

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office

Joe Arpaio, Sheriff



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SIZZLING TEMPERATURES LEAD SHERIFF JOE TO “COOL IT’ ON GETTING TOUGH ON INMATES

(Phoenix, AZ.) As temperatures are expected to soar to near 120 degrees, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio is looking for relief for his 1167 male and female inmates housed in Tent City.

In order to alleviate the massive discomfort the Sheriff expects inmates to have to endure on Saturday and Sunday, Arpaio has ordered a box truck filled with thousands of bags of ice to come into Tent City.

Detention officers will disperse bags of ice to inmates throughout both days beginning around 1pm. Inmates will be allowed to have as many bags of ice as they require for drinking or cooling purposes.

Arpaio will permit inmates to use the bags to sit on, if that helps keep them more comfortable during this oppressive heat spell.

“The air temperature may be 117 degrees but it’s even hotter than that in Tent City given the amount of rock and concrete in the compound,” Arpaio says. “We’ve been fortunate in the 18 years since I opened the Tents to never have had a serious heat related health issue. We’re not going to have one this year either, if I can help it.”

Arpaio says his staff keeps him updated on inside tent temperature readings during the summer months. The most recent reading showed temperatures nearing 130 degrees on the top bunk.

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