Inside:
9th Annual MLKing Jr. Day of Service • page 14
Pole Walking & Pole Hiking • page 4
Monarch Butterfly Walks at Ardenwood • page 5
Birdwalks • page 9
Great Backyard Bird Count • page 13
Preparing for Climate Change
A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER ROBERT E. DOYLE

The Park District's top priority is keeping our parks, shorelines, lakes and trails safe and well-maintained. A big part of that responsibility is preparing for the future: Taking steps now to adapt to a changing climate, and a rising San Francisco Bay.

We're starting to see some impact now. At Hayward Regional Shoreline, higher tides due to sea-level rise have led to increased erosion and occasional trail flooding. Many of our lakes have been subject to toxic algae blooms, and drought has had a significant impact on our forests and woodlands.

The National Research Council predicts sea-level rise of 36.1 inches along the California coast by the end of the century. We're working now to protect some of the East Bay's most vulnerable low-lying areas by repairing levees and restoring wetlands, which help absorb rising tides and provide a buffer to protect homes, roads and other urban infrastructure. In Richmond, we're restoring 60-acre Breuner Marsh (now named Dotson Family Marsh) at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline, a major undertaking that's funded by more than 10 agencies.

In the East Bay hills, we're reducing the risk of wildfires by thinning trees and shrubs where our hills and ridges have become drier. We're also thinning eucalyptus, which pose a fire risk to adjacent communities because of density and flammability. Our goal is to maintain a healthy, biologically diverse ecosystem that's beneficial to wildlife and safe for residents, especially as droughts are expected to become more common.

Toxic algae has plagued waterways throughout the world in recent years. In response to toxic algal blooms in several of our lakes, we've worked closely with state and local environmental agencies to monitor all of our lakes, explore treatment options and ensure public safety.

Across both counties, we continually promote and expand our system of regional bike trails. These trails – including the San Francisco Bay Trail, Iron Horse Trail and others – take thousands of cars off the road by providing bike and pedestrian links to schools, workplaces, BART stations, shopping districts and parks.

But perhaps the most important step we're taking to prepare for climate change is preserving more than 120,000 acres of the East Bay's most special places in perpetuity, and providing opportunities to explore these lands. Whether it's a hike in the redwoods, a swim in a lake, a picnic in a shady glade or a kids' class on wildlife, we believe that experiencing and appreciating nature is the most important first step toward saving it. To learn more about our climate change efforts, please go to www.ebparks.org.

See you on the trail!
COYOTES

The East Bay is native habitat for a rich variety of wildlife, including coyotes. Over the past decade, coyotes have become increasingly adapted to urban areas throughout the U.S., and are now found in parks ranging from Central Park in New York City to Golden Gate Park in San Francisco and nearly every wildland park in our District.

We’re thrilled to see these handsome creatures roaming our parks. They play a key role in the ecosystem by preying on rodents, rabbits and other small animals, and are a treat to behold in the wild. In some of our parks, coyotes can sometimes be seen hunting with badgers.

On very rare occasions, coyotes may attack small pets. By taking a few precautions, park visitors can take simple steps to keep their pets safe:

- Never feed coyotes.
- Keep dogs on leash.
- Keep pets indoors at night.
- To scare away a coyote, shout until the coyote moves away.
- If you see a coyote, enjoy it from a distance. Leave it be and continue hiking. If it’s blocking a trail, consider finding another route.

WILD FLOWERS

February is the perfect time to see the first splash of wildflowers in the parks. Black Diamond Mines, Round Valley and Diablo Foothills are among the parks known for their wildflower displays, although just about every one of the 65 parks in the District boasts spring wildflowers. If the rain has cleared and the sun’s been out for a week or so, expect to see checker lilies (Fritillaria affinis), shooting stars (Dodecatheon clevelandii) and the endangered fragrant fritillary (Fritillaria liliacea). The fragrant fritillary is a delicate pale yellow flower that’s occasionally spotted at Diablo Foothills, Anthony Chabot and other parks – definitely worth searching for.

Our web site includes a photographic guide to all the wildflowers in the Park District. Go to www.ebparks.org and search for “wildflower guide.”

Welcome to the 2017 Trails Challenge! Get fit, stay healthy, discover new trails and set new goals in the new year. Trails Challenge, a free program co-sponsored by the East Bay Regional Park District, Regional Parks Foundation and Kaiser Permanente, features 20 trails of various difficulties in parks throughout the District. Participants receive a T-shirt and pin, while supplies last. No registration is necessary. Pick up a 2017 Trails Challenge booklet at any Visitor Center or at the Park District headquarters, 2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. Learn more at www.regionalparksfoundation.org.

Kaiser Permanente Health Tips

Make the East Bay Regional Parks part of your New Year’s resolutions in 2017. Visit any of our 65 parks to get in shape, relax in nature, spend time with family and friends and generally reduce stress.

Combined with a healthy diet, time outdoors can have a significant impact on your overall well-being. Here are a few of our favorite winter hikes to help get you started in the new year:

- Stage Road Trail, Diablo Foothills Regional Park
- Squirrel Gulch and Hetch Hetchy trails at Del Valle Regional Park
- Camp Ohlone Trail at Sunol Regional Wilderness
- Brushy Peak Loop Trail at Brushy Peak Regional Preserve
- Stream Trail at Redwood Regional Park

Discover more trails and activities at www.ebparks.org.

Kaiser Permanente is a major sponsor of the Park District’s 2017 Trails Challenge. To learn more about getting in shape and healthy lifestyles, visit www.kp.org (you do not need to be a member of Kaiser to receive information).
### MLK Shoreline Peter Pay

**PET FIRST AID/CPR**
MLK Shoreline Peter Pay
9am-1pm, Sat, Feb 11 #15420

Learn how to save a pet’s life during an emergency, minimize a pet’s trauma after injury and safely transport an injured pet to the veterinary clinic. This program focuses on basic first aid, including wounds, fractures, choking, cardiac emergency and snake bites. Booklet and certificate included in fee. Ages 12+ yrs.

Registration is required.
Fee: $45 (non-res. $51)

**ARCHERY – INTRODUCTION**
Roberts Redwood Bowmen
1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Jan 21 #15441
1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Feb 18 #15442

Gain 90-minutes of archery coaching and practice at an outdoor range, with all your equipment provided. Designed for the beginner, the class starts with 30-minutes of classroom instruction. 8+ yrs (adult supervision required for children ages 8-13 yrs).

Registration is required.
Fee: $50 (non-res. $56)

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### ARDENWOOD

Ardenwood is open Tues. - Sun. from 10am-4pm. House tours are available by reservation only (call 510-791-4196). Train rides will return in April. Admission fees apply. For program and fee info: (510) 544-2797, awvisit@ebparks.org or www ebparks.org.

**ARCHERY – INTRODUCTION**
Interpretive Staff
3pm, Every Thu through Sun

Check for eggs and bring hay to the livestock. Learn all the animals’ favorite foods as we help tuck them in for the evening. Meet at the Chicken Coop.

**TODDLER TIME**
Interpretive Staff
10:30-11:45am, Wed, Jan 11, 25, Feb 15, 22

Bring the tots out for an exciting morning at the farm. Read a story, do some chores, and meet some farm friends. Little ones will enjoy a variety of activities at their own pace. We’ll meet rain or shine! (1-4 yrs.)

**FUN WITH FELTING**
Sophia Huang
1-2pm, Sun, Feb 5

Check out some edible fungi from the local market. Then, go on a stroll to see if you can find any of their wild relatives. Meet at the Granary.

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**FARMYARD DOCENT TRAINING**
Mindy Castle
9am-1pm, Sat, Feb 4

Bring the little ones to the farm to meet the chickens. We’ll listen to a story, see what a hen’s feathers feel like, and search the coop for eggs.

**WONDERFUL WOOL**
Mindy Castle
11am-noon, Sat, Feb 4, 18

We’ll start with a yarn about wool before visiting our fleeciest friends. Along the way we’ll learn about these woolly wonders and how their special fur helps keep us warm.

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Mindy Castle
11am-noon, Sat, Feb 4, 18

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GOLFRILLA GARDENING: EARN COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS!
Ardenwood Nancy Krebs
9:30am-11:30, Sun, Feb 12
Tear away crawling invasive vines, imprisoning trees and shrubs, freeing them to thrive. Then make seed balls to toss into openings, reinvigorating the area with natives. Kids under 16 years old require an adult to sign a waiver or be in attendance.

MEET THE CHICKENS 🐔
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
2-2:30pm, Sun, Feb 12
Check out our coop full of chickens! Discover why they like to roam around the farmyard and scratch and peck at the ground while you feed them a little snack.

GOOD MORNING FARM 🌞
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
10:30-11am, Sat, Feb 18
Rise and shine little farmers! Say “Good morning!” to the sheep and goats and lend a hand as we prepare a morning snack for the farm animals.

GORGEOUS GOATS 🐐
Ardenwood Mindy Castle
1:30-2:30pm, Sat, Feb 18
Discover why goats are a farmyard mainstay. Lend a hand grooming our nannies, meet our billy and give them a snack as you learn all about these gentle farm friends.

CHORES FOR LITTLE FARMERS 🗓️
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
10:30-11am, Sun, Feb 19
Rise and shine! Lend a hand! We’ll start with a story before preparing a morning treat for the farm animals, clean a corral, and meet the sheep and goats.

FARMYARD STORY TIME 📚
Ardenwood Mindy Castle
10:30-11:30am, Sat, Feb 25
Little Red Hen, the Billy Goats Gruff and other farmyard friends are waiting to meet you! Join the story circle for some classic barnyard tales before visiting the main characters.

MEET THE BUNNIES 🐰
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
2-2:30pm, Sat, Feb 25
Come meet the farm rabbits. Learn why they have big ears, their favorite food and how they communicate. See if you can find the softest part of a bunny. Meet in the Farmyard.

CORN MOSAICS 🌽
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
11:30am-12:30pm, Sun, Feb 26
Learn how to turn our freshly-harvested Indian corn into a fun craft for the whole family! Use the rainbow of colored kernels to make your own mosaic.

NEW YEAR’S DAY BUTTERFLY WALKS 🦋
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
11:30am & 1:30pm, Sun, Jan 1
Start the year off right with an inspiring visit to our monarch butterfly grove. Discover the amazing life cycle of these tiny creatures and how they survive the winter in the Bay Area. Meet at the Granary. Heavy rain cancels.

MONARCHS AND MILKWEED 🌿
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
10:30am & 2pm, Sat, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28; Sun, Jan 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Meet at the greenhouse to look for caterpillars and eggs on the milkweed plants growing there. Then search for butterflies in the nearby forest and learn how you can help ensure the survival of this iconic insect.

MONARCHS FOR KIDS 🌺
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
11am-noon, Sat, Jan 7, 21; Sun, Jan 15, 29
Come learn all about monarch eggs, caterpillars, chrysalides and butterflies. Then we’ll take a short hike to see these amazing insects’ life cycle in action. Meet at the Granary. (3-6 yrs.)

MAKE YOUR OWN BUTTERFLY 🦋
Ardenwood Sophia Huang
1-2pm, Sat, Jan 7
Want to take a butterfly home? Well, you can, with this fun and easy craft. Come be creative and personalize your own hand-made butterfly.

MARVELOUS MONARCHS 🌿
Ardenwood Interpretive Staff
12:30pm, Sat, Jan 14, 28; Sun, Jan 8, 22
Find out what life is like for monarch butterflies through a slide presentation, and then discover their life cycle in action at our greenhouse. Find out how you can participate in monarch conservation! Meet at the Granary.

FAREWELL TO THE MONARCHS 🌿
Ardenwood Jenna Scimeca & Interpretive Staff
1:30-3pm, Sun, Feb 5
Discover what life is like for monarch butterflies as they begin their journey home. Meet at the granary for a slide presentation, make your own monarch butterfly craft and then stroll out to the greenhouse to see their life cycle in action.

CURIOS CATERPILLARS 🐛
Ardenwood Jenna Scimeca Interpretive Staff
12:30-1:30pm, Sun, Feb 12
Come find our hungry monarch caterpillars as they munch away on lots of milkweed leaves. Learn about their lifecycle and make your very own caterpillar to take home.

MILKWEED FOR MONARCHS 🌿
Ardenwood Marianne Beacham 11am-noon, Sun, Feb 19
Meet at the greenhouse to plant milkweed seeds to take home to grow in your own garden. Learn about the cool relationship between milkweed and monarchs.

TRAILS CHALLENGE 🏃♂️
Thousands of people take the Trails Challenge, which challenges you to complete 5 featured trails by December 1. The Trails Challenge booklet features trails for all fitness levels as well as tips for new trail users. Go “green” by downloading the guidebook and other program materials. Get a FREE 50/50 cotton/polyester T-shirt (while supplies last). A commemorative pin will be sent (while supplies last) once you complete the Challenge and return your Trail Log. Kaiser Permanente is a major sponsor of this program.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION 📝
Register beginning November 29
www.ebparks.org/register or 1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS), option 2

BIG BREAK 🌈
Big Break Visitor Center at the Delta is open Wed-Sun, 10am to 4pm. Info: 510-544-3050 or BigBreakVisit@ebparks.org.

DELTA DISCOVERIES 🌿
Big Break Interpretive Staff
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 🌠
Big Break Interpretive Staff
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.

**BIG BREAK LITTLES**
Big Break Nichole Gange
10-11am, Mon, Jan 2, Feb 6
Bring the little ones to explore nature. We'll meet the mammals that live in the park. Parent/caregiver participation required. 1-5 yrs.

**COFFEE TALK & DELTA NEWS**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
8:30-9am, Wed, Jan 4, Feb 1
From tunnels to research projects and farming to fish stocks, the Delta is in the news a lot. Stop by the Big Break Visitor Center on the FIRST Wednesday of each month for coffee and to discuss the science and events shaping the region.

**NEW VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION**
Big Break Nichole Gange
11am-noon, Sun, Jan 15
Become a docent and help parks. Meet people with similar interests, guide visitors and continue life-long learning. Come enjoy coffee and discover more about training that beings the following Sunday.

**BECOME A DELTA DOCENT**
Big Break Nichole Gange
9am-2pm, Sun, Jan 22, 29, Feb 5 #15780
If you love parks and people then become a Delta Docent at Big Break. Join our three-part training where you will develop skills to assist with school programs, represent the East Bay Regional Park District at special events, and connect people with nature in a thoughtful way. Training highlights delta ecology, local history and presentation skills. No experience necessary. For more information or to sign-up contact Nichole 510-522-3053 or ngange@ebparks.org

**WATERSHED WEED WARRIORS**
Big Break Morgan Evans
10am-noon, Sat, Jan 7, Feb 4
Enjoy a "Day of Service" working to restore the Delta wetlands. We'll pull, cut, dig and bag invasive weeds, stewarding and beautifying your park!

**FISH FUN**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sat, Jan 7
Reel in the family for fun exploration of our aquatic friends!

**BIRDING BASICS**
Big Break Nichole Gange
9-10am, Sun, Jan 8, Feb 5
Have you ever wondered what type of bird flew by? Join other beginning birders for a fun introduction to some of our common feathered friends. Binoculars provided.

**MAKING STRING FROM NATURE**
Big Break Eddie Willis
10am-1pm, Sun, Jan 8 #15679
Make your own natural cordage (string) from dogbane and help tend a patch that grows along the Delta shoreline. Tools and instruction provided.

**DAWN CHORUS YOGA**
Big Break Interpretive Staff/Brentwood Yoga Center
7-8am, Sat, Jan 14, Feb 11 #15692
Enjoy a 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.

**TALES ON TRAILS**
Big Break Morgan Evans
10am-11:30am, Sat, Jan 14, Feb 11
Join us for a short hike and some tales inspired by the plants and animals of the Delta. Bring your sense of wonder and curiosity!

**OWL PELLET DISSECTION**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sun, Jan 15
Join us on our exploration of barn owls and their digestive contents. Pluck apart owl pellets to discover what the prey tells us about the predators.

**CRITTER CLUES**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sat, Jan 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!

**THURSDAY BIRDING:**
**RAPTOR BASELINE**
Big Break Marsh Creek Mike Moran
9-11:30am, Thu, Jan 26 #15694
9-11:30am, Thu, Feb 23 #15695
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. Jan. 26: Marsh Creek. Feb. 23: Big Break. We’ll meet at a different park on the last Thursday of each month. Join in for one or all. Registration is required.

**CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION**
Big Break Morgan Evans
2-4pm, Sat, Jan 28
Come ring in the Chinese Year of the Rooster! We'll learn about the history of the Chinese laborers here in the Delta and have our own dragon parade! Xin Nian Kuai Le!!

**LEVEE TOP STROLL**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sun, Jan 29
Come rain or shine and meander through the willows on this flat one mile stroll. Calm your mind while enjoying plants and wildlife.

**STAR GAZING**
Big Break Nichole Gange
6-7:30pm, Sun, Jan 29
Connect the twinkling dots in the night sky. Hear stories and discover how people survived with just the stars to guide them. Bring blankets, dress warmly.

**REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sat, Feb 4
Come find fun ways to reuse common household items, as well as some hints for recycling and reducing waste.

**BOUNDLESS BIRDS**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sun, Feb 12
Fly on in for some winged-wonder. Soar through some fun facts about our feathered friends, from beaks to talons, wings to eggs.

**ALL ABOUT ALMOND BLOSSOMS**
Big Break Morgan Evans
10-11am, Sat, Feb 18
Join a naturalist as we discover budding plants and, with luck, incredible almond blossoms.

**MACRO MAYHEM**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sat, Feb 18
Explore the incredible world of water bugs! Let's collect and identify some plankton and macroinvertebrates to discover their important role in the wetland ecosystem.

**ARACHNID ADVENTURES**
Big Break Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Sun, Feb 26
Our eight-legged residents are prowling the park...for food! Drop by to learn about spiders, and join us for fun arachnid activities.

**BLACK DIAMOND**
Sidney Flat Visitor Center is open 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekends from December through February. Info: (510) 544-2750 or bdisvisit@ebparks.org. Programs meet in parking lot at south end of Somersville Road unless otherwise noted. $5 parking fee may be charged.

**RESOLUTION HIKE**
Black Diamond Eddie Willis
1-3pm, Sun, Jan 1
Start the new year with a peaceful hike through wintry green valleys as we enjoy nature's renewal and share tales of “black diamonds” along the way. Heavy rain cancels.

**HAZEL-ATLAS HISTORY HIKE**
Black Diamond Eddie Willis
10am-noon, Sun, Jan 15
Sandstone mined here was made into glass in Oakland. Hike up and over old mine workings to examine the history of these hills. Heavy rain cancels.

**THE FUNGUS AMONG US**
Black Diamond Eddie Willis
10am-noon, Sun, Jan 22
Grow an appreciation for mushrooms, molds, and slimes as we explore the murky backwoods of the preserve and examine the rotten world beneath our feet.

**EAST SIDE ROCKY RAMBLE**
Black Diamond Kevin Dixon
9am-4pm, Sat, Jan 28
Travel through some of the most scenic and least-visited parts of the park on an all-day, nine-mile hike with lots of crests and valleys. 12+ yrs.
The Botanic Garden is open 8:30am-5pm. It is located in Tilden Regional Park on Wildcat Canyon Road between Anza View Road and South Park Drive, Berkeley, CA 94701. Info: 510-544-3169. See www.nativeplants.org for information about docent training, special events, and classes, and to sign up for our e-newsletter.

**DOCENT-GUIDED BOTANIC GARDEN TOURS**

Saturdays at 2pm; Sundays at 11am, 2pm.

Learn about California native plants on free, docent-guided tours at the beautiful, naturalistic 10-acre Regional Parks Botanic Garden, “the living museum” on Wildcat Canyon Road between Anza View Road and South Park Drive in Tilden Regional Park. The Botanic Garden is open 8:30am-5pm (main gate closes at 4:30pm). Directions and more information: http://nativeplants.org/directions.html, call 510-544-3169 or email bgarden@ebparks.org.

**THURSDAY MORNING PLANT SALE**

When the Botanic Garden is open and it’s not pouring rain, volunteers usually sell California native plants on Thursday mornings 9 a.m.-11 a.m. year-round (except during the 4 weeks before the spring and the fall plant sales) at the Juniper Lodge potting shed. Park on Anza View Road and enter via west gate.

**WAYNE RODERICK LECTURE SERIES**

Botanic Garden Visitor Center
10:30am, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28
Feb 4, 11, 18, 25
Join a distinguished array of speakers on botany, horticulture, and natural history topics. For speakers and topics, see www.nativeplants.org.

**FAMILY FRIENDLY SENSORY TOUR**

Botanic Garden Visitor Center 2-3pm, Sat, Feb 12
Explore the garden with hands, nose, ears, and eyes. Smell the sages, feel soft hazel leaves, look for crayfish in Wildcat Creek and newts in the pond. This is a docent-led, family-friendly tour. Meet in front of the Botanic Garden Visitor Center. Rain cancels.

**CLASSES THROUGH THE FRIENDS OF REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN**

Please visit http://www.nativeplants.org/events-and-classes for the schedule of fun and informative classes, field trips, and workshops that offer something for every native plant lover. Questions? Email: bgardenreg@gmail.com. Advance registration is required. Drop-ins not permitted.

**COYOTE HILLS**

Coyote Hills Visitor Center is open Wed-Sun, 10am-4pm. Info: 510-544-3220 or chvisit@ebparks.org.

**DISCOVERY DAYS**

Coyote Hills Interpretive Staff 10:30am-3:30pm, Every Sat & Sun
Enhance your park adventure with hands-on exploration or crafts the whole family will enjoy. Come at 10:30am for an introduction to the topic of the week, or participate at your own pace.

**NEW YEAR’S BIRD HIKE**

Coyote Hills 9-11am, Sun, Jan 1
New Year’s Day is a great day to go birding with wintering migrants passing through, shorebirds feeding in the mud, and everyone gearing up for spring! All levels of birding experience welcome. 15+yrs

**SLEEP IN AND TAKE A HIKE**

Coyote Hills 1-3pm, Sun, Jan 1
Have a little too much fun on New Year’s Eve? Then sleep in and join us for a 3-mile hike around the hills. Wear layers/bring water. Heavy rain cancels. 15+yrs

**MICROHIKE**

Coyote Hills Myasha Nicholas 11am-12:30pm, Sat, Jan 7
Go on a hike as a tiny critter with a huge imagination! Together we’ll investigate the world of plants and insects using tools of observation, patience, and our own eyesight. 6+yrs.

**FOR THE BAY – VOLUNTEER PROJECT**

Coyote Hills Kristina Parkison & Don Jedlove 1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Jan 7 #15329, Jan 28 #15330
Support your community and help the environment simultaneously! By picking up trash before it makes its way to the bay, we protect the water and the animals who live there. 12+yrs. Registration is required.

**OHAYNE PEOPLE & CULTURE**

Coyote Hills Francis Mendoza 1-2:30pm, Sun, Jan 8, Feb 5, Feb 19
Learn about Ohlone people and their intimate relationship with nature, family and their ancestors. We’ll discuss the important values of generosity and fairness that continue to resonate with Ohlone people today. 8+yrs.

**OHAYNE VILLAGE SITE TOUR**

Coyote Hills Kristina Parkison & Francis Mendoza 1-3pm Sat, Jan 14; 10-noon & 1-3pm Sun, Jan 22, Feb 26; 1-3pm Sat, Feb 18
Walk one-half mile through vibrant marsh habitat to a more than 2,000 year-old Ohlone village site. Learn about Ohlone cultures, past to present. Tour a reconstructed shade structure, pit house and sweat house. Meet at the Visitor Center.

**BLACK DIAMOND MOONRISE**

Black Diamond Kevin Dixon 5-7:15pm, Fri, Feb 10
Walk up a hill in the light of the setting sun to watch the moon rise as a subtle shadow falls over its face in a rare penumbral eclipse.

**WINTER POND EXPLORATION**

Black Diamond Virginia Delgado 10-11:30am, Sun, Feb 26
Get a little muddy, discover what’s living in our ponds, and learn about local amphibians. 5+yrs.

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

www.ebparks.org/register or 1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS), option 2

Take advantage of this rare opportunity to see the beauty and diversity of Coyote Hills at sunrise! Watch the wildlife as one “shift” clocks out and the other begins! 12+yrs. Registration is required.

**PARKS & NATURE CENTER**

Coyote Hills 10:30am-3:30pm, Sat & Sun
Join a distinguished array of speakers on botany, horticulture, and natural history topics. For speakers and topics, see www.nativeplants.org.

**SUNRISE PHOTOGRAPHY**

Coyote Hills Kristina Parkison & Don Jedlove 6:30-8:30am, Sat, Jan 14 #15339
Take advantage of this rare opportunity to see the beauty and diversity of Coyote Hills at sunrise! Watch the wildlife as one “shift” clocks out and the other begins! 12+yrs. Registration is required.

**COYOTE CUBS**

Coyote Hills Francis Mendoza 10:30-11:30am, Mon, Jan 30, Feb 27
Get your preschooler out and into nature! We’ll play games, explore the park, and do a craft related to the theme of the day. Parent/Caregiver participation required. 3-5 years old. Jan. 30: Interesting Insects. Feb. 27: Fishy February.
### January 2017

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<td><strong>January 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ardenwood:</strong> Monarchs And Milkweed, New Year’s Day Butterfly Walks, Animal Feeding</td>
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<td><strong>Big Break:</strong> Big Break Littles</td>
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<td><strong>Alameda:</strong> Hikes for Tykes - Encinal Beach, Hayward Shoreline: Weekend Birdwalk</td>
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<td><strong>Big Break:</strong> Coffee Talk &amp; Delta News, Crab Cove: Weekday Winter Beach Clean Up</td>
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<td><strong>Tilden Nature Area:</strong> New Year, New You, Amirite?</td>
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<td><strong>Black Diamond:</strong> The Fungus Among Us</td>
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<td><strong>Coyote Hills:</strong> Discovery Days, Dumbarton Quarry Hike</td>
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<td><strong>Marsh Creek Regional Trail:</strong> Thursday Birding: Raptor Baseline</td>
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February 2017

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Bird Walks

Thursday Birding: Raptor Baseline, Big Break, Marsh Creek, Jan. 26, Feb. 23, page 6.
New Year's Bird Hike, Coyote Hills, Jan. 1, page 7.
Birdwalk By The Bay, Crab Cove/Elise Roemer Bird Sanctuary, Feb. 18, page 10.
Bayside Birds, various parks, Jan. 7, 14, 21, page 12.
Waterbird To Martinez Quest, Waterbird, Jan. 21, page 12.
Bird Walk, various parks, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, page 12.
Monday Birding, various parks, Feb. 6, 27, page 13.
Raptor Tuesday, Brushy Peak, Feb. 28, page 13.

Regional in Nature

Culture
Crab Cove: Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun, Fish Feeding Time
Redwood: Saturday and Sunday Strolls
Sunol: Salamander!
Tilden Nature Area: Whole Shoot Twined Willow Basket, Talk With the Animals
Vasco Caves: Vasco Caves Tour

February 16

Ardenwood: Animal Feeding
Crab Cove: Docent Training at Crab Cove

February 17

Ardenwood: Animal Feeding
Shadow Cliffs: Lakeside Littles
Tilden: Footloose Friday Hikes
Tilden Nature Area: Botanic Garden Practice Hike: Poles 2

February 18

Ardenwood: Good Morning Farm, Wonderful Wool, Gorgeous Goats, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, All About Almond Blossoms!, Delta Discoveries, Macro Mayhem
Black Diamond: Poles: Basic Hiking Skills & Techniques (1 of 2), Poles: Practice Hike (2 of 2)
Coyote Hills: Discovery Days, Ohlone Village Site Tour
Crab Cove: Birdwalk by the Bay, Family Nature Fun, Fish Feeding Time
Garin: Canine Capers - Dog Walk
Roberts: Archery Introduction
Shadow Cliffs: Great Backyard Bird Count
Tilden Nature Area: Stories by the Fire, Take a Walk on the Wild Side
Vasco Caves: Vasco Caves Tour

February 19

Anthony Chabot: Saturday and Sunday Strolls
Ardenwood: Chores For Little Farmers, Milkweed For Monarchs, Victorian Table Top Games, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
Coyote Hills: Native California Plant Uses, Discovery Days, Ohlone People & Culture
Crab Cove: Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun, Fish Feeding Time
Garin: News Do It Too
Tilden Nature Area: Tracking the Mystery Beast, Talk With the Animals, Fireside Storytime
Vasco Caves: Vasco Caves Tour

February 20

Sunol: Outdoor Discoveries

February 21

Briones: The Over-the-Hills Gang
Redwood: Hikes for Tykes

February 22

Ardenwood: Toddler Time, Animal Feeding

February 23

Big Break: Thursday Birding: Raptor Baseline
Tilden Nature Area: Tilden Young Naturalists

February 24

Ardenwood: Animal Feeding
Crab Cove: Docent Training at Crab Cove

February 25

Ardenwood: Farmyard Story Time, Beginning Embroidery, Meet The Bunnies, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
Coyote Hills: Marsh Meander, Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Wildlife Volunteers - Rail Rescue Rangers, Docent Training at Crab Cove, Family Nature Fun, Fish Feeding Time
Del Valle: Senior Girl Scout Naturalists: Sky!
 Diablo Foothills: Winter Raptors at Diablo Foothills
Garin: Nifty Newts
Tilden Nature Area: Stories by the Fire

February 26

Ardenwood: Fun With Felting, Corn Mosaics, Rope Making & Hay Hoisting, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Arachnid Adventures
Coyote Hills: Ohlone Village Site Tour, Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun, Fish Feeding Time, Sunset Low-Tide Walk
Las Trampas: Tortoise Trekkers Hikes - Las Trampas
Tilden Nature Area: Early Animal Tracks, Talk With the Animals, A Winter Walk in the Afternoon
Vasco Caves: Vasco Caves Tour

February 27

Coyote Hills: Coyote Cubs McLaughlin Eastshore State Park: Monday Birding

February 28

Brushy Peak: Raptor Tuesday
Coyote Hills: Weekday Bird Walk February 28
Crab Cove: Sea Squirts

American kestrel at Coyote Hills. Photo by Jerry Ting.
DUMBARTON QUARRY HIKE
Coyote Hills  Francis Mendoza
1-3:30pm, Sun, Jan 15
In 2017, the Dumbarton Quarry Campground is scheduled to open to the public. Learn about the history of the quarry (once the same depth as Death Valley) on this easy 3-mile, out-and-back hike. 12+yrs.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT FOR KIDS
Coyote Hills/Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge  Kristina Parkison
8:30am-1:30pm, Sat, Feb 4
Registration is required: https://xmas-birdcount4kids.eventbrite.com

CRAB COVE
Crab Cove Visitor Center hours are 10am-4pm Wed-Sun. The gift shop has books, T-shirts, and other nature-related items for sale. For information about naturalist programs or other activities, call (510) 544-3187, or email ccove@ebparks.org.

FAMILY NATURE FUN:
Crab Cove Interpretive Staff
2-3pm, Saturdays & Sundays in Jan & Feb
Drop by to explore and learn about the Bay and its wildlife. The aquariums, beach, and pond await you, with a new topic each week. For information, call: (510) 544-3187. Jan. 7 & 8: Crab Cove Campfire – learn how to build a fire, drink some cocoa and sing campfire songs. Jan. 14 & 15: Make it Rain – the science of clouds, storms and extreme weather. Jan. 21 & 22: Wonderful Watershed – discover water as it goes from tree to sea! Jan. 28 & 29: Squid Dissection – learn the inner workings of these amazing mollusks!

STORYTIME AND NATURE FUN:
Crab Cove Interpretive Staff
11:30am, every Sunday in Jan & Feb Kids: come in and meet characters like the Lorax, hermit crabs, and “Swimmy the Fish” through stories. Then share some fun, from meeting live animals to crafts, scavenger hunts or nature videos!

NEW YEAR’S DAY OPEN HOUSE
Crab Cove Interpretive Staff
11am-4pm, Sun Jan 1
Start the New Year off with a visit to Crab Cove! Fun, family friendly activities and crafts happening throughout the day! 1-11:30am: Storytime and Nature Fun. 12:30-1pm: Tarantula Talk. 1-1:30pm: Meet a Snake. 1:30-2:30pm: High Tide Discovery Walk. 2:30-3pm: Turtle Time. 3-3:30pm: Our ever-popular Fish Feeding. 3:30-4pm -Visitor Center Scavenger Hunt.

DEL VALLE
All programs meet at the Del Valle Rocky Ridge Visitor Center unless otherwise noted. The Rocky Ridge Visitor Center is closed for the season. $6 parking fee. Info: 510-544-3146.

JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS:
ANIMAL HABITATS:
Del Valle  Ashley Grenier
10am-noon, Fri, Jan 6 #15412
Junior Girl Scouts, take steps to earn your Animal Habitats badge. We’ll learn about the wild animals that live in this special habitat. Adult participation required. Registration is required.

SENIOR GIRL SCOUT NATURALISTS: SKY!
Del Valle  Ashley Grenier
5-7pm, Sat, Feb 25 #15427
Senior Girl Scouts, gaze at the sky, investigate the science of the sky, and listen to star stories around the campfire. Bring a flashlight and wear warm layers. Registration is required.

LOVE THE BAY BEACH CLEAN-UP
Crab Cove  Morgan Dill
10:30am-noon, Sun, Feb 12
Make the shoreline your Valentine and show it some love by picking up the trash left behind. Bring your own gloves and bucket or borrow ours. Meet at the Visitor Center.

BIRDWALK BY THE BAY
Crab Cove/Elsie Roemer Bird Sanctuary  Susan Ramos
9-11am, Sat Feb 18
Beginners welcome and encouraged on this look at shorebirds! Start at the Cove, then carpool to a local bird sanctuary searching for birds along the Bay. Binoculars available to borrow.
SUNOL

All programs meet at the Sunol Visitor Center unless otherwise noted. The Sunol Visitor Center is open weekends 10am-4pm. Info: 510-544-3249 or svis@ebparks.org.

THE SECRET LIFE OF NEWTS

Sunol Ashley Grenier 10am-1pm, Sat, Feb 4 #15419
Trek into a soggy oasis where newt-ity abounds. We’ll delve into the secret lives of these adorable amphibians as they search for love. Some uphill. Registration is required.

SLAMANDERING!

Sunol Cat Taylor 9:30-11:30am, Sun, Feb 5
It’s salamander season! Cool, moist, muddy days make for perfect salamander weather! Families will gently search for salamanders with worm-like bodies, golden eyes and bumpy skins!

TILDEN LITTLE FARMERS

Tilden Nature Area James Wilson 3-5pm, Wed, Jan 4 #15610, Feb 1 #15611
Join an after-school farm adventure for 5-7 year olds, who may be accompanied by an adult. No younger siblings please. Registration is required.

TILDEN LITTLE NATURALISTS

Tilden Nature Area James Wilson 3:30-5:30pm, Thurs, Jan 26 #15640, Feb 23 #15641
Do you like hiking, conservation, and nature-based activities? This after-school program is for you! It’s designed for kids 8-13 years old, unaccompanied by parents. Dress to ramble and get dirty; bring a snack. Registration is required. Fee: $6 (non-res. $8)

TILDEN YOUNG NATURALISTS

Tilden Nature Area James Wilson 3:30-5:30pm, Thurs, Jan 26 #15640, Feb 23 #15641
Join fellow nature lovers on a Valentine-themed walk to remember. Amphibian amplexus, spermatophores, and nuptial pads await. Meet at the Tilden Golf Course. Adults 21+

OUTDOOR DISCOVERIES/ NATURE GRUBS

Sunol Cat Taylor 10-11:30am, Mon, Feb 6 #15433 10-11:30am, Mon, Feb 20 #15435
Preschool & home school science series! Make playful and scientific discoveries in an exciting outdoor classroom. Feb. 6: Slippery Salamanders – Dress for mud as we go for a wintry wet exploration, and investigate the amphibious lifestyles of salamanders! Feb. 20: When It Rains, It Spores – Fun times with fun-gi as we search for fairy-rings, turkey tails, elfin saddles & more! Registration is required.

TILDEN NATURE AREA

The Environmental Education Center is open Tue-Sun, 10am-4:30pm. The Little Farm is open daily. Info: 510-544-2233 or tna@ebparks.org.

NEW YEAR, NEW YOU, AMIRITE?

Tilden Nature Area Trent Pearce 10am-2pm, Sun, Jan 8
New year, new you? Why not just go for a hike to the top of a mountain and feel the shift as the New Year begins? Bring some snacks and water and consider the physical changes that help you welcome the New Year.

TALK WITH THE ANIMALS

Tilden Nature Area Interpreters 11-11:30am, Sat, Jan 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb 4, 11, 18, 25
Warm your tail by the fire, as you hear some of our favorite nature tales.

NATURE GRUBS

Sunol Anthony Fisher 10am-2pm, Sun, Feb 5 #15644
Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 1:30-2:30pm, Sat, Feb 4
From locally gathered wild materials we twine a beginner’s basket. 12+ yrs Registration is required.

NATURE Ramble

Tilden Nature Area Trail Gail 1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Feb 11
Come explore the Nature Area with a naturalist. We’ll take a walk down to the peak, where we’ll experience our connection to the rest of the Bay Area.

FIRESIDE STORYTIME

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 1-2pm, Sun, Feb 19
Sit by a crackling fire and enjoy nature tales from far away and long ago.

EARLY ANIMAL TRACKS

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 9-11am, Sun, Feb 26
Scour the trails for animal tracks and signs before they all get stepped on by humans. Learn to take a good track photo. Make a plaster cast of your favorite find.

TWINED WILLOW BASKET

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 10-11:30am, Sun, Feb 5 #15644
From locally gathered wild materials we twine a beginner’s basket. 12+ yrs Registration is required.

TWINED WILLOW BASKET

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 1:30-2:30pm, Sat, Feb 4
From locally gathered wild materials we twine a beginner’s basket. 12+ yrs Registration is required.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Register beginning November 29
www ebparks org/register or 1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS) option 2

TAKE A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE – WILDCAT PEAK WALK

Tilden Nature Area Trail Gail 1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Feb 18
Trek to the top of the world. Grab a snack, some water, and we’ll head to the peak, where we’ll experience our connection to the rest of the Bay Area.

TRACKING THE MYSTERY BEAST

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 11am-noon, Sun, Feb 19
Test your powers of observation while following weird tracks through the woods. Where will they lead you?

FIRESIDE STORYTIME

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 1-2pm, Sun, Feb 19
Sit by a crackling fire and enjoy nature tales from far away and long ago.

EARLY ANIMAL TRACKS

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 9-11am, Sun, Feb 26
Scour the trails for animal tracks and signs before they all get stepped on by humans. Learn to take a good track photo. Make a plaster cast of your favorite find.

TILDEN YOUNG NATURALISTS

Tilden Nature Area James Wilson 3:30-5:30pm, Thurs, Jan 26 #15640, Feb 23 #15641
Do you like hiking, conservation, and nature-based activities? This after-school program is for you! It’s designed for kids 8-13 years old, unaccompanied by parents. Dress to ramble and get dirty; bring a snack. Registration is required.

Registration is required.

Fee: $6 (non-res. $8)

TILDEN FUNGAL FAIR

Tilden Nature Area Trent Pearce & Staff 4:30-8pm, Sun, Jan 29
Rains bring fungi to California! View local specimens, peruse guidebooks, and enjoy presentations on the fungi at this “mini-mushroom fair.”

FUN WITH FELT

Tilden Nature Area Trail Gail 1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Feb 4
Stop by the farm and make a felted creation. We’ll use wool, soap and our own energy to make a unique piece of art. Come get your hands wet while learning about wool.

WHOLE SHOOT

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 10am-2pm, Sun, Feb 5 #15644
From locally gathered wild materials we twine a beginner’s basket. 12+ yrs Registration is required.

NATURE RAMBLE

Tilden Nature Area Trail Gail 1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Feb 11
Come explore the Nature Area with a naturalist. We’ll take a walk down to the lake and around looking for signs of the local wildlife.

THE NEWT IN WINTER

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 10-11:30am, Sun, Feb 12
Cute but deadly, these charming salamanders are to stop, uh, I mean, steal your heart.

A WILD SALAD

Tilden Nature Area Anthony Fisher 1-2:30pm, Sun, Feb 12
Meet some edible wild plants… and then eat them.

AN AQUATIC EVENING

Tilden Regional Park Trent Pearce 7-8pm, Sun, Feb 12
Join fellow nature lovers on a Valentine-themed walk to remember. Amphibian amplexus, spermatophores, and nuptial pads await. Meet at the Tilden Golf Course. Adults 21+

LOVELY LADYBUGS

Redwood Susan Ramos 11am-1pm, Sun Jan 8
View hundreds of these amazing lovely ladybugs up close! We will hike about 1½ miles to their overwintering site, learning about these tenacious beetles along the way. Info: (510) 544-3187.
A WINTER WALK IN THE AFTERNOON
Tilden Nature Area  Anthony Fisher
1-2:30pm, Sun, Feb 26
Mud-dle about the woods searching for awe-inspiring expressions of Na-
ture on this easy stroll.

OTHER PARKS
WEEKDAY BIRD WALK
Various Parks  Kristina Parkison, Francis Mendoza
7:30-9:30am, Tue, Jan 3, 10, Feb 7, 28
Share your enthusiasm for bird life on a tranquil walk through various Bay
Area parklands! All levels of birding experience welcome. Bring water,
sunscreen, and binoculars or scopes.
Jan. 3: Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center.
Jan. 10: Alameda Creek Trail, meet at the Niles Staging Area on Old
Canyon Road in Fremont. Feb. 7: Quarry Lakes, meet at the Isherwood
Staging Area on Isherwood Lane in Fremont. Feb. 28: Coyote Hills, meet
at the Visitor Center. For information: (510) 544-3220. 12+yrs.

FOOTLOOSE FRIDAY HIKES
Various Parks  Trail Gail
9am-2pm, Fri, Jan 6, 20, Feb 3, 17
Enjoy the parks with a naturalist! Explore cultural and natural history
while getting some exercise. Walks go rain or shine. Heavy rain or mud
may shorten! Jan. 6: Las Trampas, Bolinger Canyon. Why was it called
“the Traps?” Jan. 20: Redwood, Canyon Meadow. Look for waterfalls,
Newts abound on this wet walk. Feb. 17: Tilden Traverse, Inspiration Point.
From ridge to reservoir, experience the watershed.

BAYSIDE BIRDS
Various Parks  Anthony Fisher
2-4pm, Sat, Jan 7, 14, 21
Revel in the shorebirds and waterfowl that frolic in San Francisco Bay.
Jan. 7: McLaughlin Eastshore State Park, Meet at the Seabreeze Market.

WINTER RAPTORS AT ROUND VALLEY
Round Valley  Kevin Dixon
10am-2pm, Sat, Jan 14
Watch the winter woodlands and scan the skies in this peaceful part of Mt.
Diablo’s eastern foothills. Some steep trails. Heavy rain cancels. Meet at the
staging area on Marsh Creek Road in eastern Contra Costa County. Info:
(510) 544-2750. 11+yrs.

WINTER RAPTORS AT ROUND VALLEY
Various Parks  Trail Gail
10am-12:30pm, Tue, Jan 24; Feb 21
Hikers 55 years and older interested in
nature study, history, fitness, and fun are invited to join this series of monthly
excursions exploring the Regional Parks. Jan. 24: Redwood Regional Park,
Canyon Meadow Staging Area. Feb. 21: Briones, Briones Road Staging Area.

LAKESIDE LITTLES
Shadow Cliffs  Ashley Grenier
10-11am, Fri, Jan 20, Feb 17
Bring your little ones out and discover nature. Each month we’ll explore a trail,
look at bugs, search for birds, and much more. Let’s get outside! Parent/care-
giver participation required. Meet at the main park entrance on Stanley Blvd.,
Pleasanton. 1-5yrs. Info: (510) 544-3249.

WATERBIRD TO MARTINEZ QUEST
Waterbird  Kevin Dixon
10am-12:30pm, Sat, Jan 21
Search fields, ponds, wetlands and waves for January birds. There are al-
ways pleasant surprises for those who persevere. Beginning birders welcome.
Rain or shine. Meet at the staging area on Waterbird Way east of Martinez.
Info: (510) 544-2750. 6+yrs.

THE OVER-THE-HILLS GANG
Various Parks  Trail Gail
10am-12:30pm, Tue, Jan 24; Feb 21
Hikers 55 years and older interested in
nature study, history, fitness, and fun are invited to join this series of monthly
excursions exploring the Regional Parks. Jan. 24: Redwood Regional Park,
Canyon Meadow Staging Area. Feb. 21: Briones, Briones Road Staging Area.

BIRD WALK
Various Parks  Kristina Parkison
8-10am, Sat, Jan 7, Feb 4
The Bay Area bursts with bird life! New and experienced birders alike
join us as we discover patterns of behavior, migration, and habitat. Jan.
7: Coyote Hills. Feb. 4: Garin. For information: (510) 544-3220. 8+yrs.

Healthy Parks Healthy People: Bay Area
Monthly activities and outings that provide safe, low-impact physical
activity and improve the health and well-being of all Bay Area resi-
dents through regular use and enjoyment of the Regional Parks.

Healthy Parks Healthy People: Bay Area

SATURDAY STROLL
Leona Canyon  Interpretive Staff
10am-noon, Sat, Jan 7
Hike 4 moderate miles through a
beautiful stream-carved canyon,
marveling at a 5-bridge view and a
vernal pool with frogs. Meet at the
Canyon Oaks Drive parking area
(Oakland). See page 13 for other
Saturday and Sunday Strolls.

BIRD WALK
Various Parks  Kristina Parkison
8-10am, Sat, Jan 7, Feb 4
The Bay Area bursts with bird life!
New and experienced birders alike
join us as we discover patterns of
behavior, migration, and habitat. Jan.
7: Coyote Hills. Feb. 4: Garin. For
information: (510) 544-3220. 8+yrs.

LAS PINTAS: PINE CREEK PEAK
Diablo Foothills  Eddie Willis
1-3pm, Sun, Jan 29
Make a splash as we hike along, over, and
in, parts of the creek while searching
for aquatic life. Meet at Orchard staging
area at the end of Castle Rock Road in
Walnut Creek. Info: (510) 544-2750.

THE MORNING SIDE OF MOUNT DIABLO
Morgan Territory  Kevin Dixon
10am-2:30pm, Sat, Feb 4
Take a steep, five-mile hike through
the green grassy ridges and forests in
this Hidden gem of a preserve. Meet
at the Morgan Territory Road staging
area in eastern Contra Costa County.
Info: (510) 544-2750.

VASCO CAVES REGIONAL PRESERVE TOUR
Staging from Round Valley:
9am-2pm, Sun, Feb 5 #15558,
Feb 26 #15577
9am-2pm, Sat, Feb 18 #15570
Staging from Brushy Peak:
9am-2pm, Sun, Feb 12 #15797,
Feb 19 #15572

WINTER RAPTORS AT DIABLO FOOTHILLS
Diablo Foothills  Kevin Dixon
9am-2pm, Sat, Feb 25
Travel the gentle trails of Mount Dia-
blo’s Pine Canyon and scout for winter
wildlife while keeping an eye to the sky
for birds of prey. Meet at the Orchard
Staging Area at the south end of Castle
Rock Road in Walnut Creek. Info:
(510) 544-2750.

CANINE CAPERS –
DOG WALK
Various Parks  Kristina Parkison
9-noon, Sat, Jan 28 #15358,
9-11am, Sat, Feb 18 #15359
Make new friends, enjoy a nature walk and explore some of the
finest open space with your best four-legged friend along! Home-
made snacks provided for good (and spirited) dogs! Jan. 28: Dry
Creek Pioneer Regional. Feb. 18: Garin. 8+yrs
Registration is required.

Geri Freitas
On High Ridge Loop Trail, Garin Regional Park.
GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
Shadow Cliffs Ashley Grenier
8-10:30am, Sat, Feb 18 #15422
Join thousands of bird watchers of all ages across the globe to get a real-time snapshot of where birds are. All levels are welcome, great for beginning birders. #greatbackyardbirdcount. Info: (510) 544-3249.
Registration is required.

HABITAT HIGHLIGHTS

RAPTOR TUESDAY
Brushy Peak Cat Taylor
8:30am-1pm, Tue, Feb 28 #15443
Winter is the time for raptors! We’ll be on the lookout for soaring eagles, hawks and falcons today along this somewhat strenuous 4.5-mile hike over the hills. 10+yrs. Info: (510) 544-3249.
Registration is required.

HABITAT HIGHLIGHTS

AMPHIBIAN ENCOUNTER
Garin Myasha Nicholas
10am-noon, Sun, Jan 29
Join us on a walk to meet some cute semi-aquatic friends. Let’s find out what their presence tells us about health habitats. Be prepared for muddy trails. Meet at the Red Barn. 8+yrs.

AMOROUS AMPHIBIANS
Briones Eddie Willis
1-3pm, Sun, Feb 12
Look for frogs, salamanders, and other love-struck amphibians on this one-mile nature walk. Expect lots of newt-ity in the water! Meet at the south end of Briones Road in Martinez. Info: (510) 544-2750.

NEWTS DO IT TOO
Garin Francis Mendoza
10-11:30am, Sun, Feb 19
Get caught up in love (and sexual mating strategies) by going on this short 1.5-mile hike to see newts mating in their natural habitat. Meet at the Red Barn. Heavy rain cancels.

NIFTY NEWTS
Garin Kristina Parkison
1:30-3pm, Sat, Feb 25 #15366
What’s poisonous, slimy, but cute as can be? It’s the California newt, headed toward a pond near you. Join us for a chance to find this animal jewel. 5+yrs
Registration is required.

HABITAT HIGHLIGHTS

WEDNESDAY WALKS
Various parks Susan Ramos
9:30am-12:30pm, Wed, Jan 4, 18, 25, Feb 4, 15
Explore new trails and make new friends as you get in some healthy outdoor activity with our friendly walking group. Hikers of all ages and abilities are welcome on hikes ranging from easy to challenging. Wear sturdy footwear, bring water and dress for the weather. Heavy rain cancels. For more information: (510)544-3282 or email cgarcia@ebparks.org. Jan. 4, Quarry Lakes: An easy 4 miles on mostly flat, gravelled trails. Meet at the Ensenada picnic area. Jan. 18, Point Pinole: A mostly flat exploration of a park with an explosive past. Jan. 25, Redwood Regional Park (Canyon Meadow Staging Area): We will take the East Ridge Trail through bays, oaks and grassland, dropping down into the shady redwoods on this almost 4-mile moderate hike. Info: (510) 544-3187.

Feb. 4, Coyote Hills: Hike 4.5 miles around and over the hills on a moderately strenuous tour of this scenic bayside park. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. Feb. 15, Briones, Alhambra Staging Area: Valentines was yesterday, but there is still love in the air, or water. We’ll go to the lagoons in search of mating newts on this moderately strenuous walk.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY STROLLS

SATURDAY & SUNDAY STROLLS
Various Parks Interpretive Staff
10am-noon, Sat, Jan 7, 21, Feb 11, Sun, Jan 15, 29, Feb 5, 19
Wake up and walk into nature. Each week we will explore a different park and the natural wonders within. Hikes range from 1-5 miles. Great for families.
Dogs welcome on most hikes. See www.ebparks.org/parks for maps and directions. Jan. 7, Leo-
ena Canyon Regional Open Space Preserve, Canyon Oaks Dr. parking area: Hike 4 moderate miles through a beautiful stream-carved canyon, marveling at a 5-bridge view and a vernal pool with frogs. Jan. 15, Redwood Regional Park, Canyon Meadow staging: Follow the stream trail to see the overwintering ladybugs, about 3 miles round trip. Jan. 21, Crown Beach to Hornet, Crab Cove: Stroll 4 flat miles watching for large fish-eating birds, marine mammals, and views. Jan. 29, Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Redwood Bowl Staging Area: Walk along a portion of the historic Anza Trail on West Ridge to Baccharis trails and back, about 3 miles. Feb. 5, Redwood Regional Park, Trudea Center: Enjoy the (hopefully) green hills and forest on this 3-mile, diverse loop from prairie to redwoods and back. Feb. 11, Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline, MLK Grove just off of Swan Way: Join in this flat stroll along the Bay to Arrowhead Marsh and the New Marsh. We will also peak in the seasonal ponds as we walk just over 2 miles round trip. Feb. 19: Anthony Chabot, Bort Meadow staging area: Enjoy a 3.5-mile loop through scenic grassland, looking for birds of prey overhead. Info: (510) 544-3187.
What are those blobby masses on the beach in summer? Is the Bay healthy? If these topics interest you, consider becoming a Crab Cove Docent! During this 3-part training you will be taught the nuts and bolts of becoming a docent for the East Bay Regional Park District, here at Crab Cove and other exciting parks in our area. Basic interpretive skills, history, bay ecology, and much more will be highlighted. After completing these classes you will be able to assist with school programs, roving, special events, gardening, & resource inventory. We need your help! Many hands makes light work and a big difference! No experience necessary. 18+yrs. For more information or to sign up for this training, please call: (510) 544-3182.

RAIL RESCUE RANGERS

Crown Beach, Elsie Roemer Bird Sanctuary

Doc Quack

9:30am-noon, Sat, Feb 25 #15648

During this hands-on adventure you’ll help create habitat for the federally and state endangered Ridgway’s Rail. We will remove non-native plants, pick-up trash, and plant wildlife friendly vegetation which will restore the upland areas of the Roemer Bird Sanctuary for rails. Physical labor is involved with this project. By participating, you’ll earn your “Rail Rescue Ranger” patch. Registration is required.

FRENCH BROOM REMOVAL/RESTORATION PROJECT

Redwood

Staff

9am-1pm, Sat, Jan 14, Feb 11

9:30am-1:30pm, Sun, Jan 8, Feb 12

Help remove invasive French broom at various locations in the park. Tools provided. Info: 1-888-327-2757, option 3, ext. 4553. Registration is required.

FOR THE BIRDS – VOLUNTEER PROJECT

Various Parks

Kristina Parkison

9am-noon, Sat, Feb 11 #15360

Share your enthusiasm for bird life and help the birds at the same time! We will clean existing bluebird boxes and install new ones for the upcoming breeding season! 12+yrs. Registration is required.

DOCENT TRAINING AT CRAB COVE

Crab Cove

Staff

10am-4pm, Fri Feb 24, Sat Feb 25

6:30-8:30pm Thu, Mar 2

Ever wonder how to pick up a crab? What are those blobby masses on the

9th ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE

MLK Jr Shoreline

Staff

9am-noon, Mon, Jan 16 #15796

Join the Park District in celebrating the 9th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Junior Day of Service. Volunteers will assist staff in restoration work and invasive plant removal in order to support and care for wildlife and their natural habitats. Volunteers will also help restore the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Grove and Damon Marsh at MLK Jr. Shoreline in Oakland. Children may participate, but must be accompanied by one chaperone for every 20 kids. Check in and registration begins at 8:30. Wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothes and closed-toe shoes. To cut down on the use of plastic, please bring a refillable water bottle and bucket to pick up litter. For more information, email volunteers@ebparks.org. Heavy rain cancels the event. Registration is required.
How to Register • Fee Payment

Many programs do not require registration. Simply join the instructor at the location indicated in the program description. Call the phone number listed in the program description if you need further information.

If a program says “Registration is required,” register by calling 1-888-EBPARKS (1-888-327-2757), option 2, or by calling the number listed in the program description.

ONLINE registration is available if the program title displays this symbol: . Go to www ebparksonline org and use the course code printed next to the program date(s). We recommend creating your user account early, before registration begins.

WALK-IN: Come to the District Headquarters between 8:30am and 5pm Mondays through Fridays. We are located at 2950 Peralta Oaks Court in Oakland, next to the Dunsmuir House and south of the Oakland Zoo off I-580. See map below.

BY PHONE: Phone registration: The Reservations Office is open 8:30am-4:30pm Mondays through Thursdays, and 8:30am and 4pm on Fridays (closed weekends and holidays). Call I-888-EBPARKS (327-2757) and select option 2, or call the number listed in the program description. TRS Relay for the Hearing Impaired: 7-1-1.

BY MAIL: Call the Reservations Office at 1-888-EBPARKS (327-2757) option 2, to request a mail-in registration form. Registration is payable by check only up to 15 days before the program.

FEES:

FEE PAYMENT: Fees must be paid in full at the time of registration. Fees may be paid by money order, VISA, Mastercard, cash, or pre-printed check for walk-in registration. Make checks payable to EBRPD. Programs registered in the parks may be paid for by check up until the day of the program if space is available. Returned checks will be charged a $25 Returned Check charge. Non-resident fees apply to anyone living outside Alameda or Contra Costa counties. Parking or park entrance fees may be charged depending on program time and location. Ardenwood entrance fees vary depending on the event or activity. Confirm all fees when registering for a program.

CREDIT CARDS: 

VISA and Mastercard are accepted for all fee programs except those that are registered at a park. Call the phone number in program description for info.

CANCELLATION POLICY: REFUNDS/TRANSFERS: Refunds or transfers will be processed for programs canceled because registration is below the minimum enrollment at the cutoff date, or if a program is canceled due to inclement weather or instructor illness. Please allow up to three weeks for receipt of refund. CANCELLATION POLICY: At least five business days advance notice is necessary for a full refund. Failure to notify the Reservations Office at least five business days in advance of your cancellation will result in forfeiture of the program fee. The Reservations Office is open Monday through Friday. The last day to cancel a Saturday or Sunday program is the prior Monday.
Love your Parks?
Become a Member!

Membership is a great way to show your support and commitment to your Regional Parks. There are several membership levels available and as a thank you for joining our community you’ll receive:

· Personalized Membership Card
· Free Day-Use Parking
· Free Swimming
· Annual Dog Pass
· Subscription to Regional in Nature and Compass magazine and much more!

Sign up for a Membership today: www.regionalparksfoundation.org; or call the Membership Department at 510-544-2220.

Youth Job Fair

COME WORK FOR THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT!

Whether you like spending time outdoors, working with kids, aquatics, or public safety, we have something for you.

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017
Trudeau Training Center
11500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland
9:45 a.m. to noon

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017
Big Break Visitor Center
69 Big Break Road, Oakley
9:45 a.m. to noon

East Bay Regional Park District
Healthy Parks Healthy People
www.ebparks.org

I-in-a-Million Campaign for Parks

Join us! Your monthly gift of $21 (or $250 a year) will enroll you in the 1-in-a-million Sustainers’ Circle. Together, this circle of donors will help us raise $1 million annually to fund camperships for underprivileged children, habitat restoration for endangered species and other vital initiatives.

Join online at: wwwREGIONALPARKSFoundation.org