



Call of the Canyon

Fall Calendar of Events

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West Canyon Discovery Hike

Join us on this two-mile, round trip walk with a ranger and talk about the discoveries we find along the way—you can even bring your canine pal!
Sat., 9/29, 8:30-10:00 am

Sunset Hike

Explore the twilight sights and sounds of the canyon during a one-mile, round trip hike.
Fri., 10/5, 6:30-8:00 pm
Fri., 11/9, 5:00-6:30 pm

Lava Land

Join park staff for an explosive afternoon discussing cinder cones and the effect lava flows have made on shaping our canyon. Gain a deeper understanding of our park as you discuss the canyon's volcanic past and watch a live demonstration on cinder cone eruptions.
Sat., 10/13, 1:00-2:00 pm

Monsters in the Desert

Gila monsters are one of the most mysterious and endangered creatures of southwest Utah. Join **Ann McLuckie**, Wildlife Biologist, as she discusses the biology of these fascinating lizards. Find out how Gila monsters are studied using radio-telemetry and try radio tracking for yourself!
Sat, 10/20, 10:00-11:30 am

Sunset Nature Sketch

Admire the changing colors of early evening and enjoy the magic of sketching nature on this one-mile, round trip hike.
Fri., 10/26, 6:00-7:30 pm

Lava Tube Hike

Join park staff for a two-mile, roundtrip hike and the chance to explore the unique formations of a lava tube!
Sat. 11/3, 1:00-2:30 pm

Playing With Fire

Knowing how to start and build fires is an essential part of any survival situation. Learn about and try your hand at different techniques. Not recommended for children under 10.
Sat., 11/10, 10:00-11:00am

Nature's Bounty

Learn to identify traditional uses of some of Snow Canyon's edible and medicinal plants during this 1.5-mile, round trip hike.
Sat., 11/17, 8:30-10:00 am

Moonlit Hike

Join park staff for a moonlit, two-mile round trip hike. Enjoy the opportunity to see the canyon by moon-glow.
Fri., 11/23, 7:00-8:30 pm
Sat., 11/24, 7:30-9:00 pm

*All listed events are free and open to the public. Space is limited; registration required. **Program registration is held two days preceding the scheduled event.***

Register by phone or in person. For more information or to register for a program contact park staff at (435) 628-2255.

Have you checked out Snow Canyon's bookstore lately?

Looking for a unique gift? We have hats, shirts, magnets, books and much more!

Stop by our visitor's center next time you are in the park and see what's new.

Snow Canyon State Park

1002 Snow Canyon Drive
Ivins, UT 84738

Phone: (435) 628-2255
Fax: (435) 628-9321
Email: snowcanyon@utah.gov
Web: www.stateparks.utah.gov

Utah State Parks:

Providing opportunities to enhance the quality of life by preserving natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.



**Transformation
literally means going
beyond your form.**

~ Wayne Dyer

Transformation

Something amazing is underway in Snow Canyon. Thousands of little yellow caterpillars are on the march. Meet *Hyles lineata*, also known as the white-lined sphinx moth (or in larvae form, white sphinx caterpillar).

If you have a chance, stop and study the caterpillar's markings. You may recognize them as hornworms, due to the tiny horn near the rear of their fleshy body. Not to be confused with the often unwelcome variety in your garden's tomato plants, this particular hornworm (one of approximately 125 types in the U.S.) is common throughout North America.



This vibrant caterpillar feeds on many different plants and is a powerful eater. As recently observed in the canyon, larvae can occasionally occur in tremendous numbers and move in hordes in search of food, consuming entire plants and covering roadways in slick masses. Explosive outbreaks can occur following summer rains and the resulting emergence of new, green plant growth.

White sphinx caterpillars burrow underground where they will undergo metamorphosis into adult moths, who will eventually dig their way to the surface. The moths emerge with a 2-3 inch wingspan and are often referred to as the hummingbird or hawk moth due to their size, flight pattern, and ability to hover around flowers.

In spite of their voracious appetites in their larval form, sphinx moths are actually important pollinators. Primarily nocturnal, white-lined sphinx moths emerge at dusk from their hiding places in search of flower nectar. Since they feed exclusively on nectar, they seek flowers that contain high amounts of sugar and use their proboscis or feeding tube to collect nectar from evening primrose, desert four o'clocks, and jimson weed. Next time you are admiring desert willow blossoms or other blooms of the canyon, know that without the work of these moths, we wouldn't have many of these beautiful flowers to enjoy. Their ability to transform occurs in many ways.

