

Big Break

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER
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.

BEAVERS IN THE SLOUGH

2-3pm Sun, Sep 2

Flat tail, orange teeth and stinkier than a skunk! Let's explore the life and times of North America's largest rodent.

BIG BREAK HISTORY

2-3pm, Sun, Sep 16

Explore the past's presence while we follow the shoreline's timeline: river to wetland, homeland to farmland, and flood to park.

BIG BREAK LITTLES

10-11am, Tue, Sep 4

10-11am, Mon, Oct 1

10-11am, Tue, Oct 2

Bring the little ones out to the park to explore nature. Bring the little ones out to the park to explore nature. In September we'll use our senses to explore the natural world and in October we'll discover wild creepers and crawlers. 1-5yrs

CITIZEN SCIENCE- BIRDING THREE CREEKS

9-11am, Sun, Sep 16

Let's identify and record birds found along the Three Creeks Restoration area of Marsh Creek. All birding levels welcome! Bring binoculars, we'll have some to loan.

COFFEE TALK & DELTA NEWS

8:30-9am, Wed, Sep 5

8:30-9am, Wed, Oct 3

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

PLANKTON PLUNGE

2-3pm, Sat, Sep 22

Collect and identify some of the smallest creatures of the Delta: plankton. Examine their habits and learn the vital role they play in our ecosystem.

WATERCOLOR LANDSCAPE

2-3pm, Sat, Sep 8

Step back in time: how could you capture a landscape without a camera or a phone? Let's take in the scenery and get creative with watercolor paints.

VOLUNTEERS RESTORING THE DUNES!

2-4pm, Sun, Sep 23

Help restore a small piece of the dunes as we battle invasives and re-establish native plants! Bring water, work gloves, hat, dress for the weather and prepare for general grubbiness.

SECOND SUNDAYS CAMPFIRE

6:30-8pm, Sun, Sep 9

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!)

CITIZEN SCIENCE- BATWATCH!

6-8:30pm, Sun, Sep 23

Bats at Big Break? Let's find out which bats call this place home as we monitor a foraging location. Bring a flashlight and portable chair. Dress in dark, quiet clothing.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

2-3pm, Sun, Sep 30

Love your planet by recycling! Come find fun ways to reuse common household items, as well as some hints for recycling and reducing waste.

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SCAT TRACK FEVER
2-3pm, Sat, Oct 6

What animals roam our wetlands? Catch "scat track fever" and find out through the clues they leave behind.

LISTEN LIKE AN OWL
2-3pm, Sat, Oct 13

Let's trek our trails to discover how these nocturnal predators find food at night!

**SOLAR VIEWING THAT'S
OUT OF THIS WORLD**
2-5pm, Sun, Oct 14

Observe the star at the center of our solar system. We'll explore our sun, the most important source of energy for life on Earth. Co-hosted with Mount Diablo Astronomical Society.

STARRY STARRY NIGHT
6:30-8:15pm, Sun, Oct 14

Learn to navigate the autumn skies and perhaps spy a shooting star from the Orionids meteor shower! Bring flashlight, blanket or reclining camp chair (optional).

MAMMALS OF THE MARSH
2-3pm, Sat, Oct 20

Discover some of the Delta's furry cuties: river otters, beavers, minks, and more. Explore their similarities, differences, and adaptations to the unique habitat they call home.

OH BATS!
2-3pm, Sun, Oct 28

For the month of Halloween, let's learn about these fascinating, flying, furry creatures.

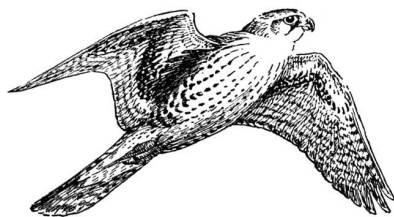
REGISTRATION REQUIRED PROGRAMS

THURSDAY BIRDING: RAPTOR BASELINE
9-11:30am, Oct 25 #22203

Morgan Territory: Parking Lot

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 & NOV!).

Join in for one or all.
Registration required.



SUNSET & FULL MOON PADDLE

5:30-8pm Mon, Sep 24 #22650

4:30-7pm Mon, Oct 22 #22651

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

BIG BREAK END-TO-END PADDLE

9-Noon, Sun, Sep 30 #22545

Naturalist Cat Taylor & Recreation Staff

Come ply the welcoming and wondrous waters of the Delta on this longer 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 from end-to-end. \$30

BIRDING BY KAYAK

9-11:30am Sun, Oct 7 # 22652

Naturalist Cat Taylor & Recreation Staff

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 steady and stable craft on a group birding exploration. \$30

**To register for a program please
call 888-327-2757 option 2
or visit www.ebparks.org**