A Shoreline Story

Year opened: 1979  Acres: 343

Highlights: Hiking, shoreline access, fishing, picnicking, lawn areas.

Did you know? The pier at Granger’s Wharf was built in the 1870s on land donated by Dr. John Strentzel, the father-in-law of naturalist John Muir.

This parkland is the product of a joint effort between the City of Martinez and the East Bay Regional Park District. In 1974, the parkland was a seldom-used area made up of marshland and industrial fill. Today, the recreational areas include meadows, picnic areas, and a natural marsh environment with hiking trails. This portion also focuses on restoration and preservation of the surrounding saltwater marshes.

The resulting shoreline park offers visitors a variety of experiences, including group picnic areas, softball fields, bocce ball courts, and soccer fields. The western section offers quiet lawns, family picnic areas, ponds and creeks. Nearly three miles of trails wind through the marsh and along the shoreline.

MARSH ENHANCEMENT A $4.5-million Martinez Marsh Enhancement Project sponsored by Caltrans, the City of Martinez, and the Park District was completed in the spring of 2002. The enhanced marsh alleviates rainy season flood conditions in the downtown Martinez area, serves as mitigation for wetland disruption due to replacement of the Carquinez Bridge, and creates valuable wildlife habitat.

WELCOME! Please enjoy your Regional Parks safely, and help us protect and preserve your parklands by complying with park rules and regulations.

SAFETY and ETIQUETTE
• Stay on trails. Taking shortcuts can be dangerous and causes erosion.
• Wading and/or swimming in undesignated areas may be dangerous and may harm the watershed.
• Carry and drink plenty of water. Dehydration is a leading cause of injuries on the trail.
• Be prepared for sudden changes in weather conditions.
• Trails can be slippery, rocky and steep. Proceed carefully at your own risk.
• Wildlife may be present on the trails at any time. Feeding or approaching wildlife is dangerous and illegal.
• Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. Horses have the right-of-way on trails.
• Keep the parks beautiful. Pack out what you pack in.

RULERS
• Dogs must be leashed 20 feet from any trail or park entrance and in parking lots, picnic areas, developed areas such as lawns and play fields, on some trails, and in posted areas. They must be under voice control at all times. Please clean up after your dog.
• Dogs are not allowed in protected park natural resource areas or posted wildlife preserve areas of Martinez Shoreline.
• Bicycles may be ridden on designated trails and fire roads. Please observe trail etiquette with horses, then hikers having the right-of-way.
• Equestrians: observe trail etiquette, and let other trail users know how to pass your horse safely. Note: Most trails are equipped with unlocked gates allowing access across fence lines. Ask ranchers for current information. Horses are not allowed in turf areas. A special staging area for large riding events is located at the Martinez Shoreline Horse Arenas.
• Most other trailheads are suitable for unloading horses, except those trailheads with only limited parking along road shoulders.
• A state fishing license is required when fishing from Bay shorelines within the Regional Parks. All state fishing laws are enforced.
• Martinez Shoreline is open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Swimming, wading, and other water activities are allowed in bay and creek waters. Swim at your own risk.
• Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the park, except with a reservation and alcohol permit.
• Assemble, public events, and performances are special events and require a permit. Please call 888-322-9757, option 2, for additional information.
• Activities that could be hazardous to you or others are allowed only in designated areas. These activities include pelter guns, hang gliding, model rockets, golf, archery, and scuba diving.

To Reach Martinez Regional Shoreline: From Highway 4 in northern Contra Costa County, exit at Alhambra Avenue and go north on Alhambra to Escobar Street. Turn right on Escobar to Ferry Street; turn left on Ferry and go over the railroad tracks into the park. The main thoroughfare through the park is North Court Street. There are several parking areas. As you leave the park, exit Martinez via Berrellesa, one block west of Alhambra. Both are one-way streets.

From I-680 in Martinez: take the Marina Vista exit. Turn left on Marina Vista to Ferry Street; turn right onto Ferry and go over the railroad tracks into the park.

By Public Transit: Always call to confirm route numbers and schedules. Western Contra Costa Transit Authority (WESTCAT) #302 connects the El Cerrito del Norte BART and the Martinez Amtrak station Monday through Fridays; phone (510) 724-7993 for information or see www.511.org. Weekday County Connection transit service is #906 with Pleasant Hill; #916 with Walnut Creek BART; #917 with Concord BART. Weekends: County Connection #916 connects the Martinez Amtrak station with Pleasant Hill BART. Call (510) 276-7250 for information, or see www.511.org.

PLEASE LET US KNOW how this map may be improved to help you use this park. Write, email, or call with your suggestions: 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605; info@ebparks.org; (510) 544-2210.