

# TONTO National Forest



Recreation  
Opportunity  
Guide

[www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto)



WATER-ACTIVITIES

## NEEDLE ROCK

### RANGER DISTRICT

Cave Creek Ranger Station  
40202 N. Cave Creek Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
Phone (480) 595-3300 Fax (480) 595-3342

### NAME OF WATERWAY

Verde River

### RELATED OPPORTUNITIES

Camping, picnicking, canoeing, fishing and wildlife observation.

### SEASON OF USE

All year

### ELEVATION

1600 feet

### FACILITIES

Vault toilets within the Needle Rock  
Campground  
No drinking water available

### BARRIER-FREE ACCESSIBILITY

Vault toilets are equipped with grab bars and may require some assistance.

### NEAREST COMMERCIAL SERVICES

**Rio Verde (3 miles):** Groceries and fuel  
**Scottsdale:** All services

### LOCATION AND ACCESS

The area is 14 miles east of Scottsdale. From the intersection of Shea and Pima roads, drive north on Pima for 11 miles. Turn east on Dynamite Road and travel 3 miles to where it merges with Rio Verde Drive. Follow Rio Verde Drive for another 9 miles to Forest Road (FR) 20 and turn left. Follow FR 20 for 3 miles to Needle Rock at the river.

### ATTRACTIONS

- This popular water recreation area attracts many people trying to escape the Arizona summer heat.
- The rocky beach area is surrounded by beautiful towering rock formations.
- Near the campground is a fenced unique biological area, a stand of mesquite.
- Bald Eagles and Great Blue Herons are frequently seen in this vicinity.

### FEES

None  
(Note: Fees are charged at the Needle Rock Campground)

### CONSIDERATIONS

- No trash service: **PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!!**
- Trailers not recommended
- No vehicles on beach

