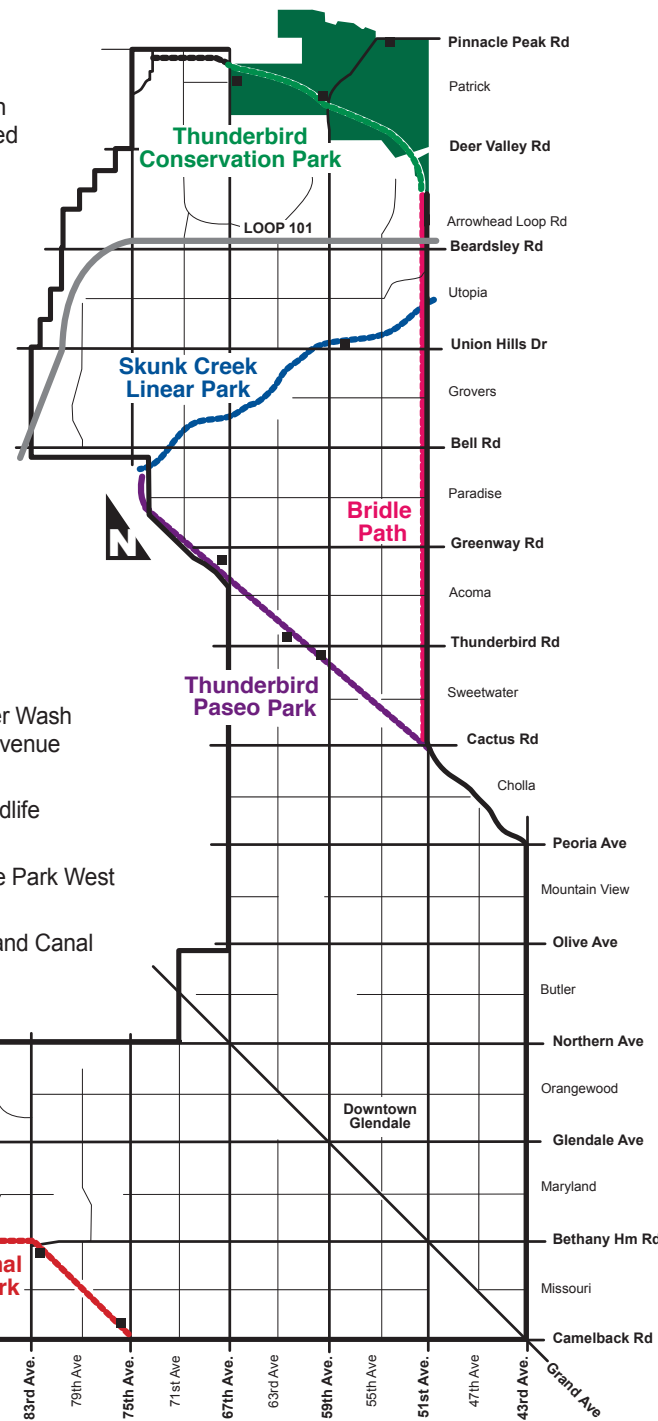
107th Avenue and Bethany Home Road to 101st Avenue and Northern Avenue

- Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- A paved trail of 2 miles through Glendale along the New River Wash and connects to City of Peoria – New River Trail at Northern Avenue (continues north)
- Trail runs along New River Wash that has a wide variety of wildlife for great photography opportunities
- Parking available at 107th Ave & Bethany Home Road and the Park West Entertainment Center at 99th and Northern avenues
- At 107th Avenue and Bethany Home Rd., trail connects to Grand Canal Linear Park and heads east to University of Phoenix Stadium, Westgate Entertainment District, Glendale Youth Sports Complex, Glendale Heroes Regional Park and then to 75th Avenue

### BRIDLE PATH

West side of 51st Ave. from Cactus Road north to Thunderbird Conservation Park

- A 9-mile, decomposed granite path for equestrian use



# Thunderbird Conservation Park

Main Entrance: 59th Avenue between Deer Valley & Pinnacle Peak\*

Open Daily Sunrise to Sunset • Gates Locked at Sunset

\*see all entrances designated on map

## TRAIL DESCRIPTIONS

Help us protect this fragile environment by staying on the trails.

- Easiest
- Easy
- Moderate
- ◊ Moderate Difficult
- ◆ Difficult
- ◆◆ Extremely Difficult

**Ratings:** During the hotter months when the temperature and/or humidity is high, trails will be rated at least one level higher.

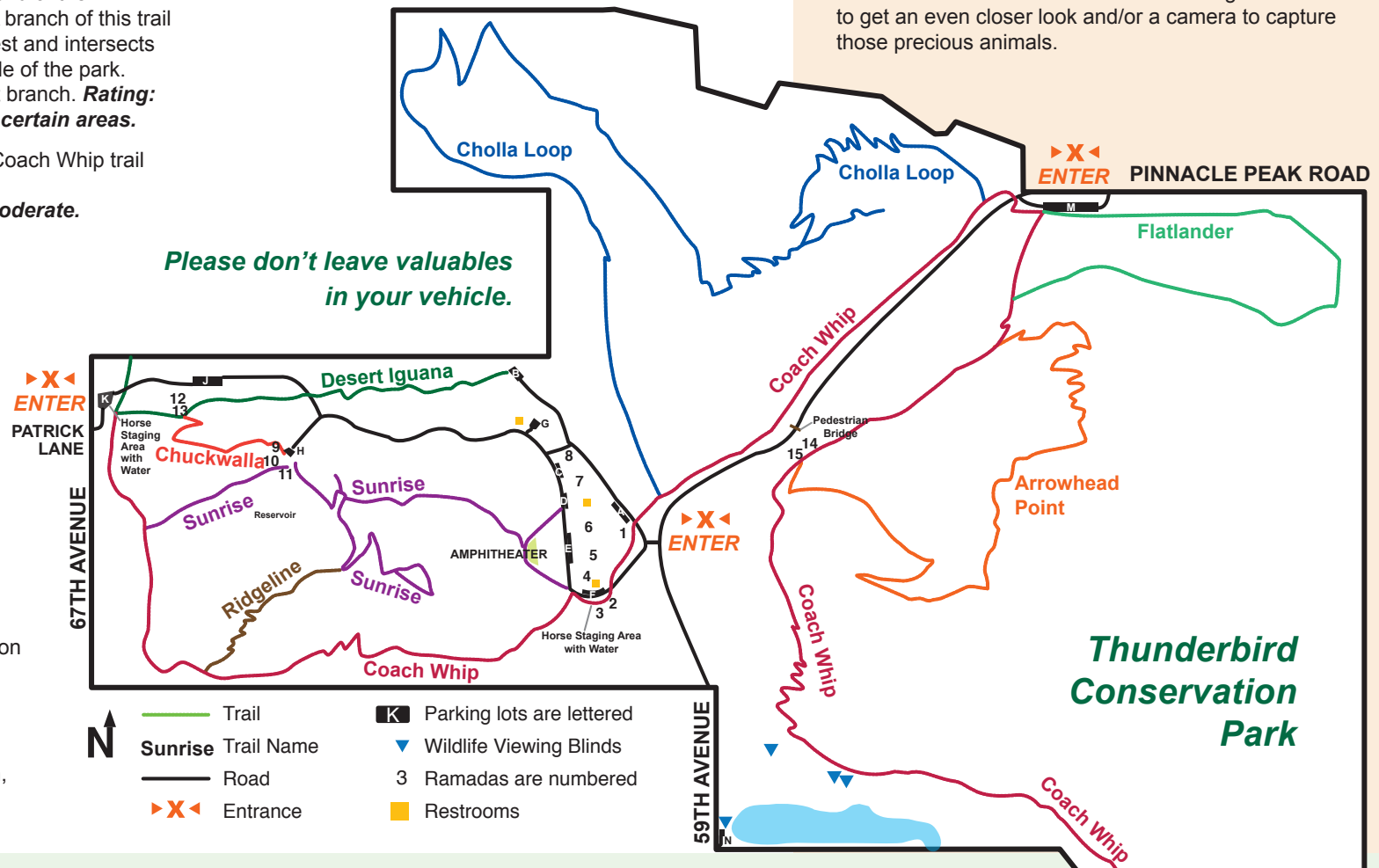
- **COACH WHIP:** Originates at 67th Avenue parking lot at Patrick Lane and concludes at 51st Avenue & Potter. Not designated as a looped trail. Approximately 5.0 miles. **Rating: Moderate.**
- **FLATLANDER:** Originates at 55th Avenue and Pinnacle Peak parking lot and is a looped trail. Approximately 1.25 miles. **Rating: Easy.**
- **CHOLLA LOOP:** Originates at parking lot A and ends at Coach Whip near 55th Avenue and Pinnacle Peak Road. Approximately 3.0 miles. **Rating: Moderate to Moderate/Difficult in certain areas.**
- ◆ **SUNRISE:** Originates at the north end of the amphitheater or near Ramada 11. A branch of this trail originates at Ramada 11, travels west and intersects the Coach Whip trail on the west side of the park. Approximately 2 miles with the west branch. **Rating: Moderate to Moderate/Difficult in certain areas.**
- **RIDGELINE:** Originates off of the Coach Whip trail and intersects with the Sunrise trail. Approximately 0.4 miles. **Rating: Moderate.**

- **DESERT IGUANA:** Originates at 67th Avenue and Patrick Lane parking lot and concludes at parking lot B. Approximately 0.75 miles. **Rating: Easy.**
- **CHUCKWALLA:** Originates at Ramada 13 and concludes at Ramada 9. Approximately 0.25 miles. **Rating: Moderate.**
- ◆ **ARROWHEAD POINT:** Originates south of Pinnacle Peak parking lot along the Coach Whip trail and ends at Ramadas 14 and 15. Approximately 1.5 miles. **Rating: Moderate/Difficult.**



## PICNIC AREAS

Thunderbird Conservation Park has 15 ramadas (covered picnic areas). Ramadas 1-13 are available for reservation or are on a first-come, first-served basis when not reserved. To reserve a ramada, call the Parks & Recreation office at 623-930-2820 or do so online at [www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation](http://www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation), at least 24 hours in advance.



## WILDLIFE

One of the things hikers and nature lovers enjoy about this park is the wildlife. You may encounter many Sonoran Desert inhabitants in Thunderbird Conservation Park, including everything from hummingbirds to vultures, and jackrabbits to coyotes. In fact, more than 50 species of birds, reptiles and mammals make the area home. For a complete list of the wildlife in the area, visit [www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation/thunderbirdpark.cfm](http://www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation/thunderbirdpark.cfm).

## VIEWING BLINDS

Four wildlife viewing blinds are located at Thunderbird Conservation Park in the southern section of the park. Three of the viewing blinds are accessible from the trails off Pinnacle Peak Road (located north of the sedimentation basin) and the fourth is handicapped-accessible, located off 59th Avenue and Melinda Lane (just west of the of the sedimentation basin.) These blinds provide areas for viewing the park's 50+ different species of birds and wildlife attracted to the man-made water feature. They feature a decorative block wall with "windows" for viewing, benches and a path to access them. Check them out and be sure to bring binoculars to get an even closer look and/or a camera to capture those precious animals.

## CAUTIONS

- Teddy bear cholla (jumping cactus) have segments that readily detach and have very sharp spines that easily penetrate shoe leather. A large comb and pliers are useful in removing them.
- Several species of rattlesnakes inhabit some of our parks. If encountered, always leave them a way to escape. Do not tease or harass the snake. The result may be a bite and a trip to the hospital. Always look where you place your hands and feet. When hiking, walk with a heavy foot. The snake will sense your approach and leave before you get to it.
- Scorpions and spiders may be found under rocks, in bushes and other places. As with snakes, always look where you place your hands and feet and before you it down.
- To avoid bees, yellow jackets and wasps, do not wear perfume or scented lotions. Avoid swarms and nests. Do not make loud noises. Bees, yellow jackets and wasps will defend their hives and nests if threatened. If attacked, get out of the area as quickly as possible and call 911 and/or Park Rangers. Report the attack to the Glendale Parks and Recreation Department at 623-930-2820.
- Other wildlife (coyotes, fox, javelina, etc.) — If encountered on the trail, freeze where you are. Leave a route for the animal to escape. If you are blocking the only escape route, slowly move out of the way and allow the animal to pass

## PARK RULES

These rules apply to all city parks

- The city noise ordinance applies in parks and regulates amplified sound (music).
- Vehicles may park in designated areas only. No overnight parking. Motorized vehicles are restricted to paved roads.
- Bicycles, unicycles, skateboards and skates are allowed only on walkways and paths. Do not ride on the grass or other surfaces and equipment.
- No fishing or boating in the lake.
- Collecting of firewood is prohibited.
- No fires except for charcoal fires in grills designated for such use except when fire danger is high and posted.
- No glass containers.
- No alcoholic beverages, except beer with Beer Permit
- No explosives, slingshots, bow and arrows.
- No horses, donkeys and mules (except on designated trails).
- No shopping carts.
- Violations of park rules may result in fines or imprisonment.
- Park rangers and city police officers are authorized to issue citations and/or file civil code infraction complaints for rule, regulation and ordinance violations.
- It is unlawful to obstruct city officials in the performance of their official duties in a park or to furnish false information to city officials.

## DO NOT

- Use park when closed.
- Litter or dump.
- Hunt or harass animals.
- Damage, change or remove park property.
- Abandon animals.
- Golf.
- Climb trees.
- Smoke in enclosed facilities and restrooms.
- Swim or operate water craft or pollute in waters.
- Operate unlicensed motorized vehicles (ATVs, motorized skateboards).
- Operate radio-controlled models and model rockets.
- Land or launch airplanes, helicopters, gliders, hot air balloons or parachutes. (27-51)
- Hike or ride off marked trails. (27-51)

## PERMITS REQUIRED FOR:

- Amplified sound equipment
- beer consumption
- facility/park reservations
- special equipment, vending operations or sale of goods.

Contact Glendale Park Rangers: 623-695-3004