

Big Break

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2019

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.

PARK PUPS

9:30-11am, Thu, Jan 3

Bring your pup out on a nature walk! Let's learn about all the different tails that share the trails. Bring water & treats for you and your companion. 2 miles. Dogs on leash.

SOARING HIGH LIKE A KITE

2-3pm, Sun, Jan 20

It's a bird! It's a plane! It's a white-tailed Kite! These hawks hover just like paper kites. Explore the bird kind while making your own paper kind!

FAMILY GAME NIGHT AND CAMPFIRE

5:30-7:30pm, Sat, Jan 5

Early winter nightfall is the perfect opportunity for a warming campfire! Bring your favorite card or board game, skit ideas, cozy blanket and flashlight. Hot chocolate & s'mores provided.

OUTSTANDING OTTERS

2-3pm, Sat, Jan 26

Discover how river otters differ from sea otters. Come along to find river otter clues in our park.

THE GREATNESS IN GROSS

2-3pm, Sun, Jan 6

Nature can be a little gross... but that's great! Come join us to learn more about the yucky side of nature and why it's so fascinating!

DUNES DAY RESTORATION!

9-11am, Sun, Jan 27

Help restore a small piece of the historic dunes as we remove invasive weeds and re-establish native plants! Bring water, gloves, hat, closed-toed shoes, dress for weather and prepare for general grubbiness.

BIG BREAK LITTLES

10-11am, Mon, Jan 7

10-11am, Tue, Jan 8

10-11am, Mon, Feb 4

10-11am, Tue, Feb 5

Bring the little ones out to the park to explore nature. January - Discover the magic of rain. February - Mammals of Big Break.

VISITORS FROM AFAR

2-3pm Sun, Feb 2

Plants and animals from around the globe have settled in at Big Break. Lets take a look at what this means to our Delta ecosystem.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

2-3pm, Sat, Jan 12

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

CRITTER CLUES

2-3pm Sat, Feb 9

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

KING TIDES AND WETLAND SPONGES

12:30-2pm, Sat, Jan 19

Wetlands absorb the rising waters of a King Tide. Discover what causes King Tides and watch the wetlands change during one of the highest tides of the year!

PUPPET SHOW-HUMPHREY

10-11am, Sat, Feb 16

Did a whale get lost in the Delta? This puppet show will reveal the true story of Humphrey the Whale and his adventure away from home.

THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

2-4pm, Sun, Feb 17

Join the worldwide community of birders during this popular annual event. All levels welcome! Bring binoculars/spotting scope if you have them; we have some to loan.

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LOVE YOU, EARTH!

2-3pm, Sun, Feb 17

Express your artistic love for Earth, as we take a stroll through our little corner of the planet. Supplies for painting and writing will be provided.

HOOT OWLS FAMILY EXPLORATION!

5:30-7:30pm, Sun, Feb 17

Hoooo goes there? Families will delve into the nocturnal world of owls tonight as we trek o-er darkening trails listening for screeches, hoots, and clicks in the night. Bring flashlights.

SSSSSSNAKE!

8-11am, Sat, Feb 23

A special visitor is coming! Drop in anytime between 8am and 11am to meet a snake & learn about its life & habitat.

PLANKTON PLUNGE

2-3pm, Sat, Feb 23

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.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED PROGRAMS

BIRDING DOW WETLANDS

Dow Wetlands

9-12:30pm, Sun, Jan 6 #23561

Welcome to the Pacific Flyway! We'll seek out the winter avian abundance on a leisurely stroll into this special wildlife habitat preserve. Free

BIRDING BY KAYAK—LONGER PADDLE

9-12:30pm, Sun, Jan 13 #23758

Come ply the welcoming and wondrous waters of the Pacific Flyway 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. Ages 8+yrs. \$40 (Resident) and \$44 (Non-Resident)

SUNSET AND FULL MOON PADDLE

3:30-6:00pm, Sun, Jan 20 #23745

4:00-6:30pm, Mon, Feb 18 #23746

Paddle as the light of the setting sun and the rising moon sparkles on the waves. After dry-land instruction, we will wend our way in our steady and stable tandem kayaks. Ages 8+yrs. \$30 (Resident) and \$34 (Non-Resident)

KAYAKING IS FOR THE BIRDS!

9-11:30am, Sun, Feb 3 #23702

What better way to see birds than by kayaking? We will begin with dry land instruction then paddle our steady and stable kayaks on a group exploration of resident and winter migrant birds. Ages 8+yrs. \$30\$ (Resident) and \$34 (Non-Resident)

KAYAKING BIG BREAK

1-3:30pm, Sun, Feb 3 #23705

\$30\$ (Resident) and \$34 (Non-Resident),

Come ply the welcoming and wonderous waters of the Pacific Flyway. We'll start with dry land instruction then paddle our steady and stable craft on a group exploration of this lovely, rich shoreline from end-to-end. Ages 8+yrs. \$30 (Resident) and \$34 (Non-Resident)

THURSDAY BIRDING: RAPTOR BASELINE

9-11:30am, Thu, Jan 31 #23912

Big Break Regional Shoreline

9-11:30am, Thu, Feb 28 #23829

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 each month (EXCEPT Sept & NOVEMBER!). Join in for one or all. Free

WORLD WETLAND DAY

9-11am, Sat, Feb 2 #23827

Marsh Creek: Cypress Staging Area

Join the international celebration of wetlands! We'll walk down Marsh Creek Trail to see the wetland restoration project at Dutch Slough. 2.2 Miles round trip. Bring water & snack. Free

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY A LA IPHONE

8:30-12pm, Sun, Feb 24 #23659

Do you love taking nature photos with your iPhone? Discover simple tricks for better results, iPhone editing and then share in a group critique. Bring charged iPhone & back up charger. Free

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