

## Linger Awhile...

**HISTORY** Bedrock mortars used by Native Americans for pounding acorns that were found in the area are reminders of Sunol's first inhabitants. For the past century, however, the land known today as Sunol Regional Wilderness was used almost exclusively as ranch land. Under the East Bay Regional Park District's multi-use land management policy, cattle continue to graze in the 6,858-acre wilderness.

**GEOLOGY** Exploration will reveal sandstone outcrops with fossils deposited in what was once ancient seabed. Great boulders of greenstone, schist, and metachert indicate a turbulent past. The massive basalt outcrop at Indian Joe Cave Rocks provides sport and challenge to rock climbers.

**VEGETATION** Alameda Creek, Alameda County's largest stream, harbors an inviting creekside community of alder, willow, and sycamore. Coast live oaks abound, along with valley and blue oak, elderberry, madrone, and gray pine. Spring brings wildflowers—including California poppies, mustard, goldfields, and lupines—which carpet vast areas in yellow, orange, and blue. A wildflower identification kit may be checked out at the Visitor Center.

**ANIMALS** Ground squirrels, magpies, and red-tailed hawks may be seen by visitors year round. Observant campers and hikers may notice raccoons, skunks, and blacktail deer. Mountain lions are uncommon, but are occasionally sighted. Birding is superb along Alameda Creek; persistent birdwatchers may identify 20 to 40 species in a single morning. The acorn woodpecker, black phoebe, titmouse, turkey vulture, and yellow-billed magpie are commonly sighted. A bird list is available at the Visitor Center.

**HIKING** A description of park trails is found on the other side of this brochure. Please do not short-cut trails in steep areas, or slide in the grass on hillsides or banks. Erosion is ugly and expensive to control.

**PICNICKING** Picnic sites and barbecue pits are provided along Alameda Creek.

**FAMILY CAMPING** Overnight tent camping sites are available on a reservable basis by calling 1-888-327-2757, option 2, 1. The fee is \$14 per night (subject to change) for up to 10 consecutive nights, and includes the parking fee.

**GROUP CAMPING** Several sites are available by advance reservation only. Phone 1-888-327-2757, option 2, 1, on weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. High Valley Camp is a hike-in camp located a steep, one-mile walk from the Visitor Center. Camp Ohlone is a seven-mile hike from the park

entrance. School Camp is a short hike from the Visitor Center. Camp Ohlone is closed November through March. The camps and the park itself are subject to closure or restrictions during fire season—June through October.

**HORSE RIDES** Guided trail rides, overnight camps, lessons, and special events are available by reservation with Western Trail Riding Services: (925) 862-9044 or [www.westerntailriding.com](http://www.westerntailriding.com).

**SUNOL BACKPACK AREA** A permit is required to camp overnight in these designated backpack camps. Dogs are not permitted overnight. A group site is available. Obtain a new permit before each trip. Camping is by reservation only; phone 1-888-327-2757, option 2, 1, for details. The fee is \$5 per day per person (subject to change). The backpack area is open all year.

**OHLONE WILDERNESS TRAIL** Hikers who cross into the San Francisco Water Department lands that connect Mission Peak Regional Preserve, Sunol, Ohlone Regional Wilderness, and Del Valle Regional Park must carry the Ohlone Wilderness Trail map/permit. Hikers must sign in at trailheads as they enter these lands. Dogs are permitted for day use only. The permit/map is available for \$2 at the Sunol and Del Valle entrance kiosks, and for \$2.50 by mail. Send your name, address, phone number, and \$2.50 to Ohlone Wilderness Trail, EBRPD, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, P.O. Box 5381, Oakland, CA 94605-0381. Camping on the Ohlone Wilderness Trail is allowed by reservation and only at designated sites. Phone 1-888-327-2757, option 2, 1, for information. Separate arrangements may be made for overnight camping at Del Valle Regional Park.

**LITTLE YOSEMITE** Little Yosemite is a scenic gorge on Alameda Creek about two miles upstream from the Visitor Center. It is open to the public through a lease agreement with the San Francisco Water Department, which owns the property. Please abide by the boundary signs and do not trespass onto Water Department lands that are not part of the lease arrangement. Note that swimming is not allowed in Alameda Creek in the Little Yosemite area.

**PARK HOURS** Sunol Regional Wilderness is open from 7 a.m. to dusk all year. Gates are locked at night. Campers must arrive and be signed in before dusk. The park is subject to closure or restrictions during fire season, which is June through October.

**FIRE HAZARD PARK CLOSURE** Call 1-888-327-2757, option 4, 2, to check on park closures or restrictions due to extreme fire hazard.

### PARKLAND RULES

Welcome to your Regional Parklands. Help protect park resources and ensure an enjoyable visit for everyone by complying with these rules and any posted regulations. Violators will be subject to citation or arrest. For more information, ask a Park Ranger or Public Safety Officer, or telephone (510) 881-1833.

**PARK GATES ARE OPEN** to the public during hours posted at the park entrance. Unless otherwise posted, CURFEW is between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., except for persons possessing a permit to remain on parklands.

**MOTOR VEHICLES** are restricted to designated parking areas and paved public roads.

**BICYCLES** may be ridden only on designated bicycle trails, and on fire or service roads, unless otherwise posted. Bicycles are not permitted, either ridden, walked, or carried, off designated trails or in areas posted "No Bicycles," or on narrow hiking or narrow equestrian trails. State law requires that all bicyclists under age 18 wear an approved helmet while riding on trails and roadways. Riders should call out or sound a warning when overtaking other trail users.

**DOGS** must be leashed (six-foot maximum) and under control at any posted area, parking lot, picnic site, lawn, or developed area. No dogs or other animals are permitted at any swimming pool, beach, wetland, or marsh. Dogs are not allowed in Sunol's Backpack Camping Area, or in the Ohlone Wilderness overnight. Owners must always carry a leash (six-foot maximum). Dogs may be off-leash in open space and undeveloped areas of parklands, provided they are under control at all times. Dangerous animals are not allowed in the parks. Please dispose of your dog's waste by placing it in a garbage can. Persons who walk more than three dogs at a time on Regional Parks trails must obtain a permit; please call (510) 690-6508 for information.

**SWIMMING, WADING** and other water contact activities are permitted only in designated areas.

**PLANTS, ANIMALS, GEOLOGIC, ARCHAEOLOGIC OR HISTORIC OBJECTS** are protected by law. Please do not disturb or remove any of these features.

**HELP PROTECT OUR PARK WILDLIFE** by not releasing or feeding ducks, cats, or other animals. Do not feed wild park animals; enjoy them from a distance.

**FIRES** are permitted in barbecue pits or personal cooking equipment in designated picnic areas or irrigated turf areas only, placed at least 30 feet from flammable materials. Please do not place hot coals on the ground or in a garbage can. Dispose of hot coals or other burned fuel in barbecue pits or in provided hot coal disposal containers.

**FIREWORKS** are not permitted in any Regional Park.

**CAMPING** is not permitted within District parklands without a permit.

**FISHING** requires a state fishing license, and a District Daily Fishing Access Permit is required when posted.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES** are not permitted anywhere at Sunol Regional Wilderness.

**GAMES and ACTIVITIES**, including model rockets, model airplanes, hang gliding, golf, and other activities with potential risk to property or park visitors are permitted only in designated areas.

**ASSEMBLIES, PERFORMANCES, SPECIAL EVENTS** or similar gatherings require a permit.

Please be considerate of other park visitors if you use a **RADIO**. A permit is required for **AMPLIFICATION** of voice, music, or other sounds.

**FIREARMS or BOWS AND ARROWS** are not permitted on Regional Parklands except at established ranges. Crossbows, spears, slingshots, air pistols or rifles, and other dangerous weapons are prohibited anywhere on Regional Parklands.

**PARK VISITORS** are responsible for knowing and following park rules.



### To Reach Sunol Regional Wilderness:

**From the Fremont area**, drive north on I-680 and exit at Calaveras Road. Turn right on Calaveras Road and proceed four miles to Geary Road, which leads directly into the park. **From the Oakland-Berkeley area**, drive east on I-580 to the junction with I-680 in Pleasanton. At the junction, go south on I-680 and exit at Calaveras Road/Highway 84 just south of the town of Sunol. Turn left onto Calaveras Road and proceed four miles to Geary Road, which leads directly into the park. **From the Walnut Creek-Danville area**, go south on I-680 and exit at Calaveras Road/Highway 84 just south of the town of Sunol. Turn left onto Calaveras Road and proceed four miles to Geary Road, which leads directly into the park.

If you would like this information in an alternative format, please contact the EBRPD Public Affairs Department at (510) 544-2200, fax (510) 635-3478, TDD (510) 633-0460, or [info@ebparks.org](mailto:info@ebparks.org).



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East Bay  
Regional Park District

