

News for our residents and customers

# Scottsdale is once again a Gold "What Works City"

The city of Scottsdale once again earned the prestigious What Works Cities Certification at the gold level.



This distinction recognizes Scottsdale's exceptional use of data to inform policy decisions, improve services and engage residents. The award was presented by Results for America, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and the What Works Cities Certification Standard Committee.

Included among Scottsdale's notable accomplishments in the last year were:

- Scottsdale was ranked the No. 1 Digital City for the second year in a row. This includes the introduction of new resident engagement platforms like Speak Up Scottsdale.
- The Scottsdale Police Department launched the Real Time Crime Center, which uses advanced technology for large-scale event management and real-time crime prevention and response.
- Scottsdale earned the <u>Voice of the People (VOP)</u>
   <u>Award</u> for Excellence in Online Engagement for the second year in a row.

The certification is based on an extensive assessment of 43 criteria, measuring the city's progress in implementing data and evidence-based practices across various public services.

The What Works Cities Certification is awarded to cities that demonstrate a commitment to high standards of transparency, performance management, and data-informed decision-making.



### **Celebrate Bike Month**

April is Valley Bike Month and it's the perfect time to get outside and explore Scottsdale's Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt.

The greenbelt is 11 miles of parks, lakes, paths and golf courses that run through the heart of Scottsdale. In many places, bikers and pedestrians can avoid major cross traffic.

Earlier this year, a new pedestrian underpass opened on the greenbelt along the east side of Hayden Road and under Chaparral Road which will reduce conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles by diverting foot and bike traffic below Chaparral Road.

For more information, visit ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search "Indian Bend Wash Underpass."

# Ashler Hills Park adds new recreation amenities to northern Scottsdale

Construction on the voter-approved Bond 2019 project was completed in late February. The 17-acre neighborhood park features open turf play areas, a shaded playground, fitness stations, lighted basketball and pickleball courts, and walking trails. Ashler Hills is now Scottsdale's northernmost park. Info: ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search "parks."



### Scottsdale expands pickleball access

Scottsdale Parks and Recreation teamed with Scottsdale Community College (SCC) to offer free pickleball court access to the community.

Residents can enjoy daily access to SCC courts at 9000 E. Chaparral Road from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., except during holidays, campus closures, or scheduled SCC pickleball classes. Instruction-based programs will be available at a nominal fee.

Pickleball has emerged as one of the top recreational interests among residents, and this partnership helps the city meet this growing demand.

For more information, including court schedules and rules, visit **ScottsdaleCC.edu** and search "pickleball courts."

## Arsenic treatment vessels reduce reliance on CAP water

Scottsdale Water recently added more arsenic treatment vessels to its arsenic treatment facility located near Scottsdale and Deer Valley roads.



Arsenic treatment vessels

are large containers that remove arsenic from water using various processes such as ion exchange or coagulation filtration. These additional treatment vessels allow for continuous operation of the facility while the arsenic absorbing materials inside some of the vessels are changed out, resulting in less reliance on Central Arizona Project (CAP) water during peak water usage.

While arsenic may sound shocking, groundwater throughout Arizona contains naturally occurring arsenic. Arsenic is also present in surface water originating from the Verde River watershed. Scottsdale operates three arsenic treatment facilities that remove arsenic from groundwater in order to provide the highest quality water to our customers.





Stay alert, stay safe with RAVE emergency notifications. Scottsdale residents have a new tool to remain informed during large scale events and emergency situations.

The RAVE Alert System, a free service managed by the Scottsdale Police Department, delivers urgent alerts during incidents such as severe weather, public safety concerns, evacuations, missing persons and special events.

Alerts are sent via text, email, or voice message and can be tailored to individual preferences. The system is part of a statewide initiative to enhance public safety through modernized emergency communication.

To sign up, visit the Arizona Department of Administration's 9-1-1 Program page: az911.gov/rave-citizen-info-registration.

**SCOTTSDALE UPDATE** is published six times per year by the City of Scottsdale.

If you have questions or suggestions, please email **communications@ScottsdaleAZ.gov** 

**General city information:** 

**480-312-3111** or email **questions@ScottsdaleAZ.gov** 

#### Hike safely this spring.

The cooler spring mornings can be deceiving, and even mild, but they often lead to warmer, sunny afternoons that can pose risks for hikers who aren't properly prepared.



To stay safe on the trails, it's crucial to carry enough water, wear appropriate footwear and clothing, and bring a cell phone.

Also, be sure to check the weather, understand your limitations and let someone know where you'll be.

For more safety tips and information, visit ScottsdaleAZ.gov and search for "hiking safety."

Jazz Fest takes center stage, April 26. RnR featuring Rick Braun and Richard Elliot headlines this signature event at the Scottsdale Civic Center East Bowl. Food showcasing the flavors of New Orleans will be on hand, as well as a beer garden. Info: ScottsdaleJazzFest.org.

### **Things To Do**

For complete details, search event names in **bold** at **ScottsdaleAZ.gov**.

- Old Town Scottsdale Farmers Market, Saturdays at 3806 N. Brown Avenue.
- Electronics recycling, 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. April 5, 9191 E. San Salvador Drive.
- Tents by the Tracks, 3 p.m.-10 a.m. April 5-6, McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park.
- Shred It Event, 7-10 a.m. April 12 & May 10, 7601 E. McKellips Road.
- **Desert Hiking First Aid**, 9 a.m. 3 p.m. April 12, 8950 E. Pinnacle Peak Road.
- Dementia Friendly Resource Fair, 9 a.m. April 15, Granite Reef Senior Center
- Mayor's Ability Awards, 4-6 p.m. April 18, Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West.
- Xeriscape Garden Tour, 10 a.m.-noon April 26, 5401 E. Hayden Road.
- Summer Concert Series, 7-8:30 p.m. Sundays from April 27 May 25, McCormick -Stillman Railroad Park.
- Efficient Irrigation Techniques, 4-5:30 p.m. May 6, Civic Center Library.



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