Leveraging Taxpayer Funds to Improve Regional Parks

A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL MANAGER ROBERT E. DOYLE

Two of the most important objectives of East Bay Regional Park District’s Board and staff are ensuring daily public safety in our parks, and overseeing fiscal responsibility with accuracy and precision. For its strong fiscal management and balanced budgets, the Park District has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 16 consecutive years. Additionally, the Park District has a AAA rating from Standard & Poor’s (S&P) – the highest possible rating.

Fiscal responsibility also includes leveraging taxpayer funds to obtain additional state and federal dollars. A recent study showed that for every $1 invested into a project by the District, the Park District has obtained $2 from external sources.

Recent examples of the Park District leveraging funding include wetland projects that provide better public access at both Dotson Family Marsh at Point Pinole Regional Park and at Bay Point Regional Shoreline in Eastern Contra Costa County.

In 2016, the Park District identified public access improvements at Bay Point Regional Shoreline as a priority and invested $900,000 of voter-approved Measure WW funds to kick-start planning.

The future, upgraded, Bay Point Regional Shoreline will enhance public shoreline access for the entire East Contra Costa County community. Improvements will also address the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, by providing a buffer for public facilities and homes near the shoreline. The Bay Point Regional Shoreline consists of 150 acres of Bay-Delta open space and marshland in unincorporated Contra Costa County near Pittsburg.

Fast forward one year, the Park District is now the recipient of $1,450,000 in grant funds for the Bay Point Regional Shoreline project, including including $750,000 from the National Park Service’s Land and Water Conservation Fund, $450,000 in Port Chicago Mitigation Funds, $200,000 from the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and $75,000 from the Contra Costa County Housing Related Parks Program.

That is over 29% of the total $4.5 million Bay Point Regional Shoreline project costs obtained so far from external sources – all through leveraging the Park District’s original, local investment. And, the Park District continues to pursue other grant opportunities.

The Park District is pleased to have been selected for grant funding and is thankful to our elected officials and partner agencies who helped make it happen. The Park District was one of only 22 national recipients of the highly coveted and competitive Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

I am proud of the Park District’s tradition of leveraging local tax dollars to make big improvements to our parks. In recent years, external grants have accounted for about $9 million of the total $26 million in annual project spending. This is a great value for taxpayers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

We have also received $60 million in external funds from the East Contra Costa Habitat Conservancy over the last 10 years to help preserve open space for habitat and balanced public access.

Thank you for your continued support of Regional Parks. I look forward to updating you on our next successful project!
2017 Free Park Entrance Day November 24
East Bay Parks Free Black Friday

Entrance to the East Bay Regional Park District will be free on Black Friday (Nov. 24) to encourage people to visit parks, not malls.

“Getting out into nature the day after Thanksgiving is a great way to spend time with the family,” said East Bay Park District General Manager Robert Doyle. “The East Bay Regional Park District is pleased to be part of the annual ‘Opt Outside’ event that encourages people nationally to connect with nature by visiting a park or going for a hike on Black Friday.”

The Park District will be waiving fees for parking, dogs, horses, boat launching and fishing permits at all 65 parks in the District.

Entrance fees at Ardenwood Historic Farm will also be waived. This is the third year the Park District has been free on Black Friday.

Opt Outside started in 2015 when REI closed it doors on Black Friday and encouraged its employees and the public to explore the outdoors instead of shopping.

More than 1.4 million people and 170 organizations participate in Opt Outside each year.

Fee waiver does not apply to state fees, including fishing licenses and watercraft inspections, and does not apply to District concessions such as the Tilden Merry-Go-Round and train.

WINTER WILDLIFE WAYS

As winter approaches, creatures in the Regional Parks respond to the seasonal cycles.

Fall and early winter see the arrival of ducks, geese and shorebirds as they fly south eating their way through the seasonal buffet of seeds and sprouting plants. Winter is when newts and tiger salamanders start their annual reproductive march to find suitable ponds and suitable mates. Tree frogs and western toads also come out of their dryland hiding spots to seek out breeding pools and lay their eggs. Rains swell rivers and tempt winter run steelhead and salmon to seek the upper reaches of waterways where gravel beds provide the perfect place for eggs to hatch and for fry to grow.

Monarch butterflies overwinter in dense clusters – look for them in the eucalyptus groves at Ardenwood Historic Farm. Ladybugs overwinter in deep shady canyons in large masses – watch for their annual appearance at Redwood Regional Park. Lizards and snakes find a secure place to hibernate, and ground squirrels sleep away much of the winter in burrows.

Park District Congratulates 2017 Habitat Means Home Winner

On August 8, at the Park District’s Board of Directors meeting, the winners of the annual Habitat Means Home competition were acknowledged. First place was Adish Kar of Ardenwood Elementary, second place was Priyal Sinha of Mission Valley Elementary, and third place was Karthik Saripalli of Ardenwood Elementary. Karthik, who attended, received a handshake from Director Ayn Wieskamp and a bag of gifts.

The competition, organized by Carin High, is sponsored by Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge, Ohlone Audubon Society and the Friends of Coyote Hills. The contest has been held in the Tri-City (Fremont, Union City, and Newark) area for the past 11 years, with an average of 400 entries annually. The competition encourages K-6 students to explore the natural wonders of Coyote Hills Regional Park and create a poster showcasing their favorite park species.

Karthik’s painting comprised two lively skunks. “I like skunks. We need to protect them because they benefit farmers by feeding on large numbers of agricultural pests,” said Karthik. “I like the way the skunk defends itself.”

All posters were displayed at Coyote Hills Visitor Center, and winning posters were displayed at State Senator Bob Wieckowski’s office.
**ARCHERY - INTRODUCTION**
Roberts Redwood Bowmen
1:30-3:30pm, Sat, Nov 4 #19036
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)

**OFF-LEASH DOG RECALL AND SAFETY**
Tilden Metro Dog
11am-12:30pm, Sat, Nov 4 #18823, Dec 2 #18825; Sun, Nov 19 #18824, Dec 17 #18826
Learn valuable skills to train your dog to hike off-leash and how you can be a more conscientious trail user. Practice as a group during a short hike. Class suitable ONLY for social dogs that are good with dogs and people, and do not hunt.
Registration is required.
Fee: $35 (non-res. $39)

**FISHING – TROUT BASICS**
Various Recreation Staff
8-10am, Sat, Nov 11 #18777; Dec 2 #18783
The weather is cooling off but the 'trout bite' is heating up! Join us for this peak season of trout fishing! Learn specialized gear and bait selection to catch Rainbow Trout, one of the most plentiful freshwater species in our lakes and reservoirs. Ages 16+ yrs. require a valid California fishing license. All gear provided. Nov 11: Temescal; Dec 2: Contra Loma.
Registration is required.
Fee: $19 (non-res. $21)

**PET FIRST AID/CPR**
MLK Jr. Shoreline Peter Pay
9am-1pm, Sat, Nov 18 #18821
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)

**KAYAKING / BOATING**
Kayakers 50+ enjoying a class at Shadow Cliffs.

**KAYAKING FOR FOLKS 50+**
MLK Jr. Shoreline Recreation Staff
11am-3pm, Wed, Nov 8 #18738
Learn kayaking skills with your peers at a pace that is right for you. Learn paddling techniques, equipment selection, and safety guidelines in the Oakland Estuary. Then practice what you have learned touring the estuary in a kayak.
Registration is required.
Fee: $52 (non-res. $58)

**BIRDING BY KAYAK**
Big Break Cat Taylor/Recreation Staff
11:30am-2pm, Sat Dec 9 #19077
What better way to see birds than by kayaking on the wondrous waters of the Delta? We'll begin with dry land instruction, then paddle our craft on a group exploration of resident and migrant birds.
Registration is required.
Fee: $30 (non-res. $34)

**DELTA SUNSET PADDLE**
Big Break Cat Taylor/Recreation Staff
3:30-6pm, Sat, Dec 9 #19076
As the sun dips low over the Delta waters, we'll wend our way through the Big Break twilight in our kayaks. We'll begin with dry land instruction, then paddle by the light of the setting sun sparkling on the waves.
Registration is required.
Fee: $30 (non-res. $34)

**PATH OF SALMON MARSH CREEK BIKE RIDE**
Big Break Cat Taylor/Recreation Staff
9am-2pm, Sat, Nov 25 #18819
For eons, Chinook salmon have traveled through the Delta and up area streams to complete their life cycle. Grab your wheels and lunch to pedal up Marsh Creek to a spawning area and document their journey. 13+ miles, flat. Loaner bikes available upon advance request. Biking experience required.
Registration is required.
Fee: $21 (non-res. $24)

**POLE WALKING & POLE HIKING**
Learning how to use poles helps walkers & hikers improve endurance, posture, balance, confidence and strength and enhances your enjoyment of the outdoors all year long. All levels focus on learning anatomically-optimal techniques to achieve greater skill while learning how to avoid joint stress or strain. Carefully select the class that best suits your physical ability and inclination. A variety of top quality poles are provided at all seminars. Beautiful hiking locations are based on the season/weather. Mobility class locations offer indoor training and lovely/easy pole walks for practice. Next Mobility class will be available in the Jan/Feb 2018 session.

**POLES: BASIC SKILLS & TECHNIQUES PLUS HIKE**
Tilden Jayah Faye Paley
8:30am-3pm, Sat, Nov 11 #19037
Experience everything in the Basic Skills & Techniques class plus a shaded Redwood practice hike. Learn individualized strategies for improving performance on varied terrain. “Test drive” different pole models; learn which poles fit you best and will help you achieve your goals. Hike is approx. 5 miles.
Registration is required.
Fee: $48 (non-res. $54)

**POLES: BASIC HIKING SKILLS & TECHNIQUES (1 of 2)**
Kennedy Grove Jayah Faye Paley
9am-12:30pm, Sat, Dec 9 #19050
Morning session helps hikers learn poles, trail and body skills. Beginner to experienced hikers learn techniques without the additional challenge of a practice hike in the afternoon. Uphill: improve power, endurance and spine function. Downhill: develop skills for feeling safer and preserving joints — Save your knees!
Registration is required.
Fee: $39 (non-res. $43)

**POLES PRACTICE HIKE (2 of 2)**
Kennedy Grove Jayah Faye Paley
1:30-3:45pm, Sat, Dec 9 #19065
Optional continuation of morning session; open to prior hiking poles participants.
ARDENWOOD

Ardenwood is open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10am-4pm. Admission fees apply. For program and fee info: (510) 544-2797, awvisits@ebparks.org or www ebparks.org.

ANIMAL FEEDING

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 3pm, Thu-Sun (except Nov 23)
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.

RIDE THE RAILS - TRAIN RIDES

Ardenwood 10:15am-2:30pm, Thu, Fri, Sun through Nov 19
Railroads once connected farms to towns in the East Bay. Journey past rows of crops and through eucalyptus groves as you travel back in time on our train. Check the daily schedule and meet the train at Ardenwood Station or Deer Park.

PATTERSON HOUSE TOURS

Ardenwood Patterson House Docents Various times, every Thu-Sun through Nov 12
Tour the beautifully restored Patterson House Museum. Discover the history of this Queen Anne Victorian farm house, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which operates as a museum of local history and Victorian life. 45-minute tours are led by docents dressed in 19th-century clothing. Get tickets at the Train Station. Special 15 minute tours for children 6 and under offered Thursday and Friday at 2:30pm, Saturday and Sunday at 11:30am.

TODDLER TIME

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 10:30-11:45am, Wed, Nov 1, 15
Bring the tots out for an exciting morning at the farm. Hear 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.)

APPLE CIDER PRESSING

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 11-11:30am, Sat, Nov 4
Come help squeeze the juice from apples and discover why this was once the most popular drink in America. Afterwards, taste a sample of our hard work.

FUN WITH FELTING

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 12:30-1:30pm, Sat, Nov 4
Have some good, clean fun as we learn how felt is made from sheep’s wool, and then make a felt toy to take home.

ROPE MAKIN’ & HAY HOISTIN’

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 1:30-2:30pm, Sat, Nov 4
We’ll start by making rope the old-fashioned way – with our antique machine. Then we’ll use bigger ropes to help lift a bale of hay up into our barn’s loft.

WAKE UP THE FARM

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 10:30-11am, Sun, Nov 5; Sat, Nov 12
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.

COOKING IN THE COUNTRY KITCHEN

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 11am-1pm, Sun, Nov 5
Stop by the Country Kitchen and take a tasty step back in time! Discover how to cook with a wood-burning stove and sample the special of the day, be it savory or sweet. Pick up an historic recipe to try at home.

VICTORIAN TABLE TOP GAMES

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 2-3pm, Sun, Nov 5
Challenge your family and friends to a game of ball and cup, tops, or Jacob’s Ladder as you delve into our box of games from days-gone-by.

MONARCH SITE OBSERVER TRAINING

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 9:30am-2pm, Sat, Nov 11 #18995
Become a Community Scientist, trained by monarch experts to count and record observations at one or more overwintering sites throughout the East Bay. FREE. Registration is required.

THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER...

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 10:30-11am, Sat, Nov 11
...went down the water spout and built a beautiful web! Join us for a hike around the farm to see where our littlest critters hide. Bring your magnifying glasses!

FELTED PUMPKINS

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 11:30am-12:30pm, Sat, Nov 11; 2-3pm, Sun, Nov 19
Create some felted fall fun for your Thanksgiving dinner table with these woolly little pumpkins!

FARMYARD GAMES

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 1:30-2:30pm, Sat, Nov 11
America’s pastimes once included stilt walking, running with tubers (potato-spoon race), testing ones strength (tug-o-war) and hopping like a bunny (sack races). Join the fun and test your skill!

FARM CHORES FOR KIDS

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 10:30-11am, Sun, Nov 12
Running a farm is hard work, but it’s fun too! Lend a hand cracking corn and feeding the animals. You’ll check the chickens and help with many other morning chores.

WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM!

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 1-2pm, Sun, Nov 12
Put together some ice, salt, cream, sugar, then add a little muscle power and learn how we make delicious old-fashioned ice cream.

CORN MOSAICS

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 2-3pm, Sun, Nov 12
Learn how to turn our beautiful Indian corn into a fun craft for the whole family! Use the rainbow of colored kernels to make your own mosaic.

CLAY POT TURKEYS

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 10:30-11am, Sat, Nov 18
Celebrate our feathered friend by decorating your own clay pot turkey. This craft is sure to make you go “gobble, gobble!”

OH, MY Gourd!

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 1:30-2:30pm, Sat, Nov 18
Try a sample of these freshly baked pumpkin treats from the wood-burning stove.

STONE SOUP

Ardenwood Max Cade 10:30am-noon, Sun, Nov 19
Stop by the country kitchen to hear the story Stone Soup, see how it is made, and taste a sample.

CLOTHESPIN DOLLS

Ardenwood Mindy Castle 1-2pm, Sun, Nov 19
Create and dress up your own darling doll. We’ll help tuck them in for the evening.

MONARCH SITTING QUIETLY TRAINING

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 10am-1pm, Sat, Dec 2 #19020
Learn to identify monarchs and their special features, from the softest part of a bunny.

WONDERFUL WOOL

Ardenwood Mindy Castle 11am-noon, Sun, Nov 26
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.

MEET THE BUNNIES

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 2-2:30pm, Sun, Nov 26
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.

WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

Ardenwood Christine Garcia 10am-1pm, Sat, Dec 2 #19020
Craft a festive wreath from aromatic evergreens. Explore the significance of holly and ivy in holiday traditions and get to know some elegant California native plants as well. Embellish your creation with colorful citrus fruits, cones, or berries and a magnificent bow. Bring a pair of hand pruners. (12+yrs.) Fee: $22 (non-res. $25). Registration is required.

Registration information – register beginning September 26
www.eparks.org/register or 1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS), option 2

 risen and shine! Lend a hand! We’ll start with a story before we prepare a morning treat for the sheep, goats and chickens.

RETURN OF THE MONARCHS

Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 1:30pm, Fri, Nov 24; Sat, Nov 25
For years hundreds of monarchs have gathered at Ardenwood every winter. Join a naturalist-led trek to their special place to see if they’ve returned, and learn how you can help these magnificent butterflies.

Healthy Parks Healthy People: Bay Area

Monthly activities and outings that provide safe, low-impact physical activity and improve health and well-being of all Bay Area residents, through regular use and enjoyment of the Regional Parks. Look for HHPHP.

Registration is required.

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MINI CHRISTMAS TREES  Ardenwood  Marianne Beacham 10:30-11:30 am, Sun, Dec 17 What’s cuter than a mini Christmas tree? We’ll make these winter ornaments out of pine cones and decorate to our heart’s desire. Meet at the Granary.

CHRISTMAS EVENING OPEN HOUSE @ THE PATTERSON HOUSE  Patterson House Staff & Docents 5:30-8:30 pm, Fri, Dec 8 #19212 Put yourself in the holiday spirit by visiting our Christmas Open House with your chance to see the Patterson House fully decorated for the holidays. Enjoy live music, Victorian inspired decorations and much more! Fee: Adults $7 in advance, $8 at the door. Children (12 and under) Free. Fees include park admission. Online registration at www.regerec.com. Info: (510) 791-4196 or email rkiehn@fremont.gov.

MYSTERIOUS MONARCHS  Ardenwood  Interpretive Staff & Mindy Castle 11 am-noon, Fri, Nov 24; Sat, Nov 25; 1-2 pm, Sun, Nov 26 Monarch butterflies gather at Ardenwood every winter. Come see if they return, learn about their amazing lifecycle, and make your own colorful caterpillar to take home.

MONARCHS AND MILKWEED  Big Break Interpretive Staff 10:30 am and 2 pm, Sat, Dec 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; Sun, Dec 3, 17; 1:30 pm, Sun, Dec 10, 24, 31; Thu, Dec 7, 14, 21, 28; 1:30 pm, Fri, Dec 8, 15, 22, 29 Meet at the greenhouse to look for monarch butterflies and eggs on the milkweed plants growing there. Then search for monarch butterflies in the nearby forest and learn how you can help ensure the survival of this iconic insect.

MARVELOUS MONARCHS  Ardenwood Interpretive Staff 12:30-1:30 pm, Sun, Dec 3; Sat, Dec 16, 30; 11 am-noon, Sun, Dec 10, 24, 31 Find out what life is like for monarch butterflies through a slide presentation, and then discover their lifecycle in action at our greenhouse. Find out how you can participate in monarch conservation! Meet at the Granary.

MONARCHS FOR KIDS  Ardenwood  Interpretive Staff 11:30 am and 1:30 pm, Mon, Jan 1 Start the year off right with an inspiring visit to our monarch butterfly nursery. Discover the amazing life cycle of these tiny creatures and how they survive the long cold season in the Bay Area.

DAY TIME CHRISTMAS TOURS AT THE PATTERSON HOUSE  Ardenwood Staff & Docents 11:30 am, noon, 1 pm, 2 pm & 3 pm, Sat & Sun, Dec 2-3, 9-10, 16-17 Begin your holiday season by seeing the historic Patterson House fully decorated for Christmas. Enjoy a docent led Christmas tour highlighting Victorian inspired decorations and holiday traditions from the late 1800s. House Tours are $2-$3 (plus winter rate park admission fee) and tickets are available at the house. Special shortened tour for children 6 and under offered at 11:30 am.

For booking a large group or inquiries about weekday tour schedule, please call 510-544-3289. Weekday group and public tours are available Thursdays and Fridays, December 7, 8, 14 & 15.

BIG BREAK  Interpretive Staff 2-3 pm, Sat, Nov 4 Explore the past’s presence while we follow the shoreline’s timeline: river to wetland, homeland to farmland, and flood to park.

DAWN CHORUS YOGA  Big Break Interpretive Staff/Brentwood Yoga Center 7-8 am, Sat, Nov 4, Dec 2 Enjoy 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.

BIG BREAK LITTLES  Big Break Nichole Gange 10-11 am, Mon, Nov 6, Dec 4 Bring the little ones out to discover nature. November welcomes a change in seasons. In December, we'll discover how animals stay warm. Parent/caregiver participation required. 1-5 yrs.

FALL FOLIAGE  Interpretive Staff 1-2 pm, Sat, Nov 4 Take in the Delta’s delightful colors of fall and learn about the trees in our park.

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE  Big Break Interpretive Staff 2-3 pm, Sun, Nov 12 Come find fun ways to reuse common household items, as well as some hints for recycling and reducing waste.

SCATOLOGY  Interpretive Staff Cat Taylor 9-11 am, Sat, Nov 18 Become a poopologist as we explore the fascinating world of scat and figure out who did that doo-doo! We’ll take a short walk to discover signs left behind.

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT  Big Break Nichole Gange 10 am-1 pm, Mon, Nov 20 Get ready for self-guided adventure! You’ll...
be following clues and searching high and low for objects hidden in our great outdoors. Drop in.

MACRO MAYHEM  
Big Break  
Interpretive Staff  
2-3pm, Sun, Nov 26  
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.

GIRL SCOUT-ANIMAL HABITAT  
Big Break  
Nichole Gange  
3:30-4:30pm, Wed, Dec 29 #19152  
Juniors, take steps to earn your Animal Habitats badge. We’ll investigate animal habitats. Daisies, Brownies, Cadettes and Seniors are welcome to participate. Adult participation required. Registration is required.

GIRL SCOUT-OUTDOOR ADVENTURER  
Big Break  
Nichole Gange  
3:30-4:30pm, Wed, Dec 13 #19150  
Juniors, take steps to earn your Outdoor Adventurer badge. We’ll explore nature and play outdoor games. Daisies, Brownies, Cadettes and Seniors are welcome to participate. Adult participation required. Registration Required.

BLACK DIAMOND  
Greathouse Visitor Center is open 10am-4:30pm, weekends March through November. Info: (510) 544-2750 or bvisit@ebparks.org. Programs meet in parking lot at south end of Somersville Road unless otherwise noted. Weekend parking fee: $5.

HAZEL-ATLAS SILICA-SAND MINE TOURS  
Black Diamond  
Interpretive Staff  
Various times, weekends, Mar-Nov  
Head underground on a guided tour of this geologically and historically intriguing silica sand mine. Reservation tours are offered at noon and 2pm and, for groups of 10-15 only, at 10am. First-come first-served tours are offered at noon and 3pm. No weekend tours December through February. 7+yrs.  
Registration is required.

PEOPLE, PLANTS, PLACE  
Coyote Hills  
Mahwish Deen  
11am-noon, Sun, Nov 5  
Join us for a flat, one-mile walk to look at a variety of plants. Identify natives and non-natives, and discover how we can become plant stewards for healthier ecosystems. 5+yrs.

STORIES UNDER AN OAK  
Coyote Hills  
Interpretive Staff  
3-4pm, Sun, Nov 5  
Settle in for story time under the canopy of a majestic oak. Parent participation required.

CART OF CURIOSITIES  
Coyote Hills  
Kristina Parkison  
1-3pm, Sat, Nov 11  
9-11am, Sat, Nov 18  
The Curiosity Cart, filled with wonders of cultural and natural history, is hidden somewhere within the park. Find it and discover the secrets it shares! Parent participation required.

OHZONE VILLAGE SITE TOUR  
Coyote Hills  
Interpretive Staff  
10am-noon & 1:30-3:30pm, Sun, Nov 12 & Dec 10, and Sat, Dec 23  
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.

SOUTH MARSH BIRD HIKE  
Coyote Hills  
Francis Mendoza  
8:30-10:30am, Sun, Nov 19  
Look for winter migrants, majestic raptors and maybe even a burrowing owl or two on this flat, easy hike. All levels of birding experience welcome. Bring water, sunscreen, and binoculars (or borrow ours). Meet at the Quarry Parking Lot. 15+yrs.

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 a presentation introducing the topic of the week, or participate at your own pace throughout the day. Parent participation required.
**Regional in Nature**

**November 2017**

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**November 6**

- **Tilden:** Woodrat the Builder, Fireside Storytime, Autumnal Afternoon Nature Walks

**November 7**

- **Kennedy Grove:** The Over-The-Hills Gang
- **Leona Canyon:** Hikes for Tykes

**November 8**

- **Martin Luther King Jr:** Kayaking for Folks 50+

**November 9**

- **Ardenwood:** Ride The Rails-Train Rides, Patterson House Tours, Animal Feeding

**November 10**

- **Ardenwood:** Ride The Rails-Train Rides, Patterson House Tours, Animal Feeding, Ride The Rails-Train Rides

**November 11**

- **Ardenwood:** Monarch Site Observer Training, The Itsy Bitty Spider, Felted Pumpkins, Patterson House Tours, Farmyard Games, Animal Feeding
- **Big Break:** Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
- **Coyote Hills:** Discovery Days, Cart of Curiosities, Cart of Curiosities
- **Crab Cove:** Family Nature Fun Hour: Tracks and Trails, Fish Feeding Time
- **Sunol:** Superb and Spectacular Snakes

**November 12**

- **Ardenwood:** Ride The Rails-Train Rides, Farm Chores For Kids, Patterson House Tours, We All Scream For Ice Cream!, Corn Mosaics, Animal Feeding
- **Big Break:** Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
- **Coyote Hills:** Discovery Days, Fall Foliage
- **Crab Cove:** Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun Hour: Lost on a Desert Island, Fish Feeding Time
- **Del Valle:** Mud Fun and Sandy Shores
- **Redwood:** Sunday Strolls
- **Tilden:** Poles: Basic Skills & Techniques Plus Hike, Farm Chores For Littles, Tule Float-Make a Mini Tule Boat

**November 13**

- **Briones:** Monday Birding
- **Sunol:** Outdoor Discoveries: Turkey Time!
- **Crab Cove:** Sea Squirts: How Does the Garden Grow?

**November 14**

- **Redwood:** Tuesday Evening Owl Walk

**November 15**

- **Ardenwood:** Toddler Time

**November 16**

- **Sobrante Ridge:** Wednesday Walk

**November 17**

- **Ardenwood:** Ride The Rails-Train Rides, Animal Feeding

**November 18**

- **Ardenwood:** Wake Up The Farm, Clay Pot Turkeys, "Oh, My Gourd!", Animal Feeding
- **Big Break:** Scatology, Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Reduce Reuse Recycle
- **Black Diamond:** Hazel Atlas 10AM Group Mine Tour, Hazel Atlas Mine Tours
- **Coyote Hills:** Discovery Days
- **Crab Cove:** Family Nature Fun Hour: Make It Rain, Fish Feeding Time

**November 19**

- **Ardenwood:** Ride The Rails-Train Rides, Stone Soup, Felted Pumpkins, Clothespin Dolls, Animal Feeding
- **Big Break:** Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
- **Coyote Hills:** South Marsh Bird Hike, Discovery Days
- **Crab Cove:** Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun Hour: Make it Rain, Fish Feeding Time
- **Del Valle:** Mud Fun and Sandy Shores
- **Redwood:** Sunday Strolls
- **Tilden:** Bobcat the Hunter, Fireside Storytime, Autumnal Afternoon Nature Walks

**November 20**

- **Big Break:** Nature Scavenger Hunt
- **Miller/Knox:** Monday Bir ding
- **Shadow Cliffs:** Lakeside Littles

**November 21**

- **Del Valle:** Park ’n Play
- **Garin:** Weekday Bird Walk

**November 22**

- **Redwood:** Hikes for Tykes
- **Sunol:** Take a Break: Bird is the Word, Take a Break: If Rocks Could Talk

**November 24**

- **Ardenwood:** Mysterious Monarchs, Return Of The Monarchs, Animal Feeding
- **Crab Cove:** Post Thanksgiving Holiday Fun
- **Redwood:** Burn the Turkey Hike

**November 25**

- **Ardenwood:** Chores For Little Farmers, Mysterious Monarchs, Return Of The Monarchs, Animal Feeding
- **Big Break:** Path of Salmon Marsh Creek Bike Ride, Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
- **Black Diamond:** Hazel Atlas 10AM Group Mine Tour, Hazel Atlas Mine Tours
- **Coyote Hills:** Discovery Days
- **Crab Cove:** Nature Craft Workshop, Family Nature Fun Hour: Turkey Time, Fish Feeding Time
- **Round Valley:** Vasco Caves Regional Preserve Tour
- **Sunol:** Sunol’s Rocky Past
- **Tilden:** Tilden Attractions Hike, Farm Chores For Littles, Meet the Newts

**November 26**

- **Ardenwood:** Wonderful Wool, Mysterious Monarchs, Meet The Bunnies, Animal Feeding
- **Big Break:** Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Macro Mayhem
- **Black Diamond:** Hazel Atlas 10AM Group Mine Tour, Hazel Atlas Mine Tours
- **Coyote Hills:** Ohlone People & Culture, Discovery Days, Turkey and Turkey Vultures
- **Crab Cove:** Storytime and Nature Fun, Thankful for the Bay Beach Cleanup, Family Nature Fun Hour: Turkey Time, Fish Feeding Time
- **Pleasanton Ridge:** Tortoise Trekkers
- **Round Valley:** Vasco Caves Regional Preserve Tour
- **Sunol:** “Indian Joe: The Man, The Myth, The Legend
- **Tilden:** Turkey the Survivor, Fireside Storytime

**November 27**

- **Coyote Hills:** Coyote Cubs: Turkey Vultures Ain’t Turkeys!
- **Sunol:** Outdoor Discoveries: Terrific Trees

**November 28**

- **Crab Cove:** Sea Squirts: Sounds of Nature
- **Quarry Lakes:** Weekday Bird Walk

**November 29**

- **Big Break:** Girl Scout - Animal Habitats
- **Coyote Hills:** Wednesday Walk

**November 30**

- **Ardenwood:** Animal Feeding
DECEMBER 1
Ardenwood: Animal Feeding

DECEMBER 2
Ardenwood: Wreath Making Workshop, Monarchs And Milkweed, Day Time Christmas Tours @ The Patterson House, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Dawn Chorus Yoga, Adventures in Delta Ethnobotany, Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Dashing Dragonflies
Brushy Peak: Vasco Caves Regional Preserve Tour
Contra Loma: Fishing - Trout Basics
Coitoy Hills: Coyote Hills Meander Hike, Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Songs and Stories by the Shore, Family Nature Fun Hour: Amazing Amphibians, Fish Feeding Time
Martinez Shoreline: “Down By The Bay, Where The ... HHP”
Sibley: Wake Up And Walk
Sunol: Seasons Greetings from Sunol!, Embossed Nature Ornament Making for Kids
Tilden: Ranger Coffee, Farm Chores For Littles, Off-leash Dog Recall and Safety, Naming the Stars

DECEMBER 3
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Wooly Lambs, Day Time Christmas Tours @ The Patterson House, Marvelous Monarchs, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
Coitoy Hills: Wetland Wander & Wonder, Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun Hour: Amazing Amphibians, Fish Feeding Time
Lake Chabot: Sunday Strolls
Las Trampas: Las Trampas ROCKS!
Round Valley: Vasco Caves Regional Preserve Tour
Tilden: Nature Ramble, Fireside Storytime, Jolly Holly Craft Time

DECEMBER 4
Big Break: Big Break Littles, Big Break Littles Picnic
Richmond: Monday Birding

DECEMBER 5
Coyote Hills: Weekday Bird Walk
Lake Chabot: Hikes for Tykes
Point Pinole: The Over-The-Hills Gang

DECEMBER 6
Big Break: Coffee Talk & Delta News
Morgan Territory: Wednesday Walk

DECEMBER 7
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding

DECEMBER 8
Ardenwood: Animal Feeding, Christmas Evening Open House @ The Patterson House

DECEMBER 9
Ardenwood: Monarchs & Milkweed, Monarchs For Kids, Day Time Christmas Tours @ The Patterson House, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Birding by Kayak, Delta Sunset Paddle
Coitoy Hills: Sedge Ornament, Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Hibernation And Migration Celebration, Family Nature Fun Hour: Sharks, Fish Feeding Time
Kennedy Grove: Poles: Basic Hiking Skills & Techniques (1 of 2), Poles Practice Hike (2 of 2)
Las Trampas: Fabulous Fungi
Martín Luther King Jr: Shoreline Habitat Restoration Volunteers
Quarry Lakes: Willow Pruning & Gathering
Tilden: Ranger Coffee, Farm Chores For Littles, South Park Salamander Surveys

DECEMBER 10
Ardenwood: Marvelous Monarchs, Day Time Christmas Tours @ The Patterson House, Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Archnid Adventures, Almost Winter Campfire
Coitoy Hills: Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun Hour: Sharks, Fish Feeding Time
Redwood: “Ladybug, Ladybug Where Do You Go!”
Round Valley: Vasco Caves Regional Preserve Tour
Sunol: Tortoise Trekkers
Tilden: Meet the Newts, Fireside Storytime, Acorn Ornaments

DECEMBER 11
McLaughlin Eastshore: Monday Birding
Sunol: Outdoor Discoveries: Welcome Winter

DECEMBER 12
Crab Cove: Sea Squirts: Magnificent Marine Mammals
Vargas Plateau: Weekday Bird Walk

DECEMBER 13
Big Break: Girl Scout - Outdoor Adventurer

DECEMBER 14
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding

DECEMBER 15
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding

DECEMBER 16
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Day Time Christmas Tours @ The Patterson House, Marvelous Monarchs, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Migratory Birds, Birding Basics for Beginners
Coitoy Hills: Discovery Days

DECEMBER 17
Ardenwood: Mini Christmas Tree, Monarchs And Milkweed, Day Time Christmas Tours @ The Patterson House, Marvelous Monarchs, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
Black Diamond: Christmas Berry
Coitoy Hills: North Marsh Bird Hike, Discovery Days, Ohlone People & Culture
Crab Cove: Storytime and Nature Fun, Family Nature Fun Hour: Nature Crafts, Fish Feeding Time
Roberts: Sunday Strolls
Sunol: Sensational Solstice High Peaks Hike
Tilden: Almost Solstice Amble, Fireside Storytime, Off-leash Dog Recall and Safety, DIY Festive Fragrances

DECEMBER 18
Point Pinole: Monday Birding
Sunol: Outdoor Discoveries: Welcome Winter

DECEMBER 19
Roberts: Hikes for Tykes
Tilden: The Over-The-Hills Gang

DECEMBER 20
Lake Chabot: Wednesday Walk

DECEMBER 21
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Winter Solstice Celebration
Tilden: Meet the Solstice Sun Hike

DECEMBER 22
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding

DECEMBER 23
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Monarchs For Kids, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Audubon Christmas Bird Count Week! Part 2, Scat Track Fever
Big Break Regional Trail: Audubon Christmas Bird Count Week! Part 1
Black Diamond: Mushroom Foray
Coitoy Hills: Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Holiday Traditions Open House, Family Nature Fun Hour: Let it Snow
Tilden: Ranger Coffee, Farm Chores For Littles, South Park Salamander Surveys

DECEMBER 24
Ardenwood: Marvelous Monarchs, Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
Crab Cove: Family Nature Fun Hour: Nature Crafts, Fish Feeding Time
Quarry Lakes: Willow Pruning & Gathering
Redwood: Going On A Critter Hunt
Round Valley: Around Round Valley
Shadow Cliffs: Beginner’s Guide to Winter Migration
Sunol: Brilliant Bird Beaks
Tilden: Ranger Coffee, Farm Chores For Littles, Walnut Shell Turtles, Owls of Winter

DECEMBER 25
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding
Big Break: BAYSIDE BEACH CLEANUP
Marsh Creek Regional Trail: Thursday Birding; Raptor Baseline

DECEMBER 26
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding

DECEMBER 27
Crab Cove: Birding For Kids

DECEMBER 28
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding

DECEMBER 29
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding
Crab Cove: Songs and Stories by the Shore, Critter Crafts

DECEMBER 30
Ardenwood: Monarchs And Milkweed, Marvelous Monarchs, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries, Mammals of the Marsh
Briones: Enigmatic Amphibians
Coitoy Hills: “Snakes, Stories and Spirals”, Discovery Days, Amazing World of Animal Senses
Crab Cove: Family Nature Fun Hour: New Year’s Beach Clean-Up, Fish Feeding Time
Redwood: Jumpstart The New Year’s Resolution Hike
Tilden: Ranger Coffee, Farm Chores For Littles, Intro To Bay Area Mushrooms

DECEMBER 31
Ardenwood: Marvelous Monarchs, Monarchs And Milkweed, Animal Feeding
Big Break: Testing The Water, Delta Discoveries
Contra Loma: Welcome Winter Walk
HPHP
Coitoy Hills: Discovery Days
Crab Cove: Storytime and Nature Fun, New Year’s (Eve) Resolution: Weed Warriors Unite, Family Nature Fun Hour: New Year’s Beach Clean-Up, Fish Feeding Time
Tilden: Fireside Storytime
AMERICA’S GOT TALONS ᐅ
COYOTE HILLS  Dino Labiste
November 30, 2017
10:00-11:00am
Get your preschooler out and into nature! We’ll play games, explore the park, and make a craft related to the theme of the day. 3-5yrs

COYOTE HILLS MEANDER HIKE ᐅ
COYOTE HILLS  Dino Labiste
December 13, 2017
1:00-2:00pm
Join us for a leisurely stroll on the trails through the marsh, bay, and short walk across the hills. Get out and get moving! 8+yrs.

WETLAND WANDER & WONDER ᐅ
COYOTE HILLS  Interpretive Staff
December 30, 2017
10:00-11:00am
What’s the connection between healthy wetlands, healthy people, and healthy curiosity? We’ll explore answers during this flat, one-mile walk, with stops for exploration along the way.

SEDE ORNAMENT ᐅ ᐅ
COYOTE HILLS  Dino Labiste
December 9, 2017
9:00-11:00am
Learn about the marsh plants called sedges. Explore the various cultural uses of this versatile plant family. 14+yrs. Registration is required.

NORTH MARSH BIRD HIKE ᐅ ᐅ
COYOTE HILLS  Francis Mendoza
December 18, 2017
8:30-10:30am
Look for shorebirds, white pelicans, and maybe even a burrowing owl or two on this flat, easy hike.  All levels of birding experience welcome. Bring water, sunscreen, and binoculars (or borrow ours). 13+yrs.

SSNAKES, STORIES, & SPIRALS ᐅ ᐅ
COYOTE HILLS  Dino Labiste
September 9, 11, 13, 20 & 22
9:00-11:00am
Meet the snakes that make Coyote Hills their home. Learn about their unique adaptations and how these slithering reptiles have become part of our folklore. Create a snake spiral craft to take home.

AMAZING WORLD OF ANIMAL SENSES ᐅ ᐅ
COYOTE HILLS  Dino Labiste
December 2 & 3
2:00-4:00pm
Imagine if you stuck your tongue out to smell the air or tasted your dinner by walking on it. Sound strange? These are all part of how some animals sense their environment. Join us for activities and experiments as we learn about animal super senses. 6+yrs.

CRAB COVE
Crab Cove Visitor Center is open Wed-Sun, 10am-4pm, closed Thu, Nov 23 for Thanksgiving and Dec 24 & 25 for Christmas, and offers aquariums and exhibits about San Francisco Bay. For information about naturalist programs or other activities, call (510) 544-3187, or ccoe@ebparks.org.

STORYTIME AND NATURE FUN ᐅ
CRAB COVE  Interpretive Staff
November 1, 8 & 15
10:30-11:30am, every Sun, Nov & Dec (except Dec 24)
Come meet characters like the Lorax, hermit crabs, and “Swimmy the Fish” through stories. Afterward, meet live animals, make nature crafts, do a scavenger hunt, or watch nature videos!

FAMILY NATURE FUN HOUR ᐅ
CRAB COVE  Interpretive Staff
November 2 & 9
2:30-3:30pm, every Sat & Sun, Nov & Dec (except Dec 24)
A chance to discover something new. Come explore with us and have fun with family-friendly activities.

NOV 4 & 5: Tracks and Trails – Look for footprints and evidence of animals.

FISH FEEDING TIME ᐅ ᐅ
CRAB COVE  Interpretive Staff
3:30-4:00pm, Every Sat & Sun, Nov & Dec (except Dec 24)
Learn about Bay creatures and get a good view of our crabs, flounder, perch, pipefish and more – while they eat. It’s like a dive in the Bay without getting wet!

ALAMEDA WALKS-ENCINAL BEACH
Crab Cove  Susan Ramos
9:10am Sat, Nov 4
Visit this lesser known part of Alameda on a walk along a small section of shoreline. We hope to see some harbor seals hauling out on a nearby dock.

REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN
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.

CLASSES THROUGH THE FRIENDS OF REGIONAL PARKS BOTANIC GARDEN
10am to 2pm, Sun, Nov. 5, 12, 19.
The Conifers of California with Glenn Keator, Ph.D. The first two sessions will be at the Botanic Garden Visitor Center. The last session will be a field trip in the Mt. St. Helena region. For more information and to register for this class, visit www.nativeplants.org.

WAYNE RODERICK LECTURE SERIES
Botanic Garden Visitor Center 10:30am, Sat, Nov 4, 11, 18, 25; Dec 2, 9, 16, 23
Classes run for a minimum of one hour (length varies). Free. Limited seating. For lecturer and topics, visit www.nativeplants.org.

DOCENT-LED GARDEN TOURS
Botanic Garden Visitor Center 2pm on Sat, and 11am & 2pm on Sun. All of these docent-led tours start in front of the Regional Parks Botanic Garden’s Visitor Center. Free. Rain cancels!

2018 DOCENT TRAINING CLASS
Regional Parks Botanic Garden 9am to 12:30pm, Tue Classes start on Jan 9, 2018 and run through June 12, 2018. Cost: $200.00 AND a membership in the Friends. Learn about California native plants and how to interpret them for school groups and general tours. For more information see www.nativeplants.org.

Quaking aspen (Populus tremuloides) at the Botanic Garden in winter.
HOLIDAY TRADITIONS
OPEN HOUSE
Crab Cove  Interpretive Staff
10am-4pm, Sat, Dec 23
Take a break from the last minute holiday hubbub for fun holiday traditions, stories, and crafts in the company of fish, crabs and more.

BIRDING FOR KIDS
Crab Cove  Michael Charnofsky
1:30-3pm, Wed, Dec 27
Observe, mimic, and identify our feathered friends as they feast on the mudflats’s small creatures. Finish with a birdy craft. Binoculars available. Rain cancels.

BAYSIDE BEACH CLEANUP
Crab Cove  Susan Ramos
2-4pm, Thu, Dec 28
Winter storms bring oodles of nurdles and other trash to our beach. Come out and help clean it up. Bring your own gloves and bucket or borrow ours.

SONGS AND STORIES BY THE SHORE
Crab Cove  Morgan Dill
10:30-11:30am, Sat, Dec 2 & Fri, Dec 29
Gather together to hear tales and sing songs about worms, fungus, leaves and flowers, predators and prey, and more!

CRITTER CRAFTS
Crab Cove  Morgan Dill
2-4pm, Fri, Dec 29
Create an animal masterpiece of your own during this drop-in creation station. All materials provided, but imagination is up to you.

Registration information — register beginning September 26
www.eparks.org/register or 1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS), option 2

DEL VALLE

OUTDOOR DISCOVERIES
Sunol  Ashley Adams
10-11:30am, Mon, Nov 13 #18772
Nov 27 #18774, Dec 11 #18775
Preschool & home school science series! Make playful and scientific discoveries outdoors. Wilderness Room. 4-8yrs.


THE FABULOUS ADVENTURES OF FLIES
Sunol  Constance Taylor
1-3pm, Sat, Nov 18, course #18721
They're everywhere, but what do we really know about them? Flies have fascinating lives that rival science fiction. They’re pollinators, disease-spreaders, and even crime-solvers, … come learn about these tiny anti-heroes! Green Barn Visitor Center. 5-7yrs. Registration is required.

SUNOL’S ROCKY PAST
Sunol  Interpretive Staff
1-2pm, Sun, Nov 26
Who was Indian Joe? Come discover this well-known ranch hand and learn about early ranching history while taking a short hike along the nature trail that’s named after him!

SUNOL

NATURE JOURNALING: SIGNS OF THE SEASON
Sunol  Constance Taylor
10am-noon, Sat, Nov 4
What happens when Sunol cools down? Fall colors, newts, and migrating hawks start to reveal themselves! We’ll walk with stops for guided journaling sessions to sharpen our observation skills.

SUPERB AND SPECTACULAR SNACKS
Sunol  Interpretive Staff
12-1pm, Sat, Nov 11
Venture into the exciting world of snakes, Learn about common misconceptions. Hear wild and uncommonly known facts. Scope out native species and see their impact on our Regional Parks.

Registration is required. Fee: $6 (non-res. $8).


SUNSET LOW-TIDE EXPLORATION
Crab Cove  Morgan Dill
4:30-6pm, Sun, Nov 5
The tide is out, the sun is setting, and the wonders of the mudflat are ready to be discovered. Wear shoes that can get muddy!

CREWonder Kids Challenge program HHP = Healthy Parks Healthy People program
WOODRAT THE BUILDER
Tilden Nature Area • Anthony Fisher
10am-noon, Sun, Nov 5
Other worldly wood piles and secret signs of the nocturnal architect whose creations define a haven for many in microhabitats sublime.

BOBCAT THE HUNTER
Tilden Nature Area • Anthony Fisher
10am-noon, Sun, Nov 12
Feline attitude and feline grace, long leg of leg, and the lily of face, stealthy silent, (almost) without a trace, even your scat is awesome.

COYOTE THE CREATOR
Tilden Nature Area • Anthony Fisher
10am-noon, Sun, Nov 19
A wild canine with a bushy tale, admired, hated, persecuted, revered. Creepy clever, capable creator, entwined with human endeavor.

TURKEY THE SURVIVOR
Tilden Nature Area • Anthony Fisher
10am-noon, Sun, Nov 26
Turkey tails and turkey trails, some successes and epic fails. Turkeys new and turkeys old, the turkey’s tale we do unfold.

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM SUNOL! • BIG BREAK: (510) 544-3050 • BLACK DIAMOND: (510) 544-2750 • BOTANIC GARDEN: (510) 544-3169 • COYOTE HILLS: (510) 544-3220 • CRAB COVE: (510) 544-3187 • SUNOL: (510) 544-3249 • TILDEN NATURE AREA: (510) 544-2233

11am-noon, Sat, Dec 16
Parent participation required.
Learn about trees in Sunol, then return to pond, then return to the Visitor Center to turn into seasonal cards you can print at home. Green Barn Visitor Center. 10+ yrs. Registration is required.
Fee: $6 (non-res. $8).

EMBOSSED NATURE ORNAMENT-MAKING FOR KIDS
Sunol Interpretive Staff 1-3pm, Sat, Dec 2, course #18732
Make a beautiful ornament using leaves! We’ll go on a short walk to collect materials and learn about trees in Sunol, then return to the Wilderness Room to get crafty. 5-12 yrs. Parent participation required.
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 tnairea@ebparks.org

ART EXHIBIT: GODLEN GATE
Tilden Nature Area • Trail Gail 10am-noon, Sat, Nov 4; 1:30-4pm, Tue-Sun, Nov & Dec
Come explore the craft of weaving with wonderful examples created by our local weavers guild! A variety of traditional and non-traditional fibers have been used to weave these masterpieces. Exhibit open for viewing in the Environmental Education Center during regular visiting hours.

FARM CHORES FOR LITTLES
Tilden Nature Area • Interpretive Staff 10:30-11am, Every Saturday in Nov & Dec
Little children will enjoy taking care of the little animals at the Little Farm. Meet at the rabbit hutch for a variety of age appropriate activities.

NATURE RAMBLE
Tilden Nature Area • Trail Gail 2-3pm, Sat, Nov 4; 10:30-noon, Sun, Dec 3
Come explore the Nature Area with a Naturalist. We’ll take a walk down to the lake looking for signs of the local wildlife.

FIRESIDE STORYTIME
Tilden Nature Area • Interpretive Staff
11-11:30am, Every Sunday in Nov & Dec Gather ‘round the fire for stories about farm animals, insects, nature and more.

AUTUMNAL AFTERNOON NATURE WALKS
Tilden Nature Area • Anthony Fisher
2-3:30pm, Sun, Nov 5, 12, 19
Easy walks around the Nature Area to enjoy a plethora of subtle seasonal delights.

TULE FLOAT – MAKE A MINI TULE BOAT
Tilden Nature Area • Trail Gail 1-2:30pm, Sat, Nov 11
Bull Rush or Tule has many uses, one is to make boats. Join a naturalist and make a mini tule boat, then we’ll go out and see if they float! Rain cancels.

TILDEN TOTS
Tilden Nature Area • Trent Pearce 2-3pm, Tue Nov 14
Join an outdoor, nature adventure program for 3-4 year olds, each accompanied by an adult (grandparents welcome!)!

MUSHROOM BLOOMS
Tilden Nature Area • Laura Graham 2-3pm, Sat, Nov 18
What is a mushroom? Where can you find them? Learn about the oncoming season of fungi and craft your very own specimen.

WHERE DOES OUR FOOD COME FROM?
Tilden Nature Area • Brianna Contaxis-Tucker 1-2pm, Sun, Nov 19
Leaf to flower, truck to store, eco health is at its core. Find out how much energy is required to transport our favorite foods to your door.

TILDEN ATTRACTIONS HIKE
Tilden Nature Area • Trail Gail 9am-noon, Sat, Nov 25
See the park in a different way – on foot. The trails are decked with different types of holly – fa la la, la la la. Let’s take a quick walk, and then work on a craft to deck your own halls.

NAMING THE STARS
Tilden Nature Area • Brianna Contaxis-Tucker 2-3pm, Sat, Dec 2
Weave dream catchers to hold in the good dreams or keep out the bad. Then hear some traditional tales about our night sky.

ACORN ORNAMENTS
Tilden Nature Area • Trail Gail 1-3pm, Sun, Dec 10
Learn to felt while making this easy acorn. But don’t forget to thank the sheep. They gave us their coat for this wooly craft.

WALNUT SHELL TURTLES
Tilden Nature Area • Laura Graham 2-3pm, Sat, Dec 16
Using our resident box turtle as a model, construct a strong little turtle of your own out of walnut and paper.

OWL’S OF WINTER
Tilden Nature Area • Trent Pearce 4:30-6pm, Sat, Dec 16
Take a quiet walk to listen and look for owls in the woods. Rain cancels.

ALMOST SOLSTICE AMBLE
Tilden Nature Area • Trail Gail 10am-noon, Sun, Dec 17
Stroll through the woods, taking time to observe and reflect. Visit lake and pond, then return to the Visitor Center to burn the yule log and ring in the year ahead.

DIY FESTIVE FRAGRANCES
Tilden Nature Area • Brianna Contaxis-Tucker 2-3pm, Sun, Dec 17
Using herbs from the garden, make a sachet of sweet smelling bath salts then decorate a bag to take the gift home in.
MEET THE SOLSTICE SUN HIKE
Tilden Nature Area  Trail Gail
6:15-8:30am, Thu, Dec 21
Rise with the sun on this early morning hike. We meet at the Nature Center and hike to the peak in hopes of greeting the solstice sun. BYOC – Bring your own coffee! And flashlight.

INTRO TO BAY AREA MUSHROOMS
Tilden Nature Area  Trent Pearce
1-4pm, Sun, Dec 30
Winter brings mushrooms! Learn to identify common mushroom families through a short slideshow, and then take a hike to see what’s fruiting in the park. Rain or shine!

OTHER PARKS
GETTING COMFORTABLE IN THE WOODS HPHP
Diablo Foothills  Kevin Dixon
9:30-11:30am, Sat, Nov 4
Join your neighbors for an easy walk up Pine Creek, and learn what to look out for, and how to stay safe on the trail.

MONDAY BIRDING
Various Parks  Anthony Fisher
9am-noon, Mon, Nov 6, 13, 20, Dec 4, 11, 18
Spend a few moments with the winged ones whose chants and poetry reverberate, unbroken throughout the epochs and seasons.

TUESDAY EVENING OWL WALK
Redwood  Susan Ramos
6-8pm, Tue, Nov 14
At dusk the forest comes alive. Take a walk listening for sounds of nocturnal life. We hope to hear elusive owls calling. Bring a small flashlight. Dress warmly. Meet at the Canyon Meadow Staging Area. Heavy rain cancels.

A WALK FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS HPHP
Shadow Cliffs  Ashley Grenier
10am-noon, Sun, Nov 19, course #18780
"It is in nature where we truly connect with the mother and ourselves." Expectant parents will enjoy this leisurely walk in the fresh, cool air, stretching your legs, and reconnecting. Expectant mother, naturalist Ashley Grenier, will be your guide. Main entrance. Registration is required.

LAKESIDE LITTLES HPHP
Shadow Cliffs  Ashley Grenier
10-11am, Mon, Nov 20, Dec 18
Bring your little ones out to discover nature. Each month we'll explore a trail, look at bugs, search for birds, and much more. Let's get outside! Parent/caregiver participation required. 1-5yrs. Main Entrance. Registration is required.

WEEKDAY BIRD WALK HPHP
Various Parks  Interpretive Staff
7:30-9:30am, Tue
Nov 21 Garin (meet at Visitor Center)
Nov 28 Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area – Isherwood Staging Area
Dec 5 Coyote Hills (meet at Visitor Center)
Dec 12 (Vargas Plateau Regional Preserve)
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.
12+yrs. Info: (510) 544-3220.

BURN THE TURKEY HIKE
Redwood  Susan Ramos
10am-noon, Fri, Nov 24
It’s time to work off your holiday meal! This 2.5 mile winter walk is designed to burn the calories yet feed the soul, as we hike the steep, forested slopes of the West Ridge, Tres Sendas, and Stream trails. Meet at the Skyline Gate. Heavy rain cancels.

TORTOISE TREKKERS HPHP
Various parks  Ashley Adams
8-11am, Sun, Nov 26, course #18803
9am-noon, Sun, Dec 10, course #18805
Calling all Meanderthals! For those who want to more intimately explore the parks at a leisurely pace. Life is about the journey, not just the destination! 7+ yrs.

WILLow PRUNING & GATHERING HPHP
Quarry Lakes  Dino Labiste
2-4:30pm, Sat, Dec 9 & 18
Find out about Ohlone land management techniques to tend nature, then apply those methods to increase the health, extent, and habitat potential of a lakeside willow patch. Help us prune and gather willow for use in next year’s cultural programs. Meet in the parking lot behind kiosk. 16+yrs. Registration is required.

Registration information — register beginning September 26
www ebparks org/register or 1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS), option 2

$ = Register at www ebparksonline org  ₵= Disabled accessible program  ₷= Parking fee may be charged  �rollable = Kids Challenge program  HPHP = Healthy Parks Healthy People program

vasco caves regional preserve tour
vasco caves  interpretive staff
9am-2pm, Sat, Nov 18 #18898 Nov 25 #18907, Dec 2 #18910
Sun, Nov 5 #18891, Nov 26 #18909, Dec 3 #18912, Dec 10 #18917
Hike 2.5 miles through windswept land which is sacred to local California Indian communities and a refuge for golden eagles, fairy shrimp, and tiger salamanders. The Preserve is only accessible through guided tours, which stage at Round Valley (November 18, 25, 26, December 3, 10) or Brushy Peak (November 5, December 2). 10+yrs. Fee: $30 (non-res $34). Registration is required.
BEGINNER’S GUIDE TO WINTER MIGRATION
Shadow Cliffs Constance Taylor 9-11am, Sat, Dec 16
Which birds winter at Shadow Cliffs? We’ll look for visitors and learn about why the Arroyo and quarry-turned-lake are so attractive to them. Great for families and beginning birders! Lakeside picnic area.

GOING ON A CRITTER HUNT
Redwood Bellal Naderi & Morgan Dill 10am-noon, Sat, Dec 16
Salamanders, ladybugs, rainbow trout, creepy crawlies and more are waiting to be uncovered and discovered on our exploration of the wintertime forest.

JUMPSTART THE NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTION HIKE
Redwood Morgan Dill 9am-noon, Sat, Dec 30
Get 2018 started on the right foot (early) out on the trail with a 5-mile hilly challenge hike that dips down to the creek and back up again, with redwoods, prairies, and more. Meet at the Trudeau Center.

ENIGMATIC AMPHIBIANS
Briones Kevin Dixon 9:30am-1:30pm, Sat, Dec 30
Salamanders rarely appear before us. They are delicate, yet survive summer’s heat and thrive in winter’s cold. We’ll search the places they dwell for a closer look. 8+ yrs.

THURSDAY BIRDING: RAPTOR BASELINE
Various Parks Mike Moran 9-11am, Thu, Dec 28 #19145
Marsh Creek: Cypress Staging Area
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. Registration is required.

WELCOME WINTER WALK HPHP
Contra Loma Eddie Willis 9am-noon, Sun, Dec 31
Walk three miles around the lake looking for signs of the season. Meet at Frederickson Lane on the Black Diamond/Contra Loma border. Rain cancels. 8+ yrs.

NEW YEAR’S EVE SANDHILL CRANE FLY-IN
Consumes River Preserve Cat Taylor 2-6pm, Sun, Dec 31 #19156
The Consumes River hosts one of the great migratory spectacles along the Pacific Flyway. Spend the afternoon viewing waterfowl and raptors before observing the evening fly-in at sunset and moonrise. Registration is required.

LADYBUG, LADYBUG WHERE DO YOU GO?
Redwood Michael Charnofsky 10am, Sun, Dec 10
Where would you go if you were a hibernating ladybird beetle? Walk along the beautiful Stream Trail up to 3 miles where we will hopefully find them by the thousands.

AROUND ROUND VALLEY
Round Valley Kevin Dixon 9am-2pm, Sat, Dec 16
Once a gathering place for Native Americans, long a home for golden eagles, kit foxes, and tiger salamanders. Explore the park on a moderately strenuous hike.

WEDNESDAY WALKS
Various Locations Interpretive Staff 9:30am-12:30pm. Explore new trails, make new friends and learn about your parks on a Naturalist-led hike. 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.

Nov 1 Garin/Dry Creek Christina Garcia Meet at Dry Creek entrance on May Road for a 4.5 mile strenuous hike up Tolman Peak. Info: (510) 544-3282

Nov 15 Sobrante Ridge Trail Gail Meet at the Conestoga Way entrance to hike a hilly 5.5 mile trail in search of the rare Alameda Manzanita. Info: (510) 544-2233

Nov 29 Coyote Hills Francis Mendoza Salt ponds, bay views and a peek through shady forest and sunny chaparral with nice views.

Dec 6 Morgan Territory Christina Garcia A moderately strenuous 5-mile ramble along Bob Walker Ridge. Info: (510) 544-3220

Dec 20 Anthony Chabot Susan Ramos Get rid of your winter blues or stress on this 4+ mile hilly loop near Lake Chabot. Meet at Proctor Staging area on Redwood Road. Info: (510) 544-3187

NEW YEAR’S EVE RESOLUTION HIKE
Redwood Morgan Dill 9am–noon, Sat, Dec 30
Get ready to ring in 2018 with a 5-mile hilly challenge hike that dips down to the creek and back up again, with redwoods, prairies, and more. Meet at the Trudeau Center.

WILD GAME: RESOLUTION HIKE
Redwood Morgan Dill 9am-noon, Sat, Dec 30
Get ready to ring in 2018 with a 5-mile hilly challenge hike that dips down to the creek and back up again, with redwoods, prairies, and more. Meet at the Trudeau Center.

WILDZONE WARRIORS UNITE!
Various Parks Interpretive Staff 10:30am-12:30pm, Sat, Dec 30
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.

HIKES FOR TKYES
Various Parks Interpretive Staff 10:30-11:45am, Tue, Nov 7, 21 & Dec 5, 19
Enjoy some nature before naptime with your young child! Join naturalists as they take you over hill and dell to explore the fabulous flora and fauna of the Regional Parks. Tools for exploration will be provided. Hikes average about 1 mile. Bring a snack. Strollers are not recommended for most hikes. Parking fees apply. Rain cancels. Info: (510) 544-3187.

WILDLIFE VOLUNTEERS – “SHOREBIRD SANCTUARY”
Martin Luther King Jr Regional Shoreline, Oakland Doc Quack, Wildlife Biologist Noon-2:30, Sat, Nov 4 #19078
An exciting adventure over land and water to create nesting habitat for the threatened Western Snowy Plover awaits you. You will help move bulk sand and shells, pull weeds, thereby crafting ideal/idyllic courtship conditions for breeding plovers, avocets and stilts.

By participating, you’ll earn your “Shorebird Sanctuary” patch. Physical labor is involved with this project. Parent participation required. We recommend: Outdoor clothing (long pants), hiking boots (close-toed footwear), gloves, hats, water, and sunscreen. Meet at the King Fisher Picnic Area parking lot. Deadline to sign-up is 10/27/17. Registration is required.

NEW YEAR’S (EVE) RESOLUTION: WEE WARRIORS UNITE!
Crab Cove Michael Charnofsky 10:30am-12:30pm, Sun, Dec 31
Resolve to help Crab Cove’s native plant and butterfly gardens by pulling out noxious weeds and beautifying the landscape! Bring a friend. Snacks, hot cider, and tools provided. Constant rain cancels. Info: (510) 544-3187.

VOLUNTEER
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 for further information.

For programs that indicate “Registration is required,” register by calling 1-888-EBPARKS (1-888-327-2757), option 2, or by calling the number listed.

ONLINE registration is available if the program title displays this symbol: . Go to www.ebparksonline.org. When registering online, use the course code printed next to the program date(s).

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 requires a VISA or Mastercard. The Reservations Office is open between 8:30am-4:30pm Mondays through Thursdays and 8:30am and 4pm on Fridays (closed weekends and holidays). Call 1-888-EBPARKS (327-2757) and select option 2. 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.

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 information.

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.
Return of the Monarchs

Come greet the beautiful monarch butterflies as they flutter into the eucalyptus grove at Ardenwood Historic Farm for the winter.

- Nature programs
- Slide shows
- Naturalist-led treks
Monarch events scheduled throughout late November and December. Or just stop by the park any time to observe this fascinating phenomenon on your own!
Open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday. Closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas.

East Bay Regional Park District

A BELOVED EAST BAY FAMILY TRADITION AT THE HISTORIC 1911 CAROUSEL

Christmas at the Carousel
TILDEN PARK MERRY-GO-ROUND

Santa and his Elves! • Unique Ornaments • Bread Cookies
Hot Chocolate and Gingerbread • Christmas Trees
Visit the Candyshop for a Tasty Treat!

November 24 to December 23
11/24-11/26, noon-8:30 p.m.; 11/27-12/15, 4-8:30 p.m.; 12/16-12/23, noon-8:30 p.m.
The carousel is closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

East Bay Regional Park District

Christmas at the Patterson House
Celebrate a Victorian-style Christmas at a beautifully restored Queen Anne mansion

- Live music
- Refreshments
- More than 20 decorated Christmas trees
- Victorian-style holiday ornaments
Tours: Sat. & Sun. Dec. 2-3, 9-10, and 16-17
Holiday open house: Dec. 8, 5:30-8:30 p.m.
$7/advance, $8 at the door, 12 yrs & under FREE.
Info: (510) 791-4196 or rkiehn@fremont.gov

ARDENWOOD HISTORIC FARM
34600 Ardenwood Blvd., Fremont (Hwy 84, east of the Dumbarton Bridge)

East Bay Regional Park District

LOVE YOUR PARKS...
GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Share your love for the Regional Parks with a friend or family member with a gift of membership this holiday season.

Give the gift that lasts all year. We will send a Gift of Membership package to you or directly to the recipient.

Please call or email 510-544-2220 or Membership@ebparks.org by December 8 to ensure timely delivery for the holidays.

RegionaL ParkS Foundation
Supporting East Bay Regional Parks