

## **WILDFLOWERS!**

**April 3, 2019**

While the “big show” is winding down, there are still places in the park to find wildflowers.

The **Visitor Center** and **Hellhole Canyon** areas are still in bloom, with very nice patches of desert dandelion, phacelia, and other annuals, as well as glorious brittlebush and chuparosa. Cacti in the Visitor Center Garden are exploding with different colors!

Start early if you want to hike in **Borrego Palm Canyon**, as the parking lot fills up very quickly! If you miss out in the morning, try later in the afternoon. The **Alternate Trail** starts from the trail up to the campfire center, and is loaded with amazing amounts of a wide variety of flowers. Feet will get wet on the **Main Trail**, due to high water at stream crossings. Keep your eyes and ears open for bighorn sheep on both trails!

A collection of metal statues lines Borrego Springs Road, which bends at its north end and becomes Henderson Canyon Road. Before heading east, this is a good place to get out and walk around a bit, enjoying the statues and the flowers.

Heading east on Henderson Canyon Road (site of 2017’s “SuperBloom”) will take you to a field yellow desert sunflowers, though they are starting to look dry. Lots of parking along the road.

The dirt road going into **Lower Coyote Canyon** is open to All-Wheel-Drive or 4WD vehicles only. The best flowers are located beyond Second Crossing, though ocotillos are blooming at Ocotillo Flats, across from Desert Gardens.

The “**Ocotillo Forest**” along Borrego Springs Road south of Christmas Circle is starting to bloom.

The **Cactus Loop Trail**, across the road from Tamarisk Grove campground, has hillsides covered with poppies, along with a variety of small “belly flowers” growing low. Try **Yaqui Well Trail** too, as well as the **Narrows Earth Trail**. The dirt road into **Plum Canyon** is lined with flowers. 2WD cars should stay to the right when the road forks. The entrance to Mine Wash has lots of yellow dandelions, and poppies on the hillside. 2WD vehicles should be OK as far as the vault toilet.

**PLEASE NOTE: Highway 78 will be closed on Wednesday, April 3, between Highway S-2 and Borrego Springs Road, for road work.**

For maps and directions, visit our website at [www.parks.ca.gov/anzaborrego](http://www.parks.ca.gov/anzaborrego).  
For updates on blooming areas, call our **Wildflower Hotline: 760-767-4684**.