

WEATHER NOTES

Canyonlands and Arches

April 6-10, 2009

The Colorado Plateau is characterized by extremes, even in its weather. Your preparation for diverse conditions is easy if you keep in mind the following weather conditions and your own tolerance to the sun, heat, and cold. Being prepared is not difficult and will allow you to enjoy these diverse moods of Mother Nature.

Average temperatures in April can reach highs of 70s during the day. At night temperatures drop to around 40°. Typically in the spring, days will be warm and dry, and evenings will be cool. However, afternoon storms can bring cold, wet, and windy conditions.

Although we are anticipating warm weather, it is important to be prepared for the unexpected. Rain gear that keeps you dry is a necessity. The best way to plan for temperature and weather changes during our trip is to layer your clothing each day, allowing you to shed layers as the day progresses. Synthetic materials are most effective in keeping you warm. Some examples of synthetic materials are fleece, polypropylene, and capilene. Wool also works great.

On warm days, cottons that are light colored help reflect the heat. To protect your skin from the sun's rays, you might want to bring a long-sleeve cotton shirt, comfortable loose fitting pants, a hat with a brim, and sunscreen.

And last, but not least, please bring a pair of comfortable, yet durable hiking shoes appropriate for walking and/or hiking.

We look forward to seeing you in April! If you have any questions, please contact Jessica at the Museum: 928-774-5211 x209 or email at jmcgrath@mna.mus.az.us.

Thank you!