

September Pima Prickly Park Update

- Grand Opening Event plans, September 22nd, 9 AM to 2 PM, being finalized which include a ribbon cutting ceremony, live music, about 15 exhibitors, a few hands on activities for children, a few live animals, a rescued cactus sale. A park brochure is being developed and will be available on the 22nd. Plant ID signs have been designed and many will be in place for the opening event.
- A concrete picnic table has been placed under the large ramada to see how this will work in place of installing the concrete benches, thanks to parks and recreation.
- Cactus Rescue Crew members dug lots of cactus from a new development site in Marana and planted many of them at PPP. This included 7 Prickly Pear, 17 Cholla, 87 Hedgehogs, and over 200 Mammillaria. A three headed crested barrel cactus is being relocated from our holding site to the park.
- Six large mounds of dirt were placed in the Agave garden this past week, about 100 tons of dirt. Over 100 Agaves from 6 to 30 inches of various types were planted on the mounds and surrounding areas. We will make of list of Agaves that we could use to compliment what we have to see if members have some of these to contribute.
- Agave Garden design pretty much complete and work progressing in the Cholla Forest area. Inner loop paths are being designed for many of the park areas and some will be installed prior to the Grand Opening. The compacted gravel surface on these will be more wheelchair and walker friendly.
- Rain gauge and temperature data was dumped from the weather station (5/16/12 to 8/4/14). The rain data is available on the www.rainlog.org web site (you can also find hundreds of other weather station data from citizens for southern Arizona on this site). The monsoon has delivered over 4.5 inches of rain to the park. The raw temperature and rain pulses (0.01 increments) data will be put on the PPP web site for use by anyone that wants to access the history of these readings taken every 15 minutes

June Pima Prickly Park Update

- The Blue Palo Verde nurse tree for Saguarohege has been purchased thanks to a grant from the Desert Garden Club. And, thanks to Pima County Natural Resources for their planting assistance.
- Sahuarita High School had 60 mature barrel cacti located in a area destined for a new building that were made available to the park. They have been relocated to the park laydown area and are now waiting for deployment.
- A Weather Station, including temperature and rain measurements, has been installed in the Hoop House area. Readings are recorded every 15 minutes.
- Hoop House designs are underway for work tables and plant holding/watering benches.
- The Plant Database design is progressing well and a prototype program has been developed. Plants that TCSS has planted in the park are being entered to test out the program.
- A Grid Map has been developed and 21 sections staked out to identify general areas for plant locations in the database. The grid map is on the PimaPricklyPark.org web site.
- Parking Lot Islands and Saguarohege designs are complete. Three large saguaros will be relocated from a Pima County road widening project for the parking lot islands then smaller plants can move in.
- Entrance Garden and the Agave Garden designs are progressing. Ideas welcomed
- Two Concrete Benches are being designed for the large ramada for a place to relax your feet, enjoy the views and keep a lookout for the the butterflies and humming birds.
- The “Grand Opening” date for the park is set for Saturday, September 22, 2012 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Lots of events being planned. Ideas welcomed.
- You Can Help! Park Supporters are being encouraged to plant special cactus cuttings in one gallon containers, especially purple prickly pear, for eventual donation to the park. Please do not bring them until they are well established.
- Want to participate and help with park decisions? Please send an email to us (Park@TucsonCactus.org) to be added to our committee list to be notified of meetings, decisions to be made, work in progress, etc.

May - 2012

Pima Prickly Park Update

- The Desert Garden Club has awarded us a second grant, this one is for a huge Palo Verde nurse tree for Saguarohege. This will provide cover for a couple of dozen small to medium saguaros.
- Pima County installed water lines and 5 hose bibs for spot watering of new plants.
- The Hoop House shade structure covering has been installed and the potting of small plants and cuttings has begun. A mother Gambel's Quail has occupied the enclosure and is sitting on a dozen eggs.
- The first berm in the Agave Garden has been planted with 35 Agave palmeri of various sizes.
- About 130 Cactus Rescue Crew plants including 4 clumps of Bear Grass, Nolina microcarpa, 4 large Sotol, Dasyilirion wheeleri, 7 Yucca schottii and one huge Hedgehog, Echinocereus nicholii, with 50 plus stems have been added to the park.
- Detail Designs are being finalized for the Parking lot islands and Saguarohege.
- Details being defined for an information collection and management system for plants in the park.
- A special web section has been developed just for the park, see www.PimaPricklyPark.org
- An email distribution list has been created for those who would like to be notified of committee meetings and park work in progress. Please send an email to us to be added to the list: Park@TucsonCactus.org and park work in progress.

April - 2012

Pima Prickly Park Progress Box

- A special web section has been developed just for the park, see www.PimaPricklyPark.org
- Detail Designs are in progress for the Parking lot islands and Saguarohege.
- Hoop House shade structure installed and waiting for shade cloth covering to be delivered for installation.
- Pima County installing water lines for 5 hose bibs for spot watering of new plants.
- Cactus Rescue Crew acquiring special plants when available from various sites.
- Details being defined for an information collection and management system for plants in the park.
- An email distribution list has been created for those who would like to be notified of committee meetings and park work in progress. Please send an email to us to be added to the list: Park@TucsonCactus.org