INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY 2019

Friday, February 1, 2019
9:00 a.m. Spring Plant Walk 2.5 Hours
Learn about Anza-Borrego Desert State Park’s amazing desert plants! Meet knowledgeable Botany Society volunteers for a morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary depending on bloom locations. Each walk is limited to 30 people. Advance registration is required. Call ABF at 760-767-0446 Ext.1002 to sign up. Walks meet at ABF, 587 Palm Canyon Dr.

Saturday, February 2, 2019
8:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon 3 Hours
Volunteer Naturalist Dan Leidecker will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for him as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

9:00 a.m. Behind-the-Scenes Tour: Archaeology and Paleontology Laboratories 1.5 Hours
Ever wonder about the rich discoveries being made in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park? Meet in front of the Visitor Center for a walking tour to visit our excellent laboratory facilities. Cost is $25 per person (does not include $10 day use fee per car). Call 760-767-4037 or email Anza-Borrego.Tours@parks.ca.gov to reserve. Tours also offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. Bike Ride – Interpretive Ride into Sheep Canyon 4 Hours
Join Jim Roller, Gary Haldeman and Mark Jorgensen for a ride through Lower Coyote Canyon from the end of the blacktop to Third Crossing and continuing on through Collins Valley into Sheep Canyon. This is a strenuous 18+ mile ride that includes a 6-mile climb at the start through some sand, rocks, and water crossings. Fee is $20 Public/$15 ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details and to register at 760-767-0446 Ext 1003.

11:00 a.m. Talk – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness 1 Hour
Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

2:00 p.m. Junior Ranger Family Hike – Up a Bajada Wash 1.5 Hours
Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a fun family exploration hike along a wash in the bajada just behind the Visitor Center. Find animal homes, soft sand, and other desert wonders. Bring one liter of water per person, a hat, and sturdy shoes. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

4:00 p.m. Talk – Photo Contest Judge Critique 1 Hour
Wondering how our Photo Contest judges evaluate the entries, and why a certain photo won? Thinking of entering next year and curious about the judging process? Join Contest Judge Paul Johnson for a display and critique of photographs entered in the 2019 contest. Paul will go through the winning photographs and offer a critique and judge summary of the contest as a whole. Don’t miss out on this insider view to the contest! Free and Open to the Public. Meet at the UCI Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center (401 Tilting T Dr. Borrego Springs, CA 92004). Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details: 760-767-0446 Ext 1003.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER* (OPEN EVERY DAY 9 AM to 5 PM). Denotes programs accessible to disabled.
PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.
DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS. *DAILY USE FEE $10 PER CAR
Saturday, February 2, 2019 (continued)

5:30 p.m. Social Event – Anza-Borrego Desert Photo Contest Opening Reception  2 Hours
Join Anza-Borrego Foundation and Borrego Art Institute as we kick off the Gallery Show for the 2019 Anza-Borrego Desert Photo Contest! Peruse the winning photos and honorable mentions, pick up ribbons if you are a winner, enjoy hors d’oeuvres from our friends at Kesling’s Kitchen, and mingle with your fellow photographers! Free and Open to the Public. Meet at Borrego Art Institute (665 Palm Canyon Dr, Borrego Springs, CA 92004). Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details: 760-767-0446 Ext 1003.

7:00 p.m. Talk  – Enjoy Anza-Borrego’s Dark Night Sky!  1 Hour
Winter nights are perfect for Stargazing. Explore constellations and learn about the importance of dark skies everywhere. Bring binoculars if you have them, flashlight (red lens is preferable) and your imagination! Look for Interpreter Sally Theriault at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

Sunday, February 3, 2019

7:30 a.m. Walk – Bird Walk  1.5 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Rain cancels.

8:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon  3 Hours
Volunteer Naturalist Dan Leidecker will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for him as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

9:00 a.m. Behind-the-Scenes Tour: Archaeology and Paleontology Laboratories  1.5 Hours
Ever wonder about the rich discoveries being made in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park? Meet in front of the Visitor Center for a walking tour to visit our excellent laboratory facilities. Cost is $25 per person (does not include $10 day use fee per car). Call 760-767-4037 or email Anza-Borrego.Tours@parks.ca.gov to reserve. Tours also offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. Walk  – Those Amazing Desert Plants!  1 Hour
Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help plants survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

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**INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES**

**FEBRUARY 2019**

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**Monday, February 4, 2019**

**8:30 a.m. Hike – Coachwhip Canyon**  
5.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a moderate, approximately 5-mile hike in Coachwhip Canyon. We will experience stunning sandstone formations and this year’s fabulous flora. Bring water, lunch, and poles if you use them. Wear hiking shoes. The hike is limited to 11 people. Please sign up or call at the Visitor Center, 760-767-4205. Meet at the Hellhole Canyon parking area (on Hwy S-22, *aka* Montezuma Valley Road, 0.8 mile south of Palm Canyon Drive) to carpool.

**2:30 p.m. Hike – Stroll into the Sunset (Wash)**  
3 Hours

Sunset Wash is a picturesque example of the canyons that drain out of the Vallecito Mountains. Come join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a moderately-paced 3-mile exploration over somewhat rocky terrain. Meet at the entrance to Nude Wash, off Highway 78, about 0.25 mile east of call box 78-822 and just west of the road sign listing the mileage to Ocotillo Wells.

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**Tuesday, February 5, 2019**

**9:00 a.m. Hike – Elephant Safari**  
3 Hours

The Elephant Tree, which is common south of the border, is rarely found in the U.S. The largest “herd” resides in Alma Wash in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Come join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a moderate, somewhat rocky, 3-mile ramble to observe the Elephant Tree in its natural, alluvial-fan habitat. Meet at the Elephant Trees Trail parking area off Split Mountain Road. Participants without 4WD, high-clearance vehicles can park below the trailhead and walk the rest of the way up the one-mile dirt road.

**3:00 p.m. Talk – Cosmic Recycling: Geological Highlights of the Anza-Borrego Region**  
1 Hour

Southern California has a rich and varied geological history. Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian will relate some of the fascinating local lore and how it ties into the larger picture. Meets in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

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**Wednesday, February 6, 2019**

**8:30 a.m. Hike – Heavenly Hike through Hellhole Canyon**  
5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Dan Jellis for a 6 mile (roundtrip) moderately strenuous exploration of Hellhole Canyon. Meet at the Hellhole Canyon parking area: take S-22 south from Palm Canyon Drive approximately 1 mile. The parking area is on the right hand side of the road. Due to the difficult terrain, wear sturdy footwear and bring a hat, sunscreen, lunch and plenty of water.

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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY 2019

Friday, February 8, 2019
9:00 a.m. Spring Plant Walk 2.5 Hours
Learn about Anza-Borrego Desert State Park’s amazing desert plants! Meet knowledgeable Botany Society volunteers for a morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary depending on bloom locations. Each walk is limited to 30 people. Advance registration is required. Call ABF at 760-767-0446 Ext.1002 to sign up. Walks meet at ABF, 587 Palm Canyon Dr.

Saturday, February 9, 2019
8:30 a.m. Hike – Ghost Mountain 3 Hours
Experience the Marshal South story on this trek up Ghost Mountain with Volunteer Naturalist Dan Leidecker. The hike is steep but relatively short (1 mile up, 1 mile down) and offers a glimpse into the family’s life on this remote mountaintop. Bring water, a snack, hat and sturdy footwear. Meet Dan at the Blair Valley entrance (turn off highway S2 near mile marker 23, at the Butterfield Stage sign). For something special in the morning, join Dan for a pre-hike no-host breakfast at Shelter Valley Community Center, 8 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Behind-the-Scenes Tour: Archaeology and Paleontology Laboratories 1.5 Hours
Ever wonder about the rich discoveries being made in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park? Meet in front of the Visitor Center for a walking tour to visit our excellent laboratory facilities. Cost is $25 per person (does not include $10 day use fee per car). Call 760-767-4037 or email Anza-Borrego.Tours@parks.ca.gov to reserve. Tours also offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. Junior Ranger Family Walk in the Badlands 1.5 Hours
Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a family walk. We’ll discover the exciting features of this dramatic landscape and take an easy walk to look closely at the desert badlands. Anyone is welcome to join us! Kids 7-12 will receive their Junior Ranger badge. Bring water and wear a sun hat. Meet at Call Box 346, at Mile 34.6 on Highway S-22, east of Borrego Springs. Please sign up before 1 p.m. at the Visitor Center. Call 760-767-4205.

7:00 p.m. Ranger Campfire – Primitive Firebuilding Methods 1 Hour
Join State Park Ranger Eduardo Escamilla for a hands-on demonstration of firebuilding techniques used before people had matches and lighters. Try your hand at starting the campfire! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

7:30 p.m. Concert – ABF Front Porch Musical Revue III 2 Hours
Join us for the third installment of the Front Porch Review- A musical celebration starring Borrego’s own super talented performers! Guaranteed to be a good time, all in the name of raising funds for Anza-Borrego Foundation to continue fulfilling its mission. Tickets are $20. Visit http://www.theabf.org/frontporch, Bighorn Fudge, or call 760-767-0446. We recommend buying tickets in advance.

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Sunday, February 10, 2019
9:00 a.m. Behind-the-Scenes Tour: Archaeology and Paleontology Laboratories 1.5 Hours
Ever wonder about the rich discoveries being made in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park? Meet in front of the Visitor Center for a walking tour to visit our excellent laboratory facilities. Cost is $25 per person (does not include $10 day use fee per car). Call 760-767-4037 or email Anza-Borrego.Tours@parks.ca.gov to reserve. Tours also offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

11:00 a.m. Talk – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness 1 Hour
Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

3:00 p.m. Concert – ABF Front Porch Musical Revue III 2 Hours
Join us for the third installment of the Front Porch Review- A musical celebration starring Borrego’s own super talented performers! Guaranteed to be a good time, all in the name of raising funds for Anza-Borrego Foundation to continue fulfilling its mission. Tickets are $20. Visit http://www.theabf.org/frontporch, Bighorn Fudge, or call 760-767-0446. We recommend buying tickets in advance.

Monday, February 11, 2019
10:00 a.m. Botany Society Lecture – The 2017 SuperBloom 1 Hour
Join the Botany Society for their monthly lecture open to the public. Tom Oberbauer will discuss how the timing of the rain and temperatures provided a unique situation for wildflower growth. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

7:30 p.m. Concert – ABF Front Porch Musical Revue III 2 Hours
Join us for the third installment of the Front Porch Review- A musical celebration starring Borrego’s own super talented performers! Guaranteed to be a good time, all in the name of raising funds for Anza-Borrego Foundation to continue fulfilling its mission. Tickets are $20. Visit http://www.theabf.org/frontporch, Bighorn Fudge, or call 760-767-0446. We recommend buying tickets in advance.

Friday, February 15, 2019
9:00 a.m. Spring Plant Walk 2.5 Hours
Learn about Anza-Borrego Desert State Park’s amazing desert plants! Meet knowledgeable Botany Society volunteers for a morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary depending on bloom locations. Each walk is limited to 30 people. Advance registration is required. Call ABF at 760-767-0446 Ext.1002 to sign up. Walks meet at ABF, 587 Palm Canyon Dr.

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Saturday, February 16, 2019

9:00 a.m. Hike – Ash Wash  4 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Ted Caragozian for a moderately strenuous hike over uneven and rocky ground to a spectacular exposure of the 760,000 year-old Bishop Ash. Wear sturdy shoes; bring water and a light lunch. Meet at the end of the pavement north on DiGiorgio Rd.

9:00 a.m. Behind-the-Scenes Tour: Archaeology and Paleontology Laboratories  1.5 Hours
Ever wonder about the rich discoveries being made in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park? Meet in front of the Visitor Center for a walking tour to visit our excellent laboratory facilities. Cost is $25 per person (does not include $10 day use fee per car). Call 760-767-4037 or email Anza-Borrego.Tours@parks.ca.gov to reserve. Tours also offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

9 a.m. Social Hike – Hikes & Hops at Nude Wash  4 Hours
Diana Lindsay will be leading a Valentine’s weekend getaway to explore the geology and vegetation of Nude Wash. This moderate two-mile loop has a challenging set of dry waterfalls to scale. $20 Public/$15 ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details and to register at 760-767-0446 Ext.1003.

10:00 a.m. Talk – Murders and Unkindnesses  1 Hour
Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Jeff Salton to discover the remarkable differences between Crows and Ravens, and explore some of the mystery and intrigue in the behavior of these two subspecies of the Corvid family of birds. Curious, intelligent, mischievous...all these characteristics, and more, come to life in this interesting discussion of ... Murders and Unkindnesses!

2:00 p.m. Junior Ranger Family Hike – Up a Bajada Wash  1.5 Hours
Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a fun family exploration hike along a wash in the bajada just behind the Visitor Center. Find animal homes, soft sand, and other desert wonders. Bring one liter of water per person, a hat, and sturdy shoes. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

7:00 p.m. Campfire – The Amazing World of Bats—Nature’s Tiny Fighter Jets  1 Hour
Though poorly understood and often feared, bats are fascinating animals with incredible skills of flight and nighttime navigation. Join Volunteer Naturalist Don Endicott at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for a multimedia exploration of these amazing fliers.

Sunday, February 17, 2019

7:30 a.m. Walk – Bird Walk  1.5 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars if you have them. Rain cancels.

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Sunday, February 17, 2019 (continued)

9:00 a.m. Behind-the-Scenes Tour: Archaeology and Paleontology Laboratories 1.5 Hours
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11:00 a.m. Talk – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness 1 Hour
Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

3:30 p.m. Hike – Sunset/Moonlight Hike 5 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Dan Jellis for a desert hike to enjoy the sunset over the mountains and return under the nearly full moon to get a different perspective of the desert at a surprise location. Bring warm clothes and a flashlight (to be used only if necessary). We will cover as much as six miles and the daylight portion will involve walking over uneven ground. Limited to 15 participants – please sign up at the Visitor Center and include your phone number to receive meeting details.

Monday, February 18, 2019

8:30 a.m. Hike – Plum Canyon 5.5 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan on a moderate 4 mile hike up Plum Canyon. We will enjoy a variety of plants, rocks and bends as we hike to a spectacular overlook. Wear boots, carry water, and bring lunch. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Hellhole Canyon parking area. From there we will carpool to the trailhead. Limited to 11 participants. Sign up in advance at the Visitor Center. 760-767-4205.

11:00 a.m. Walk – Those Amazing Desert Plants! 1 Hour
Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help plants survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Thursday, February 21, 2019

9:00 a.m. Hike – Badlands Bench with a View 2 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderate 2½ mile hike up a badlands wash to a memorial bench with a marvelous view. Learn about some interesting plants and geological features along the way. Meet at the intersection of Inspiration Wash and S-22 by driving east on S-22 past mile marker 28 for 1/2 mile.

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Friday, February 22, 2019
9:00 a.m. Spring Plant Walk  2.5 Hours
Learn about Anza-Borrego Desert State Park’s amazing desert plants! Meet knowledgeable Botany Society volunteers for a morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary depending on bloom locations. Each walk is limited to 30 people. Advance registration is required. Call ABF at 760-767-0446 Ext.1002 to sign up. Walks meet at ABF, 587 Palm Canyon Dr.

Saturday, February 23, 2019
9:30 a.m. Archaeology Weekend Presented by the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society  7 Hours
“Celebrating Cultural Heritage of the Colorado Desert”: Lectures, Activities for Kids, Hands-On Pottery Making for Kids, Native American Craft Display (crafts for sale), Silent Auction/Treasure Sale, Archaeology Lab Tours, Demonstration Table on the Use of Plants by Native Americans, and Ice Cream Social. At the Visitor Center and Begole Archaeological Research Center. For more specific information visit www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org

9:30 a.m. Walk  — Those Mysterious Holes – Discovering the Abundant Life of ABDSP  1 Hour
Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld to do some detective sleuthing on a slow, easy “nature-amble” around the Visitor Center gardens to discover signs of what species of seldom-seen life are active in the desert. Along the way we’ll examine different species of desert plants “up-close-and-personal” to find out how they survive drought, intense sun and 122°F heat. Meet Terry at the flagpole in front of the Visitor Center at 9:30 a.m. Limited to 10 participants who must have signed up at the Visitor Center or pre-registered by calling 760-767-4205.

2:00 p.m. Junior Ranger Family Hike – Up a Bajada Wash  1.5 Hours
Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a fun family exploration hike along a wash in the bajada just behind the Visitor Center. Find animal homes, soft sand, and other desert wonders. Bring one liter of water per person, a hat, and sturdy shoes. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

7:00 p.m. Campfire  – Animal Songs  1 Hour
Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a lighthearted look at some of the Park animals. Using the sounds of a few of our Park animals, you’ll leave this program with a song in your heart! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

Sunday, February 24, 2019
9:30 a.m. Archaeology Weekend – Celebrating Cultural Heritage of the Colorado Desert  2.5 Hours
Hands-On Pottery Making for Kids, Demonstration Table on the Use of Plants by Native Americans, Native American Craft Display (crafts for sale), Field Trips to Archaeological Sites (times and destinations TBA). At the Visitor Center. For more information visit www.anzaborregoarchaeo.org.

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Tuesday, February 26, 2019
8:30 a.m. Hike – Monthly Members Hike
Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our monthly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Join at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For information, call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003 or visit www.theabf.org. No advance registration required.

2:30 p.m. Hike – Lute Fault
Earthquake geology, local history and desert plant life will be the focus of this hike. Meet Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian at the call box across from Thimble Trail on S-22 at Mile 31.9. Bring water and sturdy shoes for this 2-3 mile (roundtrip) hike on uneven ground.

Wednesday, February 27, 2019
8:30 a.m. Hike – Calcite Canyon Spectacular
Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian and explore the sandstone canyon country around the Calcite Mine. We will follow the Middle Fork of Palm Wash up over some small dry falls to a slot canyon, check out the mine, and see a demonstration of calcite’s interesting optical properties. Meet at the Calcite Mine Road, mile marker 38.1, east on Highway S-22. Parking is available on both sides of the highway. Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is rated moderately strenuous.

Thursday, February 28, 2019
9:00 a.m. Hike – Cool Canyon
Join Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson on a cool trip up Cool Canyon. We’ll hike up many dry falls in the higher country where the flora is different from that of the desert floor. Meet at the intersection of County Highway S-2 and the first dirt road to the west, south of the Park boundary sign (near mile 22) just beyond Shelter Valley. Four-wheel drive is not required. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes.

11:00 a.m. Talk ▷ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness
Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future?

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**DESERT SAFETY**

- **Carry water AND drink it**
  Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.

- **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**
  Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.

- **Leave snakes alone.**
  Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.

- **Do not split up the group**
  Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.

- **Prepare yourself.**
  In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.

- **Have a plan.**
  Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.

- **When emergencies happen …**
  Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!