

What Do You Know About the Coconino Forest and Wet Beaver Creek?

The Coconino National Forest is located in the central northern part of Arizona. It is a very diverse national forest with landscapes ranging from beautiful red rocks to Ponderosa pine forests, and deserts to alpine tundra. There are mountains, canyons, lakes, streams and creeks.

Wet Beaver Creek is one of the beautiful and popular places to visit in the Coconino National Forest. The creek flows all year long and contains Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout and Small Mouth Bass. The area also attracts many species of wildlife. You may find skunks, elk, deer, bear and mountain lion!

Cottonwoods and Sycamores are the dominant trees near the creek itself. This area is like a beautiful oasis in a desert environment. As you move away from the flowing creek, you will also find cacti, junipers, mesquite and cat claw.

Wet Beaver Creek is a protected area that asks visitors to implement the "Leave No Trace" principles when they visit. Learn what those are below!

Leave No Trace: Recognize your role in preserving wild lands by practicing these **Leave No Trace** principles:

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Minimize campfire impacts.
6. Respect wildlife.
7. Be considerate of other visitors.

To explain further:

1. Know that there is no fire allowed currently because of fire danger. Plan on food that doesn't require cooking. That is one way to plan ahead. Can you think of other ways?
2. There is a dirt road to travel on to get to the creek. Don't go off of it.
3. There are large waste containers at the creek recreation area. Otherwise, haul out your trash.
4. Don't dig up trees or haul away rocks.
5. No fires here!
6. Be aware of your surroundings and avoid wildlife! Don't try to touch them or catch them or hurt them.
7. Don't play your music too loudly. Be kind! Share the beautiful wilderness!