

Partnerships - Greater Prescott Outdoors Fund

Through the years, Prescott Recreation Services Department has benefitted from grants and volunteers to provide many of the amenities in the parks. Some of those groups have recently joined forces to combine fundraising efforts for larger projects that are beyond the ability of any one organization to accomplish. This effort has resulted in the formation of the Greater Prescott Outdoors Fund through the Arizona Community Foundation/Yavapai County (ACF/YC), (see box below for more detailed information). The Fund organizations still rely on member dues and direct donations for individual smaller projects.

Major Fund categories include Open Space, Natural Parklands, Bicycle and Pedestrian, Trails, and Education. Underlying costs for improvements include many things such as land purchases, easements, rights-of-way, legal expenses, surveys, and consultant studies. Drainage and site modifications, dredging, and lakes and watershed improvements are other expenses many are unaware of. More obvious expenses include anything from tools and materials, to parking lots, restrooms, bridges, walls, specialized tracks and facilities, signage, kiosks, tables, bike racks, maintenance, and so much more.

Providing great outdoor experiences is an expensive endeavor. With limited city budgets, these groups help provide the funds and volunteers that help make Prescott's parks and natural parklands a destination enjoyed by residents and the many outdoor enthusiasts who visit our City.

More information is available online at:
www.azfoundation.org/yavapai
www.PrescottTrails.com

(Contributors: Nancy Nesbit with George Sheats)

GPOF Founding Organizations:



Yavapai Trails Association



Prescott Alternative Transportation



Prescott Mountain Bike Alliance



Open Space Alliance of Central Yavapai County



(Photo Courtesy of George Sheats)

GPOF organizations have individually and cooperatively provided funds for outdoor projects throughout the Prescott area. The City benefitted with the "Ramp Bridge" from Miller Valley Road to extend the Greenways Butte Creek Trail through the culverts to Lincoln Ave., connecting to the Rodeo Grounds Trail along Miller Creek to Granite Creek Park and the Greenways downtown. The materials were funded by the Arizona Community Fund/Yavapai County grant rewarded to Yavapai Trails Association in 2015. The grant also funded two other bridges and other construction materials along Prescott College and Butte Creek.



Jan Alfano at the May 2015 celebration of the Prescott Circle Trail completion.

A visionary and early advocate for trails in Prescott, Jan Alfano passed away on March 8, 2016 at the age of 88. She was the first President of Yavapai Trails Association (YTA), devising strategies, policies, and writing grants for trails. During her tenure, YTA worked with the State Legislature to pass the Recreational Immunity statute protecting landowners against liability, when allowing public trails through their property. Over 25 years ago she held the first meeting of citizens at her home, bringing together hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians, to begin work on a dream, the Prescott Circle Trail. The GPOF expands on her work and vision for trails in Prescott by bringing together various groups to accomplish their goals.

How You Can Help Greater Prescott Outdoors Fund (GPOF)

Who contributes?

People who are committed to helping everyone enjoy the outdoors can help in many ways. Direct contributions to the founding organizations that are the core of GPOF are indispensable for those organizations' operating budgets.

Donors looking to address broader problems in the outdoors domain that transcend current individual organization missions, capabilities, timelines, or boundaries can make bequests to GPOF and be rest assured that their contributions will be allocated in accordance with their vision. GPOF has the expertise and mission to identify and task the best available current and future organizations and resources to meet your goals as outlined in your donation.

Are contributions tax deductible?

Yes! The Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) is a 501(c)3 non-profit that makes grants to other non-profits, so your contribution is deductible subject to the usual IRS rules.

Can I trust the Arizona Community Foundation?

Yes! The AFC is a statewide organization formed in 1963. It has five regional affiliates: the Yavapai affiliate (YC) has been doing great work locally since 1993. The YC affiliate accounts for \$35M of the \$850M in funds that ACF manages as of 2015. "The Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County unites the generosity and will of our community to make our area stronger."

How do I contribute?

You can mail a donation payable to Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County with "Greater Prescott Outdoors Fund" and any allocations on the memo line of your check to:

ACF of Yavapai County
300 E. Willis St., #B
Prescott, AZ 86301

You can give cash, appreciated stocks, real estate, retirement assets, business interests, or life insurance and/or life income gifts. Please contact Carol Chamberlain, Regional Director, at (928) 708-9632 about this.

What happens to contributions to the Greater Prescott Outdoors Fund?

GPOF is an AFC/YC collaborative fund advised by a representative GPOF Committee that arranges fundraising and manages grant activities. Grantees provide an End of Year report.