

# Madera Reserve

## Nature Trails Guide



## Acknowledgements

The trail system of Madera Reserve is an integral part of the original design for our development and is located in the common areas which belong to all of us. It is estimated that there are over three miles of trails that lie within the Madera Reserve property. These trails are monitored by volunteer residents of Madera Reserve who work hard to keep the trails accessible.

Currently, the volunteer members of Madera Reserve who maintain the trails are:

Jim Duzak	<a href="mailto:tolife1@cox.net">tolife1@cox.net</a>	
Rex Bybee	<a href="mailto:2bybee@msn.com">2bybee@msn.com</a>	520-399-9324
Dennis Daugherty	<a href="mailto:dennisdaughtery10@gmail.com">dennisdaughtery10@gmail.com</a>	520-648-0890
Tom Donahue		
Joe Hutton		
Dan and Geri Paxton		
Joe Rudy		
Carol and Dave Vleck		

The HOA Board liaison is John Pestle 520-625-1368

Volunteers who would like to assist in trail maintenance are always needed. Most of the work is done in late fall and requires only a few hours if there are enough volunteers. The labor is not difficult and the camaraderie is special.

# ***The Madera Reserve Nature Trails System***

## **Introduction**

The Madera Reserve trails system consists of 28 separate trails. Some of the trails are stand alone, i.e. they are a distinct walk by themselves, but most trails are used to access a dry wash which then connects with another trail. Two or three trails can be used to access the unpaved Campbell Road via a wash. Signs at each trail entrance are numbered.

The trails are not what most would think of as “walking trails”. Most are not sufficiently wide, nor do they usually have a smooth and firm under footing to allow two people to walk side-by-side and carry on a conversation. The sidewalks, Whitehouse Canyon Road, or Campbell Road are much more suited to a walk.

Our trails are really “hiking trails”. There are thorny bushes and cacti on either side of the paths. Frequently loose rock and eroded conditions are underfoot. Sometimes, especially on the portion of the trails above the arroyos, links of chain Cholla fall on the trail and should be avoided. And although rarely encountered, one always needs to be aware of the possibility of venomous creatures.

The trails are for those who seek a desert experience. This trail system allows us to experience the Sonoran Desert as a unique asset and one which we hope many will take the opportunity to enjoy.

## **Trails Usage Season**

The trails are maintained for use during the fall through the spring months, October thru mid-May.

During the summer months of June thru September, the high temperature and accompanying humidity result in very uncomfortable hiking conditions. It is much hotter in the arroyos than in our developed areas.

In addition, during the monsoon season, mosquitoes are often present and the flora grows so rapidly that even weekly maintenance often cannot keep pace with the growth.

## **Trail Etiquette**

Portions of some trails pass near homes. When in these areas, homeowners appreciate those who are quiet and do not stare into yards and pool areas.

The arroyos are quite clean, please do not drop any litter in them. If you see any trash and have room to carry it out, the HOA will be very appreciative. If you notice any trail maintenance issues, please report it to one of the volunteers listed on page 1.

## **Clothing and Equipment**

A good hiking stick can be helpful especially on several of the trails. A “good hiking stick” is defined as one with a sharp point that will hold if you have to lean into it on a steep slope.

Some trail users believe long pants and hiking boots are required. There is no doubt boots are safer and long pants and shirt sleeves help minimize scratches from thorns, but some Madera Reserve trail hikers wear short sleeve shirts, shorts, and walking shoes. They get a few more scratches, especially on the legs, but they still prefer the cooler clothing. It is a matter of preference.

## **Overview of the Trails**

All trails have a trailhead (start of the trail) marked by a sign that says “Madera Reserve Nature Trail” and the trail number. The sign is rust colored and horizontally mounted on a post about three feet high.



The trailheads are always on a paved street or cul-de-sac. Some of the trails start and end on streets or cul-de-sacs, and these trails have trailhead signs on both ends of the trail.

Trails that have trailhead signs on both entrances are *Trails 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 9a, 22 and 23.*

Three of these *Trails, 1, 5, and 26* are among our easiest, with almost no slope or grade. About the only thing to watch out for on these trails are Cholla links.

Besides the sign, most of the trail heads are marked by light colored granite boulders on both sides of the entrance.

## **Trail Numbering System**

The layout of the trails must have been dictated by lot shapes as well as terrain so that they are laid out in sort of a crazy quilt pattern. The original numbering system (for those of you that have an old trail map) was not easy to follow. The trails have been re-numbered to approximate a logical system as much as possible. *Trails 1 through 11* are east of Madera Reserve Drive and *Trails 12 through 28* lie to the west.

## Closed Trails

*Trail 24* is not maintained and closed. *Trail 23* by the cemetery is no longer maintained, but may be walkable.

## Very Steep Trail

Steps have recently been placed on *Trail 13*, which begins on Temporal Gulch. The trail is still very steep and the presence of loose rock makes the ascent or descent a bit of an adventure. It is easy to slip on this trail. We recommend only those who are at ease on steep and loose slopes use this trail.

## Other Trails

The remaining trails lead from a street or cul-de-sac into an arroyo. Usually the trail begins between homes and then dips sharply down into the arroyo. The steeper parts usually have wooden steps to ease the descent. Shortly after reaching the “bottom” of the trail, there will be a 13 foot high steel pole with a pennant-shaped steel flag at the top. The direction of the point of the flag does **not** have any significance. The purpose of the flag is to enable the hiker moving across the arroyo to spot the trail while walking in the wash. In case you cannot see the flag, have hope! The Madera Reserve Trail Volunteers have placed “*markers*” to lead you across the desert from one trail to another.



*Pennant Flag*

## Cairns



*Cairn*

These markers are in the form of stone cairns. There will be one large or several smaller stones. In either case, the cairns have been painted “white” so they can be easily seen against darker ground. If the view ahead is obstructed, the cairns might be as close as thirty to fifty feet apart. On more open ground such as a wash bottom, the distance might be several hundred feet or more between cairns.

In a few instances, a trail will fork and you will have an option as to which way to walk. At trail junctions, the cairns will have a splotch of blue paint to indicate that this is an intersection of two different paths.



*Blue Cairn*

## **Geocaches**

Geocaches are small containers that are hidden in a variety of locations that may be found with a GPS device. Placing and locating geocaches has become a very popular activity with more than a million geocaches placed around the globe. Geocaches range in size from an ammunition can down to metal boxes smaller than an aspirin container. They typically contain some small trinkets that are intended to be exchanged for one left by the finder. A small pad and pencil are also included for the finder to place his/her name and the date. Locations of geocaches are posted on [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com).

Some time ago, a geocache was placed in Madera Reserve not far from a trail. Its location as posted on [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) is N 31° 51'.275 and W 110° 58'.218. More recently, a geocache was placed at N 31° 51'.510 and W 110° 57'.827. This geocache is not recorded on [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) so its location is only known to Madera Reserve residents. Happy searching!

# INDIVIDUAL TRAILS

## Trail 1

This is a level trail about 100 paces long. It has an entrance between 878 and 882 Sawmill Canyon Place and one on Whitehouse Canyon Road. The only purpose of *Trail 1* is to give access to Whitehouse Canyon Road. Once you reach Whitehouse Canyon Road, there is a paved “sidewalk” that can lead you to Continental School and beyond if you turn left and to the Madera Reserve entrance if you turn right. The trail sign on Whitehouse Canyon Road has been removed in order to discourage use by non-residents.

The views are great. Walking towards Madera Canyon you can see Mounts Wrightston and Hopkins and almost all of the Santa Rita’s, and returning there are panoramic views of Green Valley, and the Santa Rita, Rincon, Catalina and Tumacacori Mountains. Walk up to the two or three mile markers for a great nature walk. Nature viewing is good all year, but the summer is spectacular.

In the summer there are always Ash-Throated and Western Flycatchers, and such additional Sonoran specialties as Black-Throated, Botteri’s, and Rufous-Winged Sparrows, and Phainopepla. Birders from all over North America and many other countries come here. To add these birds to our “life list”, all we have to do is walk up our road to see them.

At the same time the roadside is alive with wildflowers. Some of the beauties to be seen are Devils Claw, Spiny Leaf Aster, Arizona Caltrop, Rock Hibiscus, Janusia, Desert Senna, and Ratney. There are a lot more; just bring your book and have a look.

## Trail 2

Enter at the trailhead on Sawmill Canyon Place just across from the entrance to *Trail 1*. Follow the trail down the steps to the trail flag at the end of the trail. Look around and see the white cairn to the west. Follow this and subsequent cairns until you reach a wide, sandy wash. Walk down the wash (*in Madera Reserve washes, down is always to the west*) about 100 paces where the wash merges with another into a wider wash. In about 35 more paces there will be a large white painted rock with a blue splotch on the right bank. If you turn right, follow the string of cairns North across the arroyo to the pennant and *Trail 3*. Walk up *Trail 3* to the trailhead on Mount Wrightston Loop.

Alternatively you may keep going westbound in the wash to the underpass on Madera Reserve Drive. Once you walk through the underpass, **do not** continue waling straight ahead in the wash because most of the wash is private property beginning at that point. Rather, look immediately to your left and you will see the entrance to a connector trail that roughly parallels the wash and joins the southern end of *Trail 28*. At that point you can either turn right on *Trail 28* and take it up to Armor Spring Place or continue straight on the connector trail to where it joins the southern end of *Trail 26*. From there, follow *Trail 26* up to Armor Spring Place.

### **Trail 3**

The entrance to *Trail 3* is between 902 and 920 Mount Wrightston Loop. Proceed down the steps of railroad ties until you reach the flag at the bottom. Curl around to your right following the cairns that will turn left and head across the field leading to the wash connecting *Trail 2* to *Trails 26* and *28*. There will be a jog to the left and then right in the middle of the trail but you should have no trouble following the cairns. Once you have reached the main wash behind Sawmill Canyon Place you can either turn left to exit out *Trail 2* or you can take the long route under Madera Reserve Drive to *Trails 26* and *28* and beyond.

If you are on the connecting trail in the wash, coming from the entrance to *Trail 2*, the cairn marking *Trail 3* is to your right approximately 100 paces past the metal flag or about 35 paces beyond where a smaller wash intersects the main wash.

If you want to exit via *Trail 3* coming from under Madera Reserve Drive, the cairn where you need to turn is on your left. If you reach the small wash intersecting the main wash you have gone 35 paces too far.

### **Trail 4**

This is a very short trail which cuts across a loop of Walnut Spring Place. The south entrance is in a vacant area and proceeds down some steps and up and to the left. The north entrance is between 1448 and 1468 Walnut Spring Place. After passing the house on the right, follow the cairns to the left and down to the south exit.

### **Trail 5**

This trail can be entered either between 1421 and 1449 Walnut Spring Place or between 1013 and 1033 Baldy Spring. Going either way, the trail is flat and marked with cairns. You should have no difficulty finding your way, but there are a lot of Chain Cholas close at hand, so watch the trail for Cholla links.

### **Trail 6**

The best entrance to *Trail 6* is west of 1012 Baldy Spring Place. The trail descends fairly steeply down a rocky trail to the metal flag. At the flag turn left and follow the cairns across some rocky areas. When you reach the culverts beneath Madera Reserve Drive, turn right and head up the side of the hill to the steps leading to Madera Reserve Drive, just south of Mesquite Springs Place.

### **Trail 7**

The trailhead to *Trail 7* is on Madera Reserve Drive south of Cave Canyon Place. This trail is relatively short (*60-70 yards*) and somewhat twisty and downhill, so use caution. At the pennant



at the base of the trail, you may either turn left and proceed down the wash guided by the cairns to exit onto *Trail 8* or turn right and pass under Madera Reserve Drive to the trail that connects *Trails 17, 18 and 19*.

## **Trail 8**

*Trail 8* begins on Cave Canyon Place next to a vacant lot and goes in a southerly direction. It starts out flat, but soon becomes moderately downhill all the way to the metal flag, which is about 120 yards from Cave Canyon Place. At that point, the trail extends for another 40 yards, also in a southerly direction, in a somewhat winding path through a sandy, grassy area. On this portion of the trail, the route is marked by a series of white-painted rocks. There are a number of cacti in this area, so caution is advised.

The trail ends at a large sandy wash that runs in an east-west direction. To connect with *Trail 7*, simply turn right (west) at the wash and walk about 120 yards to the metal flag at the base of *Trail 7*. (It's possible to turn left at the wash and walk in an easterly direction, but after about 100 yards in that direction there is a barbed wire fence blocking any further travel.)

## **Trail 9**

This trail can be accessed from either Cave Canyon Place or Josephine Saddle Place. Starting between the houses located at 1122 and 1132 Cave Canyon Place, the trail descends on a moderately steep slope on a series of steps formed by railroad ties. There are no marked cairns on this trail because it is short and easy to follow. At the bottom of the wash, the trail ascends up a series of steps and then levels off passing beside a vacant lot to exit on Josephine Saddle Place. The hiker may want to continue on to *Trail 10* by going across the street and entering the trail at the marker just north of 1177 Josephine Saddle Place.

The north entrance to *Trail 9* is just beyond 1148 Josephine Saddle Place. This trail provides a convenient shortcut between Cave Canyon and Josephine Saddle.

## **Trail 9a**

*Trail 9a* is a single trail with two entrances that are linked by a wash. You can begin either on Madera Reserve Drive or on the cul-de-sac of Old Baldy Court. However, if you begin on Old Baldy Court, you will eventually encounter a steep downhill slope with lots of loose rocks. Since that part of the trail is safer and more manageable as an uphill walk, this description will assume a starting point on Madera Reserve Drive.

From Madera Reserve Drive, the trail goes downhill for about 50 yards to a metal pennant. Turn left just beyond the pennant and follow the unmarked, narrow wash to the pennant and exit onto Old Baldy Court. If you do enter from Old Baldy, turn right at the pennant at the bottom of the descent and follow the narrow wash to the exit on Madera Reserve Drive.

## **Trail 10**

The entrance to *Trail 10* is on the north side of 1177 Josephine Saddle Place. It curves down to the left with some steps leading to the bottom of a small wash to connecting *Trails 11, 12* and *13*.

## **Connecting Path**

This path connects entering *Trails 10, 11, 12* and *13*. Because of the network of small washes and sporadic clumps of bushes, there is often no well-defined trail to follow although there are painted cairns which help to mark the way. It is easy to keep your bearings if you remember the houses in Madera Reserve are on your left when going from *Trail 28* to *Trail 26* and on your right when going in the opposite direction.

Entering *Trail 10* on Josephine Saddle, walk down the series of railroad tie steps to the metal marker at the bottom of a small gulch. Continue up the other side of the gulch veering to the left at the third cairn. There is a cairn (*the fifth one after the red metal marker*) just past the large Ocotillo on your right. Turn right and follow two cairns to a large wash. Take a left down the wash for roughly 100 feet where you will encounter a tree in the wash. To the right of the tree you will see a cairn on your right leading out of the wash. You will cross some patches of grasses and a few piles of animal bones. You can pretend they are mammoth or dinosaur bones, but most likely they are bones of cattle that died on the feed lot that used to be there. The cairns will mark a trail that veers to the right, coming to a large, sandy wash. At the wash go left down the wash for about 250 feet or so where you will find a tree in the middle of the wash and a cairn with a blue spot just before it on the left. The cairn marks the exit to *Trail 11* which will take you to Josephine Saddle Drive. If you are still game, ignore this cairn and go around the tree and walk for approximately 250 feet paces where the wash divides. Take the smaller branch to the left and follow it down the wash about 375 feet to the exit for *Trail 12*. Continuing past the flag for about 160 feet, there will be a cairn leading out of the wash towards a stile in the fence. This is the only passage through the fence that crosses the wash. The fence marks the northern boundary of Madera Reserve. After passing through the stile, return to the wash. About 240 feet away from the stile is a cairn on the left leading out of the wash. If you take this left exit, you will find a path along an old concrete cattle trough. The path is about 1/6<sup>th</sup> of a mile long. If you decide not to take the left exit but continue along the wash, you will eventually come to Campbell Avenue.

At the end of the cattle trough, follow the cairns to the left for about 250 feet towards a large tree. You can either turn left, back towards the trees and *Trail 13* or you can continue south on Campbell Road. If you turn left, it is about 200 feet to the cairns leading into the trees. Follow the cairns from there and up the steps to the *Trail 13* entrance on Temporal Gulch. **Caution:** *The path up the hill is steep and should not be attempted by persons who are unsteady on their feet.*

Coming in the opposite direction from either *Trail 12* or *13*, follow the wash keeping the Madera Reserve houses on your right. The stile for passage through the barbed wire fence will be on your left about 40 feet from the wash. Keep to the right along the wash when it merges about

100 yards past *Trail 12*. A cairn on your right marks the correct wash to follow. In roughly 150 paces, you will encounter an Acacia Tree in the middle of the wash. Just past the tree, there is a white cairn on your right. This marks the exit to *Trail 11*. The cairns to *Trail 11* veer a little to the left and then head straight towards the metal marker and the exit. Continue along the wash for about 100 paces further if you want to exit onto *Trail 10*. Leave the wash at the cairn just on the other side of the Mesquite tree and follow cairns to another wash, passing between two Mesquite trees to enter the next wash. In a short distance, there is a cairn just beyond some dead limbs hanging over the wash. Take a sharp right at this cairn. Follow the cairns taking a sharp left beyond the large Ocotillo. Follow the remaining cairns down to the metal trail marker and then up the steps to exit on Josephine Saddle Drive.

## **Trail 11**

This trail begins between 1081 and 1097 Josephine Saddle Place. This descent follows steps down into a broad flat area formed by a mesh of small washes. At the metal pennant flag, look for the cairns immediately to your left. Follow them, turning to the right at the fourth marker. There are three more markers that lead to the wash and the trail that connects *Trails 10, 11, 12* and *13*. Take a right at the wash if you want to exit via *Trail 10* and go left to hike to the other trails.

## **Trail 12**

The entry to this trail is between 949 and 957 Josephine Saddle Place. The descent is straightforward, down some steps formed by railroad ties. At the bottom of the descent you can head left toward Sawmill Canyon Wash and *Trail 13* or turn right and head toward *Trails 10* and *11*.

## **Trail 13**

*Trail 13* begins at the cul-de-sac on Temporal Gulch Drive. This is our steepest trail. Enter by the trail sign and walk about 20 paces to where the trail turns 90° to the right (*marked between a pair of small white painted cairns*). In another 20 paces or so, the trail descends sharply down some loose rock. You need to be careful here as the footing is not good. At the bottom of the descent you are among some low Mesquite trees and you should veer to the left passing through two white cairns. Approximately 25 paces further, you will see two more white cairns to your right. Pass through them as you emerge from the Mesquite and turn left where you will see a concrete pad with some transformers. Beyond the pad is Campbell Road which presently is just a dirt road. Once you reach Campbell Road, you have a choice. You can follow it to your left and it will take you all the way out to Whitehouse Canyon Road or you can turn left before reaching Whitehouse and proceed to Madera Reserve by way of Josephine Canyon Drive.

The alternative is to turn right on Campbell Road and head for the main wash, called the Sawmill Canyon Wash. The wash crosses Campbell a short distance away where there is a dip in the road. There are no cairns to mark the wash but you can see a strand of barbed wire lying on the ground across the wash to the right. If you travel down the wash to the left, you will

emerge onto Continental Road just north of La Posada. If you turn right, you will eventually meet the intersections of *Trails 10, 11 and 12*, all of which exit on Josephine Saddle Place. In either instance, walking the Sawmill Canyon Wash is easy and quite pleasant. (*A shortcut to the Sawmill Wash can be made by following the concrete troughs to the right of Campbell.*) Before you reach the dip in the road where Sawmill crosses Campbell are two white cairns off to the right by the troughs which marks the entrance to the shortcut. Follow it along the trough, occasionally dodging a Mesquite tree until you reach the end of the troughs. There you will see two white cairns indicating the path turns to the right. Be sure to pass between them so you don't get tangled in the loose wire and follow the cairns down to Sawmill Wash. From there, you can turn to the right, go about ten paces, turn left and descend a few paces through two white cairns to the wash. Turn right and follow the cairns to the stile that breaches the fence to the left of the wash. Return to the wash and head towards the flags for *Trails 12, 10 and 11* reversing the directions found in the section on *Trail 11*.

## **Trail 14**

*Trail 14* begins on a cul-de-sac at the end of Florida Saddle Drive, very close to the driveway between 854 and 848 Florida Saddle Drive. The first 40 or 50 yards of the trail are gently curving and relatively flat, but the trail then becomes quite steep. You will go down a number of steps then up a few, then down another 10 or 11 steps to the metal flag in the wash. Proceed carefully in the steep sections because loose rocks are plentiful. It's also important before you get to the steep section to pay attention to the white-painted rocks; if you don't, you can easily walk off the trail. Turn left at the pennant and walk approximately 300 feet on the marked trail to a blue cairn. Turning right at the cairn will lead you to *Trail 16* which exits on Vault Mine Court. Taking the left fork will lead you to *Trail 15* which exits on Madera Reserve Drive.

## **Trail 15**

The trailhead for *15* is on the West side of Madera Reserve Drive, between Vault Mine Court and Florida Saddle Drive. This trail was recently reopened and is one of the lovelier trails in the Reserve.

From the entrance follow the cairns for 150 feet or so down to the steps which lead to the metal pennant. From there, it is about 135 feet to a cairn with a blue splotch where the trail splits. Turn left to go to the pennant marking *Trail 16* which exits on Vault Mine Court. The pennant is approximately 135 feet from the blue cairn.

If you take the right fork at the blue cairn and walk a little over 300 feet, you will come to the pennant for *Trail 14*. The steps at the pennant lead up to the exit on Florida Saddle Place. Grass grows relatively quickly on the segment between the blue cairn and the *Trail 14* pennant, so sometimes the trail can be a bit overgrown. However, you still should be able to see the cairns marking the trail.

## **Trail 16**

*Trail 16* begins next to 852 Vault Mine Court and goes in a northerly direction, ending at the metal flag in the wash. The trail begins as a series of “S” turns down a moderate slope (look for the white-painted rocks to be sure you’re following the trail), but then becomes steep downhill as it approaches the wash. Be very cautious in walking down the dozen or so steps in this portion of the trail and also be alert for loose rocks. Once you reach the metal pennant, veer to your right and walk 130 feet or so to a blue cairn. Taking the left fork will lead you to the pennant for *Trail 14* which exits on Florida Saddle. The right fork goes to *Trail 15* which exits on Madera Reserve Drive.

## **Trails 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21**

Madera Reserve’s most extensive arroyo is located west of Madera Reserve Drive, north of Sylvester Spring Place, and south of Vault Mine Court.

This area is served by five *Trails*: 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21. Actually a sixth trail can be included; *Trail 7* enters from the trailhead on the east side of Madera Reserve Drive and just south of Cave Canyon Place. Just follow *Trail 7* down to the wash and instead of turning east to access *Trail 8*, turn right at the trail flag and follow the wash under Madera Reserve Drive to the wash that connects *Trails 17, 18, and 19*.

A hike that utilizes all of these trails takes about 45 minutes to an hour, door-to-door from your home.

## **Connecting Path**

On the west side of the underpass, you will see a cairn immediately in front of you. Veer slightly to the right to head to the next cairn and turn left onto the main wash. You can always keep your bearings on this connecting trail by taking the northernmost (*in this case, on your right*) wash. (*Washes in Madera Reserve run in an east to west direction.*) The cairns are widely spaced on this wash because the trail is obvious for the most part. The next cairn is roughly 100 yards away and guides you around a Desert Hackberry in the middle of the wash. About 50 yards beyond the Hackberry there is a cairn marking a path to your left around some Mesquite. A few yards further, you will see a cairn on your right which points across the main wash to another cairn. Head to this second cairn but turn left before reaching it if you want to continue down the wash on the connecting trail. If you wish to exit on *Trail 19*, follow, veering to your right at this second cairn and follow the cairns to the pennant and the exit on Dutch John Spring.

The pennant marking the bottom of *Trail 18* is a few hundred yards down the wash and located right next to it. You can’t miss it. In another two hundred yards or so down the wash (you will have to go around some Mesquite) is the exit to *Trail 17*. You may exit there onto Vault Mine Court or continue down the wash. There are two cairns spaced about 20 yards further down the wash. At the second cairn located on your left and beside a Cholla, you can turn left onto the

trail that connects with *Trails 20* and *21*. If instead of turning left, you continue down the main wash and dodge a couple of Mesquites, you will come to Campbell Road.

This connecting path is easily reversed if you approach it from *Trails 17, 18* or *19* or coming from *Trails 20* or *21*. Going towards the east from *Trails 17* or *18*, follow the main wash as you turn on to it from the pennant flags. On approaching the intersection for the trail leading to the pennant for *Trail 19* you will see a trail of cairns going off to your left that mark the path to this exit. If you want to continue east, there is a cairn about 10 yards diagonally ahead of the exit to *Trail 19* that you should take. Keep to your left and continue about 150 yards where you will see a cairn in the wash. Stay to the left of it and follow the cairns to the underpass and the exit of *Trail 7* on Madera Reserve Drive.

## **Trail 17**

The *Trail 17* trailhead is just west of 792 Vault Mine Court at the west end of that street. At the pennant at the bottom of the steps, you may turn left to follow the connecting path to *Trails 18, 19* and *7*. Or you may turn right down the wash and take a left at the second cairn on your left (about 50 feet away) by the Cholla and follow the cairns to either exit *Trails 20* or *21*. Instead of turning at the Cholla, you may also follow the wash out to Campbell Road.

## **Trail 18**

The trailhead for *Trail 18* is on the west side of 852 Vault Mine Court. Descending to the pennant flag you may turn right or left in the wash depending whether you want to go east towards Madera Reserve Drive or west for a distance to reach *Trails 17, 20* and *21*.

## **Trail 19**

The trailhead for *Trail 19* is located on the Dutch John Spring cul-de-sac next to 1937 Dutch John Spring. Descend to the pennant and follow the cairns down to the wash. Turn right to head west towards *Trails 17, 18, 20* and *21* and a path to Campbell Road. To go east toward *Trail 7* and Madera Reserve Drive, look diagonally to your left across the wash and proceed to that cairn. Turn left, go around the Mesquite bushes and head down the wash.

## **Trail 20**

This trail begins between 1108 and 1111 Kent Spring. After descending to the pennant flag, you can either head to Campbell Road or across the arroyo to connect with *Trails 21* and *17*.

The first cairn marking the path to Campbell Road is about 20 feet to the left of the pennant flag. Head towards it and follow the cairns for a little more than 100 yards to Campbell Road.

To access the other trails, continue straight from the pennant flag to a series of three cairns in front of you. Turn right at the third cairn and proceed to the next cairn which is larger than the

rest. At this large cairn, the trail divides. If you go straight, you will see a cairn that leads to cairns that lead to the exit on *Trail 21*. The cairns to the north (*or to your left*) of the large cairn lead across the arroyo to connecting trails for *17, 18* and *19*.

## **Trail 21**

From the trailhead just west of 765 Josephine Canyon, follow a series of wooden steps down to the pennant flag. At the flag look to your left and see the rock cairn about 40 feet away. Walk to that cairn and then proceed to a second cairn at the edge of the wash. Follow the well-marked wash west about 80 or 90 yards to Campbell Road. From here one can walk south to the wash that enters Campbell Road from the east just before Whitehouse Canyon Road. This wash provides access to *Trails 25, 26, 27* and *28* and *Trails 1, 2, and 3*.

Alternatively, instead of heading south, one can turn right and walk Campbell Road to *Trail 13* or east on the large wash to *Trails 10, 11, and 12* or just keep going north to the next sub-division. Campbell Road is an excellent hike for those who prefer level or only slight grades, and softer under-footing than pavement.

There is also a cairn marked path to *Trail 20* from the pennant flag for *Trail 21*. From the flag, notice the cairn about 60 feet south. Go to that cairn and then to the next line-of-sight cairn in about 70 feet. From this second cairn you can keep following cairns east to the *Trail 20* flag which will be reached in about 150 yards.

To reach the connecting trail for *Trails 7, 17, 18* and *19*, turn right at the large cairn (*it should be the third one*) instead of following the trail to exit *Trail 20*. Then follow the cairns northward until you reach the wash. Turn right at the Cholla on the wash to the connecting trail and the *Trail 17* flag will be about 100 feet away. Turn left at the Cholla and follow the wash if you want to exit on Campbell Road.

In the same manner one can continue walking east on the wash, and in 400 plus feet the *Trail 18* flag is right on the wash. In another plus or minus 500 feet, the flag to *Trail 19* will be to the left about 100 feet away.

Walking another 150 to 200 yards following the wash on *Trail 19* will bring you to the underpass at Madera Reserve Drive and access to *Trails 7* and *8*. Be sure to stay to the left of the cairns when the trail nears the underpass

## **Trail 22**

This short trail can be entered either between 805 and 848 Sylvester Spring Place or 821 and 829 Josephine Canyon Drive. The trail is flat and well-defined so it does not need any cairns to mark it.

## **Trail 23**

This trail skirts the perimeter of the cemetery on Madera Reserve Drive but is no longer maintained because of an abundance of Cholla. It is still walkable but watch your step. It can be accessed either from the entrance to the cemetery or at the trail marker between 884 and 908 Sylvester Spring Place.

## **Trail 24**

This trail is closed.

## **Trails 25, 26, 27, and 28**

There are four (4) trails off of Armor Spring Place. Two (2) of them (*Trail 26* and *Trail 28*) begin on the south side of the street. The other two (2) (*Trail 25* and *Trail 27*) are on the north side.

*Trails 26* and *28* are parallel to each other. Both of them run downward from Armor Spring Place for about 75 to 80 yards at which point they cross a sandy wash that runs in an east-west direction and continues up several wooden steps into a desert area. At this point there is a trail through the desert area, marked by white-painted rocks or cairns that in effect connects *Trails 26* and *28*.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The “sandy wash” mentioned in the preceding paragraph is **NOT** part of the Madera Reserve trail system except where *Trails 26* and *28* actually cross the wash. In fact, the portions of the wash adjacent to *Trails 26* and *28* are owned by homeowners living on the south side of Armor Spring Place. Hikers using *Trails 26* and *28* are advised to stay on the trails and not inadvertently trespass on private property.

Similar to *Trails 26* and *28*, *Trails 25* and *27* are parallel to each other and are connected by a trail marked by white painted rocks or cairns. However, this connector trail is considerably longer and steeper than the one connecting *Trails 26* and *28*, so extra care should be taken.





# NATURE TRAIL MAP



Madera Reserve  
Nature Trail

Beginning Marker Sign



Wash Trail Marker  
(red metal flag)

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Trail not maintained

## MADERA RESERVE



Revised April 2016