

Five Canyons Open Space

Five Canyons Open Space, dedicated in 1998, is composed of over 300 acres and five miles of trails, connecting Don Castro Regional Recreation Area in the west to Garin/Dry Creek Regional Parks to the south. There are several miles of loop trails offering scenic East Bay vistas, cool shady canyons, and seasonal windswept ponds. Deer and turkeys are abundant and songbirds flit among the trees. Winter rains bring out the California newts and a great variety of fungi, followed by spring wildflowers that dot the hillsides above Castro Valley and Hayward.

Cattle graze seasonally on the 100-acre pasture before moving to Garin Regional Park. Summer dries out the grasses, but the trees and shrubs of the live oak/bay laurel woodland community offer intrigue and respite from the summer heat.

The Chabot-to-Garin Regional Trail, a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, runs through Five Canyons Open Space, connecting Anthony Chabot Regional Park and Cull Canyon and Don Castro Regional Recreation Areas to Garin/Dry Creek Regional Parks. The expansion of this trail continues and new areas will be opened as they are made accessible. A link back to Hayward Area Recreation and Park District's Five Canyons Park is proposed, but not yet completed.

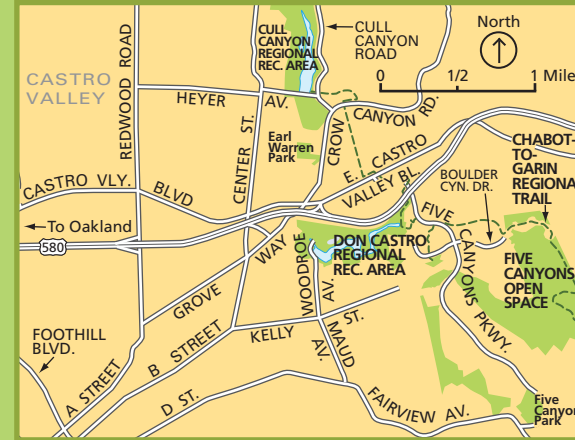
The development, maintenance, and management of Five Canyons Open Space and trails is a multi-agency collaboration between the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), Alameda County Public Works, Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD), East Bay Municipal Utility District, and a variety of homeowner associations and organizations. This cooperation provides a variety of recreational opportunities through the baseball diamonds, playgrounds, and soccer pitches of HARD, the swimming lagoon and developed picnic sites of EBRPD's Don Castro Regional Recreation Area, and other natural open space EBRPD lands.

It is recommended that hikers carry water since the only water source is at HARD's Five Canyons Park. Poison oak and stinging nettles grow along the trail edges, so care should be taken on any adventure.

We encourage people to stay on the trails and be considerate of other park users. The spirit of cooperation that allowed for the development of Five Canyons Open Space is reflected in the multi-purpose use of the trail system. Hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, and dog walkers have access to the majority of the trails. Please keep dogs, horses, and bicycles under control. While some trails are natural, you can also find yourself on a sidewalk or even traversing a shared driveway. Some of the trails follow along the yards of residences. **Please keep in mind that this is a neighborhood: respect residents' privacy.** Note that collecting of any kind is prohibited—please leave all flora and fauna for others to discover and enjoy. All species are protected in the Regional Parks, not just the threatened and endangered species you may have had the excitement of experiencing.

DON CASTRO REGIONAL RECREATION AREA The open space and trail system of Five Canyons is contiguous with the East Bay Regional Park District's Don Castro Regional Recreation Area. Don Castro offers a variety of activities, including lagoon swimming with lifeguards on duty from Easter through Labor Day, lake fishing (requires a California State fishing license and a District Daily Fishing Permit), and picnicking for groups of up to 100 people.

HAYWARD AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD) is an independent special district that provides park and recreation services for over 250,000 residents living within a 64-square-mile area, which includes the City of Hayward, Castro Valley, San Lorenzo, and the unincorporated Ashland, Cherryland, and Fairview districts. HARD's Five Canyons Park and Ridge Trail Park provide access and public parking to the trails and open spaces of Five Canyons Open Space. Water and restroom facilities can be found at Five Canyons Park. The administrative offices for the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District are located at 1099 E. Street Hayward, CA 94541, (510) 881-6700.



To Reach Five Canyons Open Space: The Five Canyons trail system is accessible via the Chabot-to-Garin Regional Trail crossing just north of the intersection of Five Canyons Parkway and Boulder Canyon Drive in Castro Valley. There is parking on Boulder Canyon Drive west of Five Canyon Parkway near Hayward Area Recreation and Park District's (HARD) Ridge Trail Park. Parking is also available at HARD's Five Canyons Park and along Recreation Center Road providing access to Deer Canyon Trail.

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.

Five Canyons Open Space and Trail System

East Bay
Regional Park District



POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL EMERGENCY9-1-1
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PARK OFFICE 1-888-327-2757, option 3, ext. 4527
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