

# Big Break

JULY & AUGUST 2018

## NATURALIST PROGRAMS

Programs meet at the Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

Big Break Visitor Center is open Wednesday - Sunday from 10am-4pm, (510) 544-3050.

### DELTA DISCOVERIES

**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

**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.

### TINY BIRD, BIG PERSONALITY- GUESS WHO?

**10am-11am, Sun, Jul 1**

**10am-11am, Sun, Aug 19**

Discover how these tiny birds may look fragile but their big personality makes them fierce! Join us as we dispel myths and uncover the truth about hummingbirds.

### SECOND SUNDAYS CAMPFIRE

**6:30-8pm, Sun, Jul 8**

**6:30-8pm, Sun, Aug 12**

Gather the family for an evening in the park! Bring a picnic dinner to enjoy before the festivities begin! We'll explore the wonders of Big Break through activities and a family campfire (and s'mores of course!)

### BIG BREAK LITTLES

**10-11am**

**Mon, Jul 2 & Tue, Jul 10**

**Mon, Aug 6 & Tue, Aug 14**

Bring the little ones out to the park to explore nature. In July we'll use the sun to make shadows and in August we'll see what animals live underwater. 1-5yrs

### COFFEE TALK & DELTA NEWS

**8:30-9am, Wed, Jul 11**

**8:30-9am, Wed, Aug 1**

From tunnels to research projects, farming to fish stocks, the Delta is in the news. Stop by the Visitor Center for coffee and discussion of science and events shaping the region.

### MACRO MAYHEM

**2-3pm, Sat, Jul 14**

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.

### CATCH OF THE DAY

**9-3pm, Sat, Jul 7**

California's **2018 FREE Fishing Day** is July 7th! Come to Big Break and learn the basics of fishing. Gear, bait and instruction provided. Fishing is limited to one hour per participant. Families welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

### STARRY STARRY NIGHT

**8:30pm-10pm, Sat, Jul 14**

Sit back in your celestial armchair and enjoy star stories from around the world as we learn to navigate around the summer skies! Bring a flashlight, blanket or reclining camp chair (optional).

### FISH DAY FISH PRINTING

**9-10:30am, Sat, Jul 7**

Discover the beautiful art of gyotaku (fish printing) as part of our Catch of the Day event. We'll print on paper, but participants may bring their own fabric for a special project.

### WATERCOLOR LANDSCAPE

**2-3pm, Sun, Jul 22**

How could one depict a landscape before the invention of a camera? Let's take in the scenery and get creative with watercolor paints!

### FRESHWATER FISH FUN

**2-3pm, Sat, Jul 7**

Fins, gills, tails and scales: come reel in some amazing facts about Delta fish.

FISH FEEDING at 10:30am & 3pm

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## HOWLING AT THE MOON

**7:30-9pm, Wed, Jul 25**

**7-8:30pm, Sun, Aug 26**

Crouch down and listen. We're going to explore Big Break using our senses like a coyote during the full moon.

## SUMMER FOLIAGE

**2-3pm, Sat, Jul 28**

Take in the Delta's delightful colors of summer and learn about the trees in our park.

## CRITTER CLUES

**2-3pm, Sun, Aug 5**

Come discover which animals roam our wetlands! Examine chewed branches, listen to bird calls and keep a lookout for animal tracks as you become a Big Break critter detective.

## ARACHNID ADVENTURES

**2-3pm, Sat, Aug 11**

Our eight-legged residents are prowling the park for food! Drop by to learn about spiders and join us in fun arachnid activities!

## PERSEIDS METEOR SHOWER

**8-9:30pm, Sat, Aug 11**

Enjoy this annual celestial event as meteors dance across a backdrop of stars. Bring a flashlight, your own blanket/reclining chair and dress for evening breezes. Meet at the amphitheater.

## NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

**10am-4pm, Fri, Aug 17**

**10am-4pm, Sat, Aug 18**

**10am-4pm, Sun, Aug 20**

Have you taken a nature photo in one of the East Bay Regional Parks that you would like to share with others? Enter our photography exhibition! Email [bigbreakvisit@ebparks.org](mailto:bigbreakvisit@ebparks.org) for info. Entries due August 4. Reception/photo hike August 17. Photography display Fri, Aug 17 to Sun, Aug 19th.

## RAMBUNCTIOUS REPTILES

**2-3pm, Sun, Aug 19**

Snakes, Turtles, Lizards, Oh My! Come join us on a sunny stroll while learning about local reptiles.

## CHALK THE WALKS

**6-8pm, Tue, Aug 21**

Transform the park patio into art. Join the 7th annual international Chalk the Walks event of spreading joy, optimism and inspiration through the magical power of sidewalk chalk. Chalk provided.

## BOUNTIFUL BIRDS

**2-3pm, Sat, Aug 25**

Fly on in for some winged-wonder. We'll soar through fun facts about beaks, eggs, feathers & feet!

## REGISTRATION REQUIRED PROGRAMS

### THURSDAY BIRDING: RAPTOR BASELINE

**9-11:30am, Thu, Jul 26 #22062**

**Marsh Creek: Cypress Staging Area**

**9-11:30am, Thu, Aug 30 #22063**

**Round Valley Regional Preserve**

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. We'll meet at a different park on the last Thursday of each month (EXCEPT Sep and Nov) Join in for one or all. Registration required.

### KAYAKING BIG BREAK

**9-11:30am, Sat, Jul 21 #22155**

**1-3:30pm, Sat, Jul 21 #22156**

**9-11:30am, Sat, Aug 4 #22157**

**1-3:30pm, Sat, Aug 4 #22158**

*Naturalist Cat Taylor & Recreation Staff*

Come ply the welcoming and wondrous waters of the Delta on this beginner (& up) kayak excursion. We'll start off with dry land instruction then paddle our steady and stable craft on a group exploration of this lovely, rich shoreline. \$30

### SUNSET & FULL MOON PADDLE

**6:30-9pm Wed, Jul 25 #21852**

*Naturalist Cat Taylor & Recreation Staff*

Paddle as the light of the setting sun and the rising moon sparkles on the waves. After dry-land instruction, we'll wend our way in our steady and stable tandem kayaks. \$30

**To register for a program please  
call 888-327-2757 option 2  
or visit [www.ebparks.org](http://www.ebparks.org)**