

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Although the camp has many games, swings, trails, GaGa ball and other activities there are many other things to do outside of the camp. Since the camp is located within the Tonto National Forest that in itself offers hiking, exploring, animal and bird watching. Other fun activities are briefly listed below.

WORKMAN CREEK FALLS

Often dry or nearly dry the falls are a site. 200 feet high. When the water is running it is worth the trip. Go further up Workman Creek Road about 2 miles from the camp. Just after the small steel bridge/roadway are the falls and just above them is a small dam used to measure water flow on the creek.

AZTEC PEAK FIRE TOWER

Located 5.2 miles up Workman Creek Rd is a USFS lookout tower. It has not been used in a few years but offers a destination for exploring and a fantastic view of the National Forest and Wilderness Areas. There is no access to the tower itself. Several trails lead from the area into the forest.

AZTEC PEAK "QUEENS COURT"

Located very near the Fire Tower is the Queens's Court. It was built a few years ago by a bored "Hotshot" Crew waiting to go back into action. They constructed fireplaces, dining room tables and benches, several thrones and chairs and it all looks out over hundreds of miles of forest land.

DIVERSION DAM & UPPER SALT RIVER RECREATION SITE

They are located on either side of the small bridge on State Route 288 about 20 miles from the Youth Camp. Both offer access to the Salt River for swimming and fishing. Bathrooms are available and day use facilities.

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“THE WATER BOWLS”

Located on a USFS trail about 1/8th of a mile in from State Route 288. The trail starts next to the small bridge just before the Workman Creek turn off. Follow the trail and soon you will come upon two large solid rock “bowls” of Workman Creek water that folks can wade in and slide from one to another. A larger wading pond is below the bowls offering more room to cool off and have some fun.

YOUNG

Located 21 miles further along State Route 288 is the small town of Young. It’s a very small farming/ranching community with a small general store, a fantastic restaurant, post office, gas, a volunteer fire department and other basic needs. Young is the central hub for the Pleasant Valley area and is a great place to visit for the day. Of special interest is the Pleasant Valley War/Feud that surrounded Young. More people were killed in Pleasant Valley during the feud than in the McCoy & Hatfield feud. Check it out. Keep in mind the trip to Young is on dirt road. There is no pavement until you reach Young. Go another 26 miles on dirt road and you will end up on State Route 260.

ROOSEVELT LAKE & MARINA

What can you say about Roosevelt Lake? Big, blue, wet, fun. It’s located about an hour and a half from the camp. The marina is another 20 minutes or so down State Route 188 just before the dam. They have everything for a day of fun on the water and a great new restaurant and bar.

APACHE LAKE & WESTWARD

Farthest away is Apache Lake. It’s about a 2 hour drive to the beginning of the lake from the camp. Take State Route 288 to State Route 188 then turn onto State Route 88. There are marinas, hotels and restaurants along the lake shore. Farther down the route is Tortilla Flats which is a funky little village. Farther along you will end up in Apache Junction and the “Valley”. Keep in mind the road was mostly dirt the last time we checked. It’s windy and steep in places. Beware!