



Responsible Multi-Use = Successful Stewardship

The January 9, 2019 SALT Speakers Series will feature a Footprints Matter to Us-mediated panel discussion of stewardship and responsible recreation in the Sonoran Desert. It will take place at 6:30 PM in Rm. B-117 of the Apache Junction Multigenerational Center, 1035 N. Idaho Rd.

Footprints Matter to Us is a community involvement organization based in northern Pinal County. It has an established record of organizing very effective volunteer desert cleanups, as well as panel discussions before a variety of stakeholder and user groups. Stewardship is a continuous process that takes both commitment and courage. Among Footprints Matter's most successful achievements over 10 years has been building relationships with land owners, including federal and state agencies. Communities such as Gold Canyon and Superior are bordered by lands administered by both the US Forest Service land and Arizona State Land Department, where responsible recreation is vital. Interaction between the community, multiple users, lessees and land agencies is important to set and achieve common goals.

The distinguished panel for this question, answer and discussion session

will include top representatives from Tonto National Forest, Mesa District Office; AZ State Land Department, Trespass Investigator and OHV Manager; Pinal County Sheriff Mark Lamb; and Arizona Game and Fish Department, Wildlife Manager III. Natural Restorations, the Arizona State Parks & Trails OHV Coordinator and Pinal County Open Space & Trails personnel also will attend.

The session will include a short presentation by each of the participants, as well as extensive time for questions from the audience. Emphasis will be on how all partners can work cooperatively to achieve successful and sustainable multi-use recreation - including target shooting and off highway vehicle (OHV) use - and environmental stewardship.

Topics covered will include:

- Continued success of volunteer trash clean ups from Gold Canyon to Superior
- Update on Peralta Regional Park
- Recent rehabilitation at Desert Wells, a designated OHV use area on Arizona State Trust Lands
- How and why the Pinal County Sheriff's office is responsible for enforcement

SUPERSTITION AREA



- Overuse of recreational assets and what the Tonto NF is doing to protect the environment
- How we as a community can and do make a difference

The Speakers Series is co-sponsored by the Superstition Area Land Trust (SALT) and the Apache Junction Parks and Recreation Department on most 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, October through April.

SALT is a 501(c)3 nonprofit whose mission is to conserve the natural Sonoran Desert open spaces surrounding the Superstition Wilderness Area for this and future generations. You can learn more about us, what we do, and how to join and/or contribute at azsalt.org