

Prescott Creekside E-News

September 2025



www.PrescottCreeks.org

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Greetings,

Welcome to the September issue of the Prescott Creekside E-News. Read on to learn about important FOREVER PRESERVED dates. A free tour is available for the first 20 people to register and October holds two major milestones for the initiative. This issue also highlights efforts Prescott Creeks is taking to learn more about what is happening in Watson Woods Riparian Preserve. As always, there is a link to volunteer opportunities with Prescott Creeks. Your participation is needed and welcomed.

FOREVER PRESERVED - Update

Save the Dates:

FOREVER PRESERVED Tour

Saturday | September 20, 2025 | 8-10 AM
Watson Woods Riparian Preserve – South Loop Trail
[Register for FREE here](#)

Prescott City Council - Study Session

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 | 1 PM
(Changed from 9/9/2025)
Council Chambers | Prescott City Hall
201 N Montezuma St, Prescott, AZ 86301

Prescott City Council - Voting Meeting

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 | 3 PM
Council Chambers | Prescott City Hall
201 N Montezuma St, Prescott, AZ 86301

In May last year, Prescott Creeks jointly presented with City of Prescott staff to the Prescott City Council and received positive comments – which were served as direction to continue with planning efforts.



Watson Woods Riparian Preserve. Photo: Prescott Creeks

Since then, Prescott Creeks, three City of Prescott Departments, and four partners have worked collaboratively to advance multiple plans and agreements that will ultimately lead to permanent protection of the conservation values at the Preserve. We are scheduled to present again to City Council on October 14th this year. At that presentation, Prescott Creeks and City staff will provide an update and present:

- **Draft Conservation Easement Language**
- **Draft Lease Agreement**
- **Joint Management Plan** (that clarifies roles and responsibilities between the City of Prescott and Prescott Creeks)
- **Work Plan** (showing planned ecological improvements within the Preserve)

Show your support to **FOREVER PRESERVE** Watson Woods Riparian Preserve.

[Learn More](#)

New Weather Station in Watson Woods Preserve

By: Phil Taska & Michael Byrd

If you've been around for an active monsoon season, you've no doubt experienced a torrential downpour on one side of the street while the sun shines brightly on the other side. This underscores the variability of the weather in this area.

As Prescott Creeks engages in various monitoring activities in Watson Woods Riparian Preserve, the question is what is the weather actually *within* the Preserve? Bigger still, why is it important to know this?

Prescott Creeks has started to answer the first question by installing a weather station within the Preserve boundaries. The station collects data points (for multiple parameters) once each

minute and transmits them to the [Ambient Weather Network](#) where they are recorded.

Even cooler, anyone can see the data there. You can find the [Prescott Creeks Weather Station here](#). Data collection began on August 1, 2025!



The station, pictured here, is a KestrelMet 6000. It is a professional-grade instrument that collects rainfall data, temperature, humidity, dew point, wind direction, and wind speed data.

The answer to the second question above ('Why is it important to understand the weather conditions within the Preserve?') is that the information gathered by the PCrks-001 weather station can be analyzed in conjunction with any number of other Prescott Creeks projects such as:

- Phenology Monitoring
- Bird Surveys
- Groundwater Monitoring
- Ecological Restoration Planning
- and more!

Documenting the weather of Watson Woods Riparian Preserve will help Prescott Creeks, its partners, and the larger scientific community monitor this riparian corridor ecosystem, and by extension, gain insights into riparian ecosystems elsewhere in the Granite Creek watershed.

None of this would have been possible without the support of two anonymous donors who have underwritten the entire project. Their dedication to helping everyone learn more is inspiring! ***Thank you!***

[Learn More](#)

2025 Fall Migration IBA Surveys Complete

In July, we called for IBA bird survey volunteers and received a great response!

The IBA surveys, a collaborative effort between [Prescott Audubon Society](#) and [Prescott Creeks](#), were conducted on the mornings of Sunday, August 24, 2025, and Sunday, September 7, 2025. A combined total of **44 unique species** and **418 birds** were observed during the surveys.

Thank you to the nearly 20 volunteers who participated in the surveys!

IBA Survey highlights and details can be viewed on the [Prescott Creeks website](#).



Western Wood-Pewee. Photo: Lloomis

Special thanks also go to Leslie Loomis, a Prescott Creeks volunteer, who not only surveyed for birds, but also took an active leadership role in coordinating the entire process - from volunteer recruitment to creating guidance and documentation materials; from fine-tuning the Prescott Creeks eBird account to working behind-the-scenes on a plethora of critical tasks. We couldn't have done it without her!

Keep an eye on future [Prescott Audubon Society](#) newsletters and the [Prescott Creekside E-Newsletter](#) to find out when the surveys will happen in the spring and fall of 2026. If you're interested in helping, sign up quickly! We had a waiting list for each of these surveys.

[Learn More](#)

2025 Volunteer Opportunities

Prescott Creeks is supported by a passionate community of volunteers. We couldn't do it without them. Celebrate the watershed and its many creeks and lakes by volunteering and lending a hand. Contributing your time to one of the many exciting creek-related projects can be satisfying and helps achieve healthy watersheds and clean waters in central Arizona.

Volunteer with Prescott Creeks and make a difference!

[Learn More](#)

Prescott Creeks is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission to achieve healthy watersheds and clean waters in central Arizona for the benefit of people and wildlife through protection, restoration, education, and advocacy.

Our Contact Information

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