

Gila County



SUMMER 2015

Tonto Basin Community Celebrates Oak Creek Bridge Opening With Ribbon Cutting on June 8th



Tonto Basin residents are one step closer to having all-weather crossings to all areas of their community. The Oak Creek Bridge projected located on the east side of Tonto Creek was the first, and smaller, of two major bridges planned to ensure residents will not be stranded during major flood events. The \$1.8M project was made possible with a grant of \$1,350,979 in federal transportation funds and \$649,012 in local ½-cent Transportation Excise Tax funds and was constructed by Meadow Valley Contractors.

The Quest Continues

Gila County recently applied for a “*Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery*” (TIGER) grant from United States Department of Transportation in the amount of \$17.9M for construction of the second larger bridge over Tonto Creek.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES:

Friday, July 3
INDEPENDENCE DAY
(Observed)

Monday, Sept. 7
LABOR DAY

Contact us:

(928) 425-3231
General Information

www.gilacountyaz.gov

Gila County Tax Rate Unchanged for 6th Consecutive Year

The Gila County Primary Property Tax Rate will remain at 4.19%, a rate which was first approved for fiscal year (FY) 2010/2011. The Board of Supervisors held a “Truth in Taxation” (TNT) public hearing and adopted the tentative Gila County budget on June 23rd. A TNT public notice and hearing are required by Arizona law any time the levy amount increases over the previous tax year.

If the rate, in fact, remains the same, how can the levy amount increase? In FY 2014/2015, the net assessed value of Gila County properties was \$416,099,715. For FY 2015/2016, the net assessed value is \$482,220,482. This \$66M increase is the result of a \$56,000,000 increase in centrally assessed properties (*mines and industrial properties assessed by the Arizona Department of Revenue*) and \$10,000,000 in unreported or incorrectly assessed properties identified by the County Assessor.

“How does this affect MY property tax?” The owner of a home valued at \$100,000 will owe Gila County primary property tax in the amount of \$419.00. This is computed by taking 10% of the value (\$10,000), dividing that result by 100 (\$100.00), and multiplying that result by the tax rate of 4.19%.	Assessed Value	\$100,000
	x Assessment Ratio	<u>10%</u>
		\$ 10,000
	÷ 100	100
	x Tax Rate	<u>\$ 4.19</u>
	Tax Levy	\$ 419.00
For FY 2015/2016, each 1¢ on the primary property tax rate generates \$1.00 in taxes on a \$100,000 home.		

It may be interesting to note that the levy has declined steadily since it peaked in FY 2010/2011 and the levy expected to be adopted in August is lower than that of FY 2008/2009.

Fiscal Year	Assessed Values	Tax Rate	Primary Property Tax Levy
2008/2009	\$513,379,379	3.92%	\$20,124,472
2009/2010	\$590,487,639	3.75%	\$22,143,286
2010/2011	\$568,461,573	4.19%	\$23,818,540
2011/2012	\$517,793,688	4.19%	\$21,695,556
2012/2013	\$490,120,381	4.19%	\$20,536,044
2013/2014	\$438,624,843	4.19%	\$18,378,381
2014/2015	\$416,099,715	4.19%	\$17,434,578
2015/2016	\$482,220,482	4.19%	\$20,045,467

Don't forget: the Gila County primary property tax rate is only part of your individual tax bill. Taxes for school districts, special districts (such as fire, water, sewer/sanitary, and street lighting), state, city and towns, and county-wide levies for fire district assistance, community college and libraries also appear on your statement. For a comprehensive and informative overview of the Arizona property tax system, the Maricopa County Treasurer has an especially good publication at: <http://www.maricopa.gov/Finance/PDF/Tax/PropertyTaxOverview%2010222013.pdf>.

Gila County Animal Control Acquires Mobile Adoption & Rescue Unit



The Gila County Department of Health and Emergency Services is happy to announce the acquisition of a Mobile Animal Adoption & Rescue Unit.

The mobile unit will be showcased at the Summer Safety Fair being held **June 27th from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm in Miami at the Bullion Plaza Community Center.** The public is cordially invited to stop and visit with County staff and hear how the mobile unit will be used throughout Gila County, including offering such services as Micro-Chipping and Animal Licensing.



Response Plan when temporary, climate-controlled housing is needed for pets displaced during natural disasters or other emergencies. When used as an animal shelter, the mobile unit can be placed in close proximity to affected neighborhoods, should the need arise, so pets can be quickly reunited with their owners. Gila County Animal Control is very excited to take pets throughout Gila County, including remote locations that may not have an adoption center nearby. To suggest a mobile adoption location and date, please send an email to:

gilacountyrabiescontrol@gilacountyaz.gov

The Mobile Animal Adoption & Rescue Unit is climate controlled with 13 kennels. It has 2 large windows so animals can be easily viewed from the outside which, hopefully, will help dogs and cats to find their “*fur-ever*” home! This mobile unit will also be used as an emergency shelter unit. It will be an integral part of the Gila County Emergency



Animal Shelter — GLOBE
700 W. Hackney Avenue
(928) 425-5882



Animal Shelter — PAYSON
107 W. Frontier Street, Suite A
(928) 474-1210



Summer is here!

Make it a summer to remember
and don't forget
"SAFETY FIRST"

Road Trip? With little ones? Have your car seat inspected for safety and correct installation by calling Chuck Turney of the Gila County Division of Community Services at (928) 425-7631. And you Moms & Dads: be a great role model and don't forget to *buckle up!* Seat belts save lives.

Sun Worshipper? Many benefits are derived from exposure to a little sunlight, Vitamin D among them, which protects our brain, bones, heart, muscles, and immune system. But, the good comes with the bad—at the same time! The Vitamin D that you produce in the sun comes at a price: sun damage and more aging to your skin. So, the Gila County Health Department reminds you to wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen in prolonged exposure. And, don't forget how hot your vehicle can get in the summer sun. DO NOT leave children or pets in the car while shopping or running errands.

Little Mermaids? Avoid a tragic child drowning by making sure adult eyes are on children around the pool EVERY MINUTE! And, remember to designate a driver on the boat while enjoying our lakes, rivers, and your favorite beverages.

Little Drivers? With local schools on summer break, the Gila County Sheriff's Office reminds motor vehicle operators to be on the lookout for bicyclists, tricyclists, moped-ers, skateboarders and other additions to local traffic patterns. And remember to *Share the Road* with runners and pedestrians, and always move over or slow down for officers conducting traffic stops.

2015 FEE-FREE DAYS IN YOUR NATIONAL PARKS



Grab your calendars, national park fans — there are still 3 **fee-free** days when the entrance fee to all national parks will be waived. Remaining days for this year are:

- August 25: National Park Service Birthday
- September 26: National Public Lands Day
- November 11: Veterans Day

Of the over 400 national parks, only 133 charge entrance fees, so there are plenty of new places to explore year-round! Just remember: it's never too early to start planning your next national park trip. Where will your next adventure take you?

See: <http://www.nps.gov>

The National Park Service Offers a Variety of Passes

If you're planning a trip that includes multiple national parks, you might consider the \$80 annual pass that provides entrance to all national parks, national wildlife refuges, national forests, and many other Federal lands — more than 2,000 in all. The [America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass](#) is offered free to all active duty military members and their dependents. There is also a \$10 lifetime "Senior" pass for citizens 62+, as well as a free "Access" pass for persons with disabilities.

In Gila County, passes can be obtained at the Tonto National Forest offices. It's a good idea to call ahead to check availability:

Globe	-	(928) 402-6200
Payson	-	(928) 474-7900
Roosevelt	-	(928) 467-3200
Young	-	(928) 462-4300