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Living in Carefree Has Its Perks

Carefree is a rural, residential community of approximately 4,000 people, residing in 1,900 beautiful homes situated on slightly more than 8 square miles. Nestled at the base and around Black Mountain, it also continues to the northeast into the foothills of the Continental Mountains.

Carefree residents are surrounded by an active non-profit community that provides an abundant amount of volunteer opportunities. This is what makes our community close knit and aware of each others needs. We also have welcomed high-end art festivals to help support the Town's small businesses and developed unique experiences and entertainment so that residents and visitors have a variety of things to do and places to dine. It's a quality lifestyle you don't find in most communities.

The Town of Carefree also provides a number of financial benefits to its residents. Unlike most municipalities, **Carefree does not assess a local real estate tax.** As a result, annual real estate taxes in Carefree are approximately half of what an identical residence in municipalities which have town specific real estate taxes as an add-on to real estate taxes assessed by Maricopa County. For a median priced home in Carefree with a full cash value of \$535,000, the incremental annual real estate tax cost for an identical home in Scottsdale would be \$3,100 higher, and \$2,900 higher in Phoenix.

This considerable tax savings for Carefree property owners is accomplished while Carefree fully funds fire coverage out of the Town's annual operating expenses. **Carefree property owners receive this fire coverage as a Town provided service at no cost to them.** In comparison, Scottsdale and Phoenix provide full fire coverage but its costs are funded by their town specific real estate taxes. In Cave Creek, property owners are not provided with fire coverage as a Town funded service, and residents desiring it are subject to the Rural Metro Fire protection annual fee of about \$1,000 per home depending upon the square footage. In Paradise Valley, which also has no town specific real estate taxes, the Town provides fire coverage but bills it's residents annually.

Carefree residents enjoy both a high quality lifestyle as well as these financial benefits.
Advantage – Carefree. Enjoy. ~ Mayor Les Peterson

