

## We are Looking Forward to Seeing You in Tucson: Let's Talk About the Weather

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Ah, September in Tucson—the desert sun will still be flexing its heat muscles! Let's make sure we are all dressed for success while navigating Arizona cacti and enjoying the southwestern sights. **Here's your guide for a stylish and comfortable stay in Tucson, Arizona during mid-September's NEAFCS Annual Conference:**

- **Lightweight Clothing:** Opt for lightweight, breathable fabrics. Linen, cotton, and moisture-wicking materials are your best friends. Loose-fitting tops, flowy dresses, and not wearing a blazer or suit coat will keep you fresh and cool.
- **Sun Protection:** The Arizona sun is intense. Pack a cap, visor, or wide-brimmed hat to shield your head and face during any outdoor activities. Sunglasses are essential, too—preferably ones with UV protection. And don't forget sunscreen! SPF is your desert BFF.
- **Swimsuit and related clothing:** JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort has a reflection pool, water slides, and a lazy river. These would be refreshing places to enjoy either as an early morning swim or a late evening winddown. Remember to bring your swimsuit and essentials so you can be sure to enjoy these features and cool off.
- **Layers for Cooler Evenings and Meeting Rooms:** While daytime temperatures can soar, evenings can surprise you with a slight chill. Bring a light jacket or a long-sleeved shirt for those sunset strolls. An additional note, while daytime temperatures soar, it means the AC is going full force, so a light cardigan or sweater could also come in very handy indoors.
- **Comfortable Footwear:** Strappy shoes and footwear made from breathable materials will be a cooling comfort to you. Additionally, if you plan to hike or just go general exploring, you may want to bring tennis shoes with good traction or invest in lightweight hiking boots—they'll save your ankles from unexpected desert terrain twists.
- **Keeping Hydrated:** Choose a refillable, insulated water bottle that can keep your water cold and you hydrated. If you have outdoor plans such as a hike, you may want to bring a hydration backpack with a built-in water reservoir for a handsfree experience.

One more weather-related item to note—the deserts in Arizona DO receive rain, and oh, what a show it is! Our monsoon season is officially from June through September. On many days, Monsoon clouds tend to creep over the desert landscape mid to late afternoon, and as the day cools and turns to evening, the thunder echoes and the lightning dances in the sky, wind kicks up dust, sometimes creating a "haboob". Then after all that, sometimes, torrential rain beats down on the dry desert landscape turning dry washes into roaring rivers in a matter of minutes. The weather can change quickly! Keep an eye on the weather through a weather app of your choice, especially if you have evening plans. If you do venture out during a storm, bring an umbrella, and wear sensible shoes that will help prevent any slips and falls on wet surfaces.

Remember, Arizona is all about embracing the elements—sun, sand, and saguaros. So, dress comfortably, protect yourself from the elements, and let your inner desert explorer shine! We are so excited to have you in our beautiful state of Arizona—expect a fabulous time!