

The Partnership

Lost Goldmine Trail is a partnership between the Superstition Area Land Trust (SALT), Pinal County Open Space & Trails Department, and Tonto National Forest. It was completed in 2002.

The trail's western 1+ miles is in the Tonto National Forest. Most of the remainder falls within a 25-foot easement through Arizona State Trust Land, except for a short central section through private land and along Cloudview Rd. This allows recreationists access to the Superstitions without trespassing on private or State Trust lands. It is free and open for public use every day of the year, and no permit is required. Whether you are looking for a short hike of a few hours or a longer connection through to Lost Dutchman State Park or the Superstition Wilderness trail system, Lost Goldmine Trail fits the bill. It is open to all non-motorized forms of recreation, including hiking, running, backpacking, horseback riding, and mountain biking. (Bicycles ARE NOT allowed in the adjacent Superstition Wilderness Area.)

Partners' Contact Information

Superstition Area Land Trust
480-983-3454
www.azsalt.org



Pinal County Open Space & Trails Department
520-866-6910
<http://www.pinalcountyaz.gov/OpenSpaceTrails/Pages/home.aspx>

Tonto National Forest, Mesa Ranger District
480-310-3300
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/tonto/maps-pubs>



Directions to Lost Goldmine Trailheads

Broadway Trailhead:

From U.S. 60, turn N on Mountain View Road in Apache Junction (Mile Marker 199). Continue 2.5 miles to Broadway Road. Turn right and proceed 1 mile E to a small parking area on the left.

Cloudview Trailhead:

From U.S. 60, turn N on Kings Ranch Road in Gold Canyon (Mile Marker 203). Proceed 3 miles to Baseline Road. Turn right and drive E 0.2 mile to Mohican. Turn left and continue N 0.4 mile to Valley View Road. Turn left and continue 0.5 mile to Cloudview Road (After the right-hand curve, Valley View becomes Whitetail Road.) Turn right on Cloudview, and proceed 0.5 mile to the large parking area at the end of the road.

Lost Goldmine East Trailhead:

From U.S. 60, turn N on Peralta Road (Mile Marker 204). Continue N for 7.2 miles; 6 miles are on a well-graded gravel road. Turn left at the "Lost Goldmine Trail" sign into the large parking area.



LOST GOLDMINE TRAIL "A Partnership for Good"



Superstition Foothills



Lost Goldmine Trail runs along the base of the Superstition Mountains between Broadway Road near Apache Junction and Peralta Road east of Gold Canyon. It crosses 11+ miles of beautiful Sonoran Desert foothills immediately adjacent to the Superstition Wilderness. The landscape and the towering cliffs above are breathtaking. Although desert bighorn sheep sightings are common, the area is also home to more secretive species like the Sonoran Desert tortoise and Gila monster. Reptiles, birds and smaller mammals are abundant, as are native plants like saguaro, palo verde, cholla, and brittlebush.



History of The Lost Goldmine Trail

The need for permanent public access to the Superstition Wilderness grew as subdivisions sprang up during the building boom of the early 1990s. Hikers, horsemen and bicyclists found themselves cut off from old trails by development, creating parking and sanitation problems for local residents.

In 1993 Pinal County approached the Superstition Area Land Trust (SALT) to co-sponsor a federal grant proposal that required support from local non-profit organizations. It took \$350K to permanently lease the trail right-of-way from the Arizona State Land Department and another grant from AZ State Parks to erect signs and build parking lots. Through the combined efforts of county, state and federal governments, hundreds of volunteers from SALT, ADOBE, Superstition Horsemen, and homeowner groups, the Lost Goldmine Trail is here in perpetuity for the thousands of outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy it each year.

Trail Etiquette

- Obey signs and respect fences
- Close all gates behind you
- Be courteous to other trail users
- Dogs must be leashed
- Do not disturb wildlife or cultural resources
- Take nothing but photos
- No water or sanitary facilities on the trail
- Pack it in, pack it out - leave no trace
- Stay within the trail easement - do not trespass
- Trail use is at your own risk
- In an emergency, call 911
- No motorized vehicles on the trail
- No bicycles allowed in the Wilderness Area

