

## Ocotillo Park: Water and Energy Conservation in the Desert

When you think about a city park, what normally comes to mind is a very large green grass area with lots of shady trees. When you live in the desert, you have to be a bit more creative with your design. Ocotillo Park in the City of Cathedral City is a new 5 acre park that utilizes desert landscaping, including the namesake ocotillo plant, for most of the park's natural space. Native plants, flowers and rock features form an artistic symbol of the desert history.

There are many other environmentally friendly design features within the park including state-of-the-art LED lights, solar-powered LED lights as well as on-demand lighting. There are also smart irrigation systems, pervious surfaces, bioswales and porous concrete.

The process to create this new park incorporated a number of residents design ideas including shading the children's playgrounds, shaded seating in the dugouts at the baseball field, and designing the outfield with a football and soccer field overlay. Residents also wanted a walking path around the perimeter of the park, and they wanted picnic areas throughout the park.

For more information visit: [Cathedral City Parks](#)



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