Welcome to McDowell Mountain Regional Park
McDowell Mountain Regional Park is northeast of Scottsdale in the lower Verde Basin. This 21,099-acre Sonoran Desert park is one of Maricopa County’s largest. Elevation ranges from 1,550 to 3100 feet.

Park Rules
PLEASE OBSERVE PARK RULES! Park rules are posted throughout the park; they are also available as a handout.

Picnicking
McDowell Park offers two day-use areas, Ironwood and Palo Verde, totaling 88 sites with; open year-round. Each picnic area has restrooms and a playground. No reservations are necessary.

The Group Picnic Ramadas next to the Trailhead Staging Area offers two large ramadas with four picnic tables each. By reservation only.

Camping
The E. I. Rowland family campground consists of 76 camping sites for tents or RVs. Each site accommodates up to a 45-foot RV. The south loop also has handicapped-accessible restrooms. An RV dump station is available. There is a 14-day stay limit. The 3-acre Group Campground accommodates up to 30 RV units. No hook-ups. It can be reserved for day use or overnight camping at (480) 471-0173. Restrooms have flush toilets and hot showers.

For groups over 30 RV units, the Group Picnic Ramadas at the Trailhead Staging Area are available. Group Campground and Group Picnic Ramadas have a 6-unit minimum.

For youth groups, the park offers the Youth Group Area for day use and overnight camping. Also available are two small, primitive camps, Eagle Camp and Mink’s Camp.

Tent camping is available in the Ironwood Picnic Loop. Nearby is a bathroom with water.

Reservations for all campsites are available at https://maricopaountyparks.org or (602) 506-2930. For further info about amenities, please contact the Park Office at (480) 471-0173.

Trails
The park offers some 65 miles of hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian trails of various lengths and difficulties. The Trailhead Staging Area is open to all trail users; Four Peaks Staging Area is available for equestrian use daily; it also has become an important trailhead for all users and is sometimes used for larger special events. Smaller trailheads are near the campground and picnic areas.

Note: Travel can be arduous; be prepared. Carry plenty of water, sun protection, and let someone know where you are going. Enter the Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office phone number of (602)-876-1000 into your cell phone prior to hiking. Emergency: 911.

Competitive Track
The Competitive Track provides challenging, strenuous, and high-speed recreation for individuals, groups, and organized events. It is shared-use and is open to runners, mountain bikers, and equestrians. Please obey the one-way signs. A detailed map is available.

Other Activities
The park offers interpretive hikes year-round, star gazing, and special programs, usually at no extra charge. The Nature Center has educational presentations and critters on display. Detailed trail info is available. Snacks, drinks, books and gifts are for sale.

Hours & Contacts
McDowell Mountain Regional Park is open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sun - Thurs and 10 a.m. Fri and Sat. A per-vehicle entry fee is required. Please use the self-pay station when the entrance booth is not staffed. For further information please contact the Park Office.

Mailing Address:
McDowell Mountain Regional Park
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Fountain Hills, AZ 85269

Physical Address: (4 miles north of Fountain Hills)
McDowell Mountain Regional Park
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Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
Ph: (480) 471-0173
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