

Maintenance of desert washes

The main function of the natural washes throughout our desert community is to convey storm water runoff. Due to the fact that many of these washes bisect privately owned property, it is the shared responsibility of these private property owners and some homeowners associations to ensure the natural beauty of the wash is preserved while balancing the need to maintain the safe conveyance of storm water.



Residents' responsibility

On an annual basis, typically prior to the beginning of the summer monsoon season, residents should check and clear debris, downed trees and other obstructions from washes on their property. This can include the pruning of tree limbs that can block the wash and trap debris during storm events.

Please do not store materials in the flow path of a wash, even temporarily. Please contact the Town of Carefree Planning and

Zoning Department prior to any permanent improvements near washes such as grading, floodwalls or riprap, so we can help identify what you can do without a permit or assist you in the permit application process, if required.