This is Dry Creek . . .

Year opened: Garin: 1968. Dry Creek Pioneer: 1979
Acres: Garin: 3,168. Dry Creek Pioneer: 1,626
Highlights: Garin Barn Visitor Center and blacksmith shop, Meyers Cottage and Dry Creek Garden, Ukraina Historical Site, hiking, biking, horseback riding, picnicking, kite flying.

Did you know? East, Mildred, and Jeanette Meyers donated 1.200 acres in 1978 to form Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Park. With the Meyers sisters’ cottage and garden, bequeathed in 1995, the gift stands as the largest-ever donation of land to the Park District.

NATURE STUDY Look around and you will find two magnificent parkland areas – Garin and Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Parks. Independent nature study is encouraged, so bring binoculars, a magnifying glass, field guides, and camera, and be amazed at what you will discover. Guided interpretive programs for this area are coordinated through the Coyote Hills Regional Park Visitor Center in Fremont. For information, phone (510) 544-3220, or see www.ebparks.org.

GARIN BARN VISITOR CENTER The Garin Barn Visitor Center is open on weekends in the summer from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (hours subject to change). The Visitor Center displays artifacts from the ranching and farming history of the Hayward area. There is a blacksmith shop, a tool shop, and several ranching-related displays to explore. An interesting collection of antique farm machinery outside the barn augments the display.

SCHOOL GROUPS Teachers or group leaders wishing to use the park with a naturalist guide, or those looking for curriculum guides for using the parklands, should contact Coyote Hills Regional Park Visitor Center at (510) 544-3220.

HIKING AND HORSEBACK RIDING The 27-mile system of trails within Garin and Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Parks gives you the opportunity to explore the 4,794 acres that comprise these parklands. While the trails are not paved, many are suitable for bicycles. PLEASE, NO MOTORCYCLES.

FISHING Jordan Pond pier was built in 1987 by Park District crews using materials provided through the generosity of the Hayward, South Hayward, and Mt. Eden Lions Clubs. Jordan Pond has naturally reproducing populations of largemouth bass, bluegill, and sunfish. The Park District also plants channel catfish in the pond once or twice a year. See www.ebparks.org/anglersedge for the planting schedule and fishing activity. Anglers aged 16 or older must have a state fishing license.

PICNIC RESERVATIONS FOR GROUPS Several picnic areas near the Garin Avenue park entrance are available for use by families and larger groups. Three group picnic areas each serve 100 people: Cattlemen’s, Buttonwood, and Ranchside. Pioneer serves 50. These reservable areas have picnic tables and barbecue stands. Call to reserve at least 14 days before your event date.

GARIN APPLE FESTIVAL The spirit of Garin’s orchards lives on in the antique apple varieties cultivated in remnants of the heritage apple orchards. The late-summer Garin Apple Festival celebrates the farm’s apple-growing tradition. Antique apple varieties grown in the orchards may be tasted in the flesh and as juice. Folk music, song, dancing, and old-fashioned games fill out the day.

MEYERS COTTAGE AND DRY CREEK GARDEN Meyers Cottage was a popular summer home of Edith, Mildred, and Jeanette Meyers, three sisters of Alameda who were very involved in local charities and fundraisers during the early and mid-1900s. The sisters had 1,200 acres to the Park District to form the parkland in 1978, and upon the passing of the last surviving sister, the cottage and its garden were also donated. The beautifully restored cottage and Dry Creek Garden are located at the end of May Road off Mission Boulevard in Union City, and provide access to trails at the south end of Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Park. The two-acre garden is home to nearly 200 native and exotic plants, with something in bloom almost every day of the year. The garden is open to the public Thursdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The parking lot is open all week until dusk.