



Black Mt News 13 Oct 1983

Littering form of vandalism

Vandalism: the general barbaric destruction of property is a growing problem in both rural and urban Arizona.

Vandalism costs you by wasting your tax dollars. Vandalism is seen in many forms ... all of them ugly.

An axed saguaro, graffiti on a wall or sign, a burned out dwelling, bullet-shattered windmills and road signs. These are the more common examples.

Such acts lead to "Keep Out" signs, locked gates, and other restrictive measures that penalize the legitimate land user as well as the vandal.

Directly or indirectly, everyone shares in the enormous costs of repairing and replacing vandalized property.

Any citizen can report acts of vandalism at no personal cost by dialing the Arizona Game and Fish Department's toll-free number in Phoenix: 1-800-352-0700.

This "HOW" (Help Our Wildlife) line is also intended to report calls on game law violations and is open 24 hours a day.

Persons reporting vandals or game poachers are assured their conversations are confidential.

Acts of vandalism can also be reported directly to Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service or any state, county or city law enforcement office.

Sheriff Jerry Hill said, "The problem will grow with the population unless all citizens attempt to influence others to respect public and private property."

FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER: SPECIAL ISSUE ON VANDALISM:

Littering is another form of vandalism, and can be reported on the "HOW" line, 1-800-352-0700; with as much detail as possible, ie: vehicle description, license number, description and/or name of persons, time, place, etc.

Oct. 22 has been declared "Clean Up Arizona Day." More than 39 cities, towns and villages are participating in a statewide effort on that day to "put a lid on litter."

In cooperation with the statewide efforts, a local steering committee to clean up the Foothills area is being coordinated by Paul Halstead and includes: the Carefree Chamber of Commerce, Cave Creek Improvement Association, Desert Foothills Scenic Drive Committee, Carefree Kiwanis Club, Cave Creek Mothers' Club, students of the Cave Creek School District, Boy Scout Troop No. 603, American Legion Post No. 34, Foothill Runners Club, Black Mountain Riders Club and the Desert Foothills Sheriff's Posse. The following homeowners associations helping are Saguaro West, La Tierra Prometida, Desert Foothills North and Desert Foothills; plus other organizations.

It is unfortunately true that when an area looks littered and trashy, people are more apt to throw additional trash around. Keeping the Foothills clean is a continual struggle, but surely worthwhile to preserve the beauty of our area.

Help weed out the can cactus, paper plants, discard vines, bottle bushes (of the glass or plastic variety), tire and trash trees, and other exotic non-native eyesores. Let's all "put a lid on litter."

Those interested in cleaning up the Desert Foothills Scenic Drive will meet at the corner of Cave Creek Road and Carefree Highway for bags, sign-up, assignments and refreshments.

For work in other areas, phone one of the above organizations, or Cindi Clark, 488-9300, between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.

We need each and every one of you to come out and help.

— Jo Walker