

SUN CITY

The planning for Sun City began in the late 1950's when the Del E. Webb Development Company acquired 20,000 acres of land adjacent to Youngtown. The land, owned by the Boswell Company, was part of a town once known as Marinette and used primarily for farming cotton.

Del Webb started the community by building a shopping center. It was followed by a recreation center with a golf course behind it and five new model homes. Small neighborhoods built close to recreational and shopping amenities would set the stage for all master-planned adult retirement communities to follow.

The project was initially named the "Marinette Retirement Community". However, a nationwide contest was held to formally name the community and legend has it that Del Webb himself selected the winning name, Sun City, from the thousands of entries received.

Since then, Sun City has continued to grow and evolve into one of the most accepted adult communities of its kind.

It is an Age Restricted community, therefore, at least one member of each household must be fifty-five years of age and no permanent resident can be under nineteen years of age. However, there is no age restriction on ownership.

Sun City is now home to over 42,500 people, eleven golf courses, sixteen shopping centers and seven recreation centers, each with their own swimming pool.

The city is a self-contained community with abundant opportunity and facilities for continued education, volunteer work, and enjoyment of crafts, sports, exercise, hobbies and all types of recreation. This creates interested, active and involved citizens.

Sun Citizens have all the facilities needed to enjoy retirement living and live within bicycle, golf cart or walking distance of the facilities.

You can enjoy swimming & hot tubs, basketball, bowling, boating & fishing, billiards, ping-pong, tennis, racquet and handball, a fitness gym, and softball, along with numerous other activities through participation in over 130 chartered clubs.

Each household pays a modest annual property assessment fee allowing 1-2 persons the use of any of the above facilities no matter where they live in the community.

Known as the "City of Volunteers, Sun City has more than 350 civic, service, church, as well as charitable and cultural groups. Residents are active in Habitat for Humanity, assistant teaching in nearby communities, hospitals, and many additional volunteer activities.

In addition to the seven recreation centers, residents enjoy eleven golf courses. Three of these, Sun City, Palmbrook and Union Hills, are private country clubs. All three country clubs offer excellent food with elegant dining rooms and the normal array of other club activities and functions.

The other eight feature five full-length regulation courses; namely the North and South courses, Willowcreek, Riverview and The Lakes West course. Two are executive-length courses, Lakes East and Willowbrook, and the last course is Quailrun, a nine-hole course.

There is unlimited play on any of the eight resident golf courses belonging to the Sun City Recreation Centers. Out of town friends or guests may also use the recreational facilities as guests of residents or play golf at a nominal cost.

Residential choices within Sun City include: Single Family Homes, Duplexes (two side-by-side connected units) and Quad Homes (four homes having common side and rear walls.)

Many homes are built on golf course lots, which give the owners open views of the course and the fairways. Sun City has two man-made lakes that are surrounded by homes and duplex units offering the owners excellent views across the lake.

There are Garden Apartments (these are in rows and face a courtyard or the street, have common grounds and a Homeowners Association).

The prices to purchase a home or condominium will depend on size, location, year built, condition and any remodeling that has been done to the home. To get an idea of current home prices, visit www.PhxHomeSearcher.com or call Mira Vista Properties Realty Group, 888.842.6090.

Overall, most homes in the Northwest Valley incur lower costs than in many other parts of the country. Information regarding property taxes and Home Prices are available at our website, www.PhxHomeSearcher.com or call Mira Vista Properties Realty Group, 888.842.6090

Volunteers serve the community and play a large part in the cleanliness, low crime rate and successful operation of the many organizations, agencies and programs that serve the interests and meet the special needs of Sun City Residents. These men and women are to be commended for their generous gifts of time, talent, effort, their commitment and contribution to the community.

There are numerous organizations providing valuable services to the community, such as those listed below, that make the lives of others fuller, more meaningful and more rewarding.

Sunshine Service loans items, such as medical related equipment, rollaway beds, baby items, etc. to residents of Sun City at no charge. They are supported by donations from those who borrow equipment and by contributions from local residents, businesses and other organizations.

The Home Owners Association (HOA), a volunteer organization, provides a number of services to promote the health, well-being, and welfare of the residents. The Association provides consumer information, monitors legislation and taxation, and helps with gardening problems, etc.

Sun City has two libraries located at the Bell Road and Fairway recreation centers. The Bell Center library has an extensive collection of DVD's, videos, music CD's and books on tape. There are also reference volunteers and a reference librarian to help you find information on a variety of topics. The library offers a homebound program to send large-type books to the homes of individuals you cannot visit the library because of an ongoing disability. The Fairway Recreation Center Library is a 30,000 plus volume library. This small, friendly library specializes in recreational reading, best sellers, videos, magazines and financial publications.

The Library relies solely on the generosity of Sun City residents and various fundraising strategies for its operating expenses.

Every Saturday morning the Prides, a group of over 300 volunteers, work to keep the public thoroughfares of Sun City neat and clean. They also maintain the watering systems.

The Sun City Posse, another volunteer organization, has approximately 200 members under the direct authorization of the Maricopa County Sheriff. While the primary function of the Posse is crime prevention, members are trained in several different programs that benefit the community. They respond to fire, medical and accident calls. They perform home security patrols, neighborhood watch programs, and vacation inspection services.

Interfaith Community Care is a non-profit, non-sectarian human services agency formed to meet the special needs of the community by assisting individuals to remain living independently in their own home. They provide services regardless of the recipient's inability to pay.

The Handi-Capables Club is a chartered club of The Recreation Centers of Sun City. The purpose is to plan programs and recreational activities of interest and benefit to Sun City residents who have a lasting physical disability.