

HTC Newsletter

Issue 50 Volume 1 January 2023



Hello HTC Members,

Welcome to 2023!

I have been watching the weather all over the country as of late and sure hope everyone of you is safe and intact.

Mother Nature is so unpredictable, I guess that could be one thing that encourages us all to travel and camp (or glamp). Everywhere we go is different each time we go back. The changes that naturally occur along with man assisted changes make the experiences more intriguing with every visit.

Being creative in the way we visit places is what makes HTC unique. Hiking and camping are not generally thought of as activities for people with physical restrictions, but who said we had general thinking?

There is a place here in Colorado called Wilderness on Wheels where someone had the insight to create a boardwalk hiking trail one mile long up the mountain and build some rustic camping that is wheelchair accessible, I am sure there are others throughout the country.

Fortunately, RV manufacturers are building accessible rigs that make glamping, traveling and even full timing a very achievable way of life. Nothing is beyond reach when you approach it with creativity.

My hope for us all in this new year is that our creativity does not stall out and our ambitious curiosity keeps us moving forward. Hope to see you all at the next gathering or rally.

Please contact me if you have thoughts to share, questions to ask, improvements to be made, etc. (President@handicappedtravelclub.com or 719 510-7737).

Sincerely,

Loretta Spotts



2023 HTC Annual Rally
Friday, October 20 thru Tuesday, October 24
Location: White Tank Mountain Regional Park in Waddell, Arizona



The location for the 2023 HTC Rally is White Tank Mountain Regional Park, a few miles west of Surprise Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix. A beautiful natural desert landscape with Saguaro, Palo Verde, and views of the mountains to the west. In the evening there are views of Phoenix city lights to the east. The immense parkland is home to: Deer, Javelina, Desert Tortoise, Cottontail Rabbit, Bobcats, Coyote, and many birds: Greater Roadrunner, Cactus Wren, Curve-billed Thrasher, Anna's Hummingbird, and Gilded Flicker.

The highest peak above the campground is over 4,000 feet elevation, the campground near the mountain base is around 1,000 feet or so. This is a beautiful landscape amidst nature in sunshine and an abundance of warmth. Weather expected to be sunny; historical average highs in the 80s in October.

White Tank Mountain Regional Park: <https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/park-locator/white-tank-mountain-regional-park/>

The five days of the rally start on Friday, October 20, thru Tuesday, October 24, with Goodbyes on the morning of Wednesday, October 25.

The rally events will take place at the Group Camping Area. We have already reserved the Group Camping Area which has enough room for 25+ RVs for the five days of the rally. Next to this dry camping area is a large, smooth rolling flat cement pad with two Ramada's each with four picnic tables. The picnic tables are where we will be gathering during the day and into the evenings, nearby is a cement fire ring where we can have our evening campfire. The wheelchair races will take place on the private paved entry road where there is plenty of space. Each group of picnic tables has six electric outlets for coffee and appliance purposes. The area for the RVs is dry camping, hard packed, desert dirt and fairly flat; very roll-able. Next to the parking is an ADA restroom with a rollin shower, also nearby a potable water spigot.

We need a minimum of five RVs to dry camp in the Group Camping Area, we already have three so far. It would be great to have ten dry campers ... if that works well. If you would like a site in the Group Camping Area let us know so we can allocate you camping space.

If you need water and electric hookups there is also the Family Camping Area with 30+ individual camp sites with water and electric. This park loop is a few hundred paces down the main park road from the Group Camping Area. There is a dump station near the entrance to the park loop (see photo on next page).



White Tank Mountain Regional Park

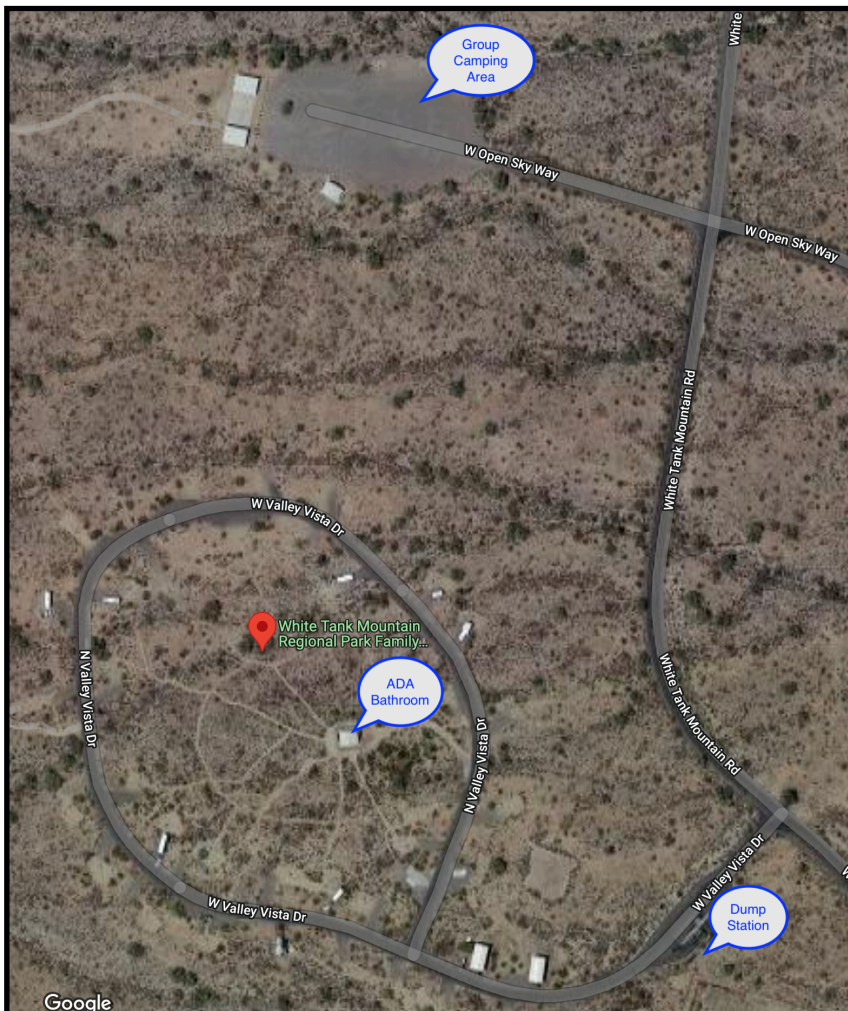
Group Camping Area
(Fire pit, Ramadas left, ADA restroom lower)



Two Ramadas



Top - Group Camping Area
Lower - Family Camping Area Loop



The primary park road is "White Tank Mountain Road". The park entrance is a few miles south, outside this photo.

To get to the Family Camping Area, take White Tank Mountain Road, then turn left turn on "W Valley Vista Drive". Loop lower on photo.

The Group Camping Area is just a short drive further up White Tank Mountain Road from the Family Camping Area, turn left on "W Open Sky Way". Top of photo.

2023 Handicapped Travel Club (HTC) Rally - Registration

Rally starts 3pm, Friday, October 20th thru Tuesday, October 24th

White Tank Mountain Regional Park

20304 W. White Tank Mountain Road in Waddell, AZ 85355

Please send your Rally Registration before July 1, 2023 or contact wagon masters, Will and Jessie at email address wagonmaster@handicappedtravelclub.com or call 425 889-0183. Even if you are considering coming let us know so we can plan accordingly.

Group Camping Area sites are at the daily rate of: \$22.00 per night for dry camping
Family Camping Area sites are at the daily rate of: \$32.00 per night for water and electricity
If lodging at a motel, park entry fee per vehicle: \$7.00 per day

Park Fees: <https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/fees/>

A). If you will be camping in the Group Camping Area for the five days of the rally only you do not need to make a reservation with the campground; the Group Camping Area is already booked for HTC for the five days of the rally. When you arrive at the campground entry booth, let them know you are with HTC and will be camping in the Group Camping Area. You will pay your park fee of \$22 per night; \$110 for 5 nights.

B). If you will be camping at the Family Camping Area in an individual campsite, you will need to book the campsite reservation and make payment for your campsite using the Reservation System for Maricopa County Parks and Recreation.

You can reserve your campsite 6 months prior to your arrival date. Each day opens for reservation booking at 6 a.m. Arizona time.

Examples: If arriving on October 20th then the first day you can book your Family Camping Area reservation is on April 20, 2023 at 6 a.m. If arriving for the rally early, on October 18th, then the first day you can book your reservation would be April 18, 2023.

Reservation System: <https://www.maricopacountyparks.org/>

This is a popular campground and fills up rapidly, so please don't miss out on the 2023 HTC Rally.

Other scenarios: If you are arriving prior to the first day of the rally, and/or staying beyond the last day of the rally camping at the Family Camping Area, and you will also be camping at the Group Camping Area for the five days of the rally, then you will need to do both processes A) and B).

Names of those Attending Rally:

Rally Fee: \$25.00 per Person X _____ Persons = \$ _____

Please make cash payment for your Rally Fee to wagon masters at the rally on October 20, 2023.

Please Specify Camping Area(s):

☐ Group Camping Area ☐ Family Camping Area ☐ Both Group Camping and Family Camping

For questions or need to require special accommodations contact the wagon masters.

Please provide your cell numbers and email address in case we need to contact you while you are traveling to the rally or need to notify you of any changes.

Cell Numbers: 1) _____ 2) _____

Email Address: _____

For non RVer's. there are many motels, hotels available nearby in Surprise, AZ and Phoenix, AZ.

Please bring your own comfortable camping chair for socializing and sitting around the campfire in the evenings. Do not forget needed medical supplies and prescription medications.

Future Events

2023 Spring TBD

HTC Western Mini Rally

The Annual West Coast Mini Rally will take place in the Spring. Details to follow.

Call or email Don Bonney for reservations. Non-members are welcome, come check us out.

Watch our web site for any updates <https://handicappedtravelclub.com/>

Don Bonney

Sdbonney3@yahoo.com

925-237-6308

2023 October 20 thru 24

White Tank Mountain Regional Park

HTC Annual Rally

The 2023 HTC Annual Rally will be held at White Tank Mountain Regional Park in Waddell, Arizona. The park is located to the west of Surprise Arizona, a suburb of Phoenix. This is a beautiful natural desert landscape. See information starting on page 2 of this newsletter.

Rally Wagon Masters are Will and Jessie (425) 889-0183.

From HTC Treasurer:

Brad Bartz was elected as our new HTC Treasurer. He will be sending out HTC dues reminders in January.

However, no need to wait, to renew your membership for the 2023 please send \$10 dollars either via

PayPal at <https://paypal.me/HTCDues> or by mailing check to:

HTC c/o Brad Bartz

19827 NE 189th st

Woodinville WA, 98077

Newsletter Submissions: Please submit material for inclusion in the newsletter to the editor William Robinson at email address Editor@handicappedtravelclub.com. If possible, send submission materials in two weeks prior to the quarterly publication months, which are: January, April, July, October. If you need to send submission material via USPS paper mail, call Will at 425-889-0183 for mailing address and coordinating receipt of paper mail.

Advertising: \$100 for full page; \$50 for 1/2 page; 1/4 page \$35; 1/8 page \$20.

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