

Prescott Creekside E-News

January 2018

www.PrescottCreeks.org

Hello Friend,

What a blessing the snow and rain were earlier this week. Nearly four months of no precipitation makes us all appreciate it that much more when it arrives. The cracked rain gauge at the Prescott Creeks office registered .67" which matches neighboring rain gauges reporting to Weather Underground.

It's been one month since the Prescott Creeks office caught fire and we are getting back on our feet. A [Fire Recovery Needs List](#) is available on the Prescott Creeks website that provides insights into all the material items needed to re-establish an office from which to advance the Prescott Creeks mission. In kind donations are being accepted. As we wait to hear what the owner's plans are for rebuilding, we've moved off the GMC tailgate and are operating out of another cabin just across the parking lot from our previous location. Ideally we'd like to stay next to the Watson Woods Riparian Preserve if at all possible. We will keep you posted on www.PrescottCreeks.org, [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) as details are available.



A symbolic victory after the fire

While not pretty to look at, wine maker Eric Glomski of Page Springs Cellars declared this wine more than fit to drink. Look for it at the upcoming Prescott Creeks Fire Recovery Event (to be scheduled).

Mysterious Streamflow

After decent monsoon rains, this past fall and early winter brought essentially no measurable precipitation, a serious concern for the environment, but this dry



PRESCOTT CREEKS

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Upcoming Events

[C.R.E.W. Volunteer Events](#)

Thursday, January 18th

Thursday, February 1st

[Jay's Bird Barn - Bird Walks](#)

Saturday, January 16th

Thursday, January 18th

Friday, January 26th

Wednesday, January 31st

[City of Prescott WaterSmart Series](#)

Wednesday, January 17th

Wednesday, February 21st

[Natural History Institute - Book Club](#)

Friday, January 19th

[Prescott Audubon Society - "Window on Nature"](#)

Thursday, January 25th

[Natural History Institute Speaker Series](#)

Thursday, February 1st

Businesses Supporter Spotlight



This month we'd like to give a shout out to two fantastic tech firms and their staff for helping Prescott Creeks recover from our office fire in December. The Prescott Creeks file

period revealed an unexpected phenomenon in Prescott's creeks. As November and December continued to bring persistent sun and blue skies, Prescott Creeks started receiving calls and emails asking why water had begun appearing in the creeks. It turns out that many of the riparian trees and shrubs are capable of tapping into shallow groundwater. When they become dormant for winter, they release their draw on the water table and groundwater rises. Where the water table is already high, such as in Watson Woods Riparian Preserve, some of this groundwater seeps out into low-lying areas.

The impact on groundwater levels by plant dormancy occurs every year. Normally, the Southwest receives rain through the fall and winter, which can increase streamflow and mask the change in surface water levels due to the rising water table.

For a more thorough explanation of this phenomenon, see the [full article on our website](#).



Thank You

Prescott Creeks would like to extend a sincere THANK YOU to all who responded to our end of the year fundraising campaign. Significant community support protects and restores beleaguered local riparian systems and improves water quality. It also extends grant funds for on-the-ground projects - like an upcoming revegetation project to occur in Watson Woods Riparian Preserve. We could use your help planting cottonwoods and willows! Please contact us at Volunteers@PrescottCreeks.org for more info and field schedules. Thank you again for contributing your time, talent, and treasure to Prescott's creeks.



server was rushed to Phoenix immediately after the fire for assessment and data recovery efforts with [Data Doctors](#). Ken Colburn and Nick VanCampen kept us abreast of the process that led to successful recovery of all our electronic data. Locally, John Staltari of [HighGround IT](#) worked with Prescott Creeks to recover data from our backup drives and to configure new systems, to keep the work of Prescott Creeks moving forward. Once Data Doctors recovered our server files, John got us up and running in no time with new equipment.

Support Creeks in many ways:



[Membership](#)



[Volunteer](#)



[Donate](#)

You can make a difference by contributing in one of the ways above. Please visit www.PrescottCreeks.org for more info.



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