

Big Break

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2017

NATURALIST PROGRAMS

Programs meet at the Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

Big Break Visitor Center is open Wednesday - Sunday from 10am-4pm, (510) 544-3050.

All programs are DROP IN, unless listed in the REGISTRATION REQUIRED box

DELTA DISCOVERIES

11am-2pm, Every Sat & Sun

Discover the wonders of the Delta through hands on arts and crafts activities! Each week we will explore different wetland wonders.

TESTING THE WATER

9-10am, Every Sat & Sun

Track the health of the Delta! Using state of the art instruments, we'll test for dissolved oxygen, pH, conductivity, and more. Our results go into a regional database for use by researchers, scientists and water managers.

DAWN CHORUS YOGA

Interpretive Staff/ Brentwood Yoga Center

7-8am, Sat, Sept 2

7-8am, Sat, Oct 7

Enjoy sunrise yoga (indoors or outdoors, weather dependent) and the park's awakening. Bring a yoga mat if you have one, and wear warm, comfortable layers to move, breathe and meditate.

SECOND SUNDAYS CAMPFIRE

6:30-9pm, Sun, Sept 10

Gather the family for an evening in the park! Bring a picnic dinner to enjoy before the festivities begin. We'll explore the wonders of Big Break through activities and a family campfire (and S'mores of course!)

WETLAND WONDERS

2-3pm, Sat, Sept 2

Feel the contours on cottonwood bark, listen for marsh wrens and watch cattail seeds travel away in the wind as summer draws to a close.

BIG BREAK LITTLES

10-11am, Mon, Sept 11

10-11am, Mon, Oct 2

Bring the little ones out to discover nature. In September we will test what floats and sinks. In October we will investigate bugs. Parent/caregiver participation required. 1-5 yrs.

HPHP: SPARE THE CHAIR

EVENING AT THE DELTA

7-8:30pm, Sat, Sept 2

Unplug, unwind and get moving on this relaxed-pace stroll along the levee-top trail as we explore the transition time between night and day. 1 mile.

INVASIVE PLANT IDENTIFIER

2-3pm, Sun, Sept 17

Name that plant invader! Let's discover the good, the bad and the ugly about these well-traveled denizens of the dirt (and water.)

WILDLIFE EXPLORATION

10am-2pm, Mon, Sept 4

Drop in at your leisure as we feature a variety of Delta Wildlife at stations throughout the park.

LEVEE TOP STROLL

2-3pm, Sat, Sept 23

Meander through the willows on this flat, one mile stroll. Calm your mind while enjoying a variety of plants and evidence of wildlife.

COFFEE TALK & DELTA NEWS

8:30-9am, Wed, Sept 6

8:30-9am, Wed, Oct 4

From tunnels to research projects, farming to fish stocks, the Delta is always in the news. Stop by the Visitor Center on the FIRST Wednesday of each month for coffee and discussion of science and events shaping the region.

WATERCOLOR LANDSCAPE

2-3pm, Sat, Sept 30

Let's take a step back into the past. How would you capture a beautiful landscape without a camera or a phone? Let's take in the scenery and get creative with watercolor paints.

OUTSTANDING OTTERS

2-3pm, Sat, Sept 9

River otter? Sea otter? What's the difference? Come discover the answers and otter clues in the park.

FEATHERED FAMILY FORAY

10-11:30am, Sat, Sept 30

Budding ornithologists are invited out for a morning of feathery fun as we wander in search of chirpers, tweeters, quackers and soarers. Bring binoculars or borrow some of ours.

Big Break

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MAMMALS OF THE MARSH

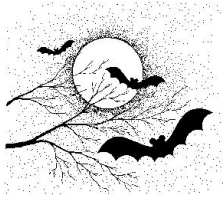
2-3pm, Sat, Oct 7

Discover some of the Delta's furry cuties: river otters, beavers, minks, and more. Explore their similarities, differences, and adaptations to the unique habitat they call home.

CITIZEN SCIENCE: BIRDS OF MARSH CREEK

8:30-11am, Sat, Oct 14

Spend a glorious morning amidst bird song spying on year-rounders, pass-byers and winter migrants. Join the ranks of citizen science spotters for e-bird. Bring binoculars or borrow some of ours. Beginners welcome!



OH BATS!

2-3pm, Sun, Oct 15

For the month of Halloween, let's celebrate those fascinating, flying, furry creatures: BATS!

SOLAR VIEWING THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

11am-3pm, Sun, Oct 15

Observe the star at the center of our solar system. We'll explore our sun, the most important source of energy for life on Earth. Co-hosted with Mount Diablo Astronomical Society.

CRITTER CLUES

2-3pm, Sat, Oct 21

Examine chewed branches, listen to bird calls and keep a look out for animal tracks as you become a Big Break detective. Come discover what animals roam our wetlands!

CATCH A FALLING STAR!

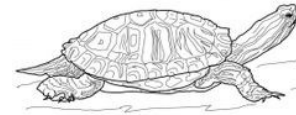
7:30-9:30pm, Sat, Oct 21

The skies are primed for the Orionids Meteor Shower! Dress warmly and bring flashlights, blankets or reclining lawn chairs to view the celestial show above. If overcast, we'll take a night-time stroll along the Delta.

REPTILE RAMBLE

11:00am-Noon, Sun, Oct 22

What separates reptiles from other wildlife in the Delta? We'll walk, talk and look for evidence of the reptiles that call the Delta home.



OWL PELLET DISSECTION

2-3pm, Sun, Oct 29

Join us on our exploration of Barn Owls and their digestive contents. Pluck apart owl pellets to discover what the pellet tells us about the predator's diet.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED PROGRAMS

THURSDAY BIRDING: RAPTOR BASELINE

9-11:30am, Thu, Sept 28 #18409 Morgan Territory

9-11:30am, Thu, Oct 26 #18416 Round Valley

The morning (eastern) side of Mount Diablo hosts a magnificent array of birds of prey; hawks, falcons, eagles. Help us document their variety and numbers in this fun, social, citizen science research project.

No experience necessary – we'll teach you how to identify these birds. **Registration required.**

BIRDING BY KAYAK

8:30-11am, Sat Sep 16 #18494

8:30-11am, Sat Oct 28 #18495

What better way to bird than by kayaking on the welcoming and wondrous waters of the Delta? We'll start off with dry land instruction then paddle our steady and stable craft on a group exploration of this lush and lovely shoreline. Adult participation required for ages 8-17yrs. (adult pays).

Fee: \$30 (non-res \$34)

Registration Required 8+

KAYAKING BIG BREAK

12-2:30pm, Sat Sep 16 #18423

12-2:30pm, Sat Oct 28 #18424

Come ply the welcoming and wondrous waters of the Delta on this beginner (8 & up) kayak excursion. We'll start off with dry land instruction then paddle our steady and stable craft on a group exploration of this lovely Delta shoreline.

Fee: \$30 (non-res \$34)

Registration Required 8+



To register for a program please
call 888-327-2757 option 2
or visit www.ebparks.org