



# *Friends of Saguaro National Park*

*Providing financial and volunteer support for Saguaro National Park*



## 2024 Work Plan

### Overview:

The FOSNP 10-year Philanthropic Partnership Agreement with the National Park Service requires the preparation of an Annual Work Plan detailing our collaborative project priorities and our organization objectives for the coming year. The plan needs to be consistent with the FOSNP Strategic Plan and Saguaro National Park's 2024 Project Priority Requests that were submitted to FOSNP in December 2023. All fundraising activities undertaken by FOSNP to support the projects detailed in this Work Plan will be in accordance with the guidelines established by the National Park Service Director's Order #21 and further described in Reference Manual #21.

# 2024 FOSNP Work Plan

## Discover Saguaro

To encourage the exploration and discovery of the resources, heritage, and recreational opportunities of Saguaro National Park.

1. Provide opportunities for the public to understand and enjoy Saguaro National Park and keep the Park relevant.
  - Support the Park's efforts to enhance visitor experiences through interpretive exhibits and digital interpretive resources.
  - Increase engagement through social media, website, e-news updates, and newsletters.
  - Fund targeted efforts to strengthen park connections to underrepresented communities.
2. Connect children with nature at Saguaro National Park and promote environmental education throughout the community.
  - Support the park's environmental education programs at the park and in the community.
  - Encourage diversity in environmental education programs and provide funds to eliminate participation barriers.
  - Increase lifelong learning opportunities by funding youth and adult programs to broaden civic engagement.
3. Enable diverse local young people interested in a National Park Service career to discover the agency and its operations through the Next Generation Ranger Corps Internship Program at Saguaro National Park.
  - Support the NextGen Program to help recruit, train, and mentor the next generation of diverse park rangers.
4. Support the maintenance and improvement of recreational trails at Saguaro National Park.
  - Provide funds for NextGens to work in trails and lead the Youth Conservation Corps interns.
  - Support accessibility upgrades for selected trails.
  - Support the Mule Packing Program.

## Protect Saguaro

To assist in the preservation and conservation of the natural and cultural resources of Saguaro National Park and sustain its wilderness character.

1. Support scientific research at Saguaro National Park.
  - Provide funds for NextGens to work in Resource Management.
  - Support natural resource research, protection, and monitoring projects.
2. Maintain native habitat(s) of Saguaro National Park and help manage/control invasive species.

- Support saguaro monitoring through the “Adopt-A-Saguaro” program.
  - Recruit volunteers and support the park’s invasive species management efforts.
3. Support efforts to preserve the significant archeological, historic, and ethnographic resources of Saguaro National Park.
    - Provide funds for inventory and preservation activities.
  4. Promote landscape-scale conservation and protect critical wildlife corridors, by supporting boundary expansions at Saguaro National Park.
    - Help identify willing sellers, connect them with Land & Water Conservation Fund, and collaborate with other organizations enhance protection and expansion efforts.
  5. Support the application of Park-lead research and sustainability efforts to local communities.
    - Fund programs and projects to educate the community about water-harvesting, creating pollinator gardens, dark sky lighting, and sustainability.

### Support Saguaro

#### Build Environmental stewardship for Saguaro National Park.

1. Enhance public awareness of the park’s biological diversity and ecological threats posed by urbanization and climate change.
  - Increase public understanding of the park’s role as a natural laboratory, ecological threats to the park, economic significance of the park, park’s stewardship needs.
2. Build community engagement in conservation and resource stewardship.
  - Support the Park’s community outreach and engagement efforts.
  - Support the Park’s volunteer program and help recruit volunteers.
3. Strengthen collaborative partnerships.
  - Build and increase diversity on the FOSNP Board and Advisory Board.
  - Strengthen natural and cultural resource partnerships with collaborative mission-driven organizations.
  - Collaborative on advocacy issues with local, regional, and national partners.
4. Generate enhanced public support of FOSNP.
  - Increase public understanding of federal funding for national parks and the need for philanthropic support.
  - Build on FOSNP’s reputation as a “subject matter expert” and identify opportunities for the Board and advisory board to help further that reputation and build support in targeted areas.
  - Increase the visibility of FOSNP funded programs and projects to demonstrate organizational impact and increase support.