Ours to Explore, Enjoy and Protect

Please enjoy the Regional Parks safely, and help protect and preserve the parklands by complying with park rules and regulations.

Safety and Courtesy
- Keep the parks beautiful. Please pack out what you pack in.
- Stay on trails. Taking shortcuts can be dangerous and causes erosion.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. There are bike racks at the Dotson Family Marsh staging area and Atlas parking lot.
- Horses have the right-of-way on trails. Horses are not allowed in the Dotson Family Marsh Area.
- State law requires that bicyclists under age 18 wear an approved helmet, and the Park District strongly recommends that all bicyclists and equestrians wear helmets at all times.
- Carry and drink plenty of water. Dehydration is a leading cause of injuries on the trail.
- Feeding or approaching wildlife is dangerous and illegal.

Rules
- Dogs must be leashed within 200 feet of park entrance parking lots, picnic areas, developed areas such as lawns and play fields and on some trails. They may be off leash (under voice control) in open areas. They are not permitted at all on the pier or in the marshes or pond.
- Dogs must always be on leash in the Dotson Family Marsh Area.
- Parking and dog fees are enforced when the entry kiosk is attended on weekends and holidays. Service dogs are free.
- No motorized vehicles are allowed.
- Drakes are prohibited.
- Collecting plants, seeds, rocks, etc. is prohibited.

Visitors are responsible for knowing and complying with park rules (Ordinance 38), available at ebparks.org/rules.

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Welcome to Point Pinole Regional Shoreline

Year opened: 1973
Acres: 2,432

Highlights: Hiking, biking, birding, fishing, camping, picnicking, volleyball, horseshoes, children’s play area.

Point Pinole in Richmond, designated as a state historic landmark, offers a variety of scenic trails leading through marshlands, eucalyptus woods, and beaches on San Pablo Bay. Along the bay trails are spectacular views of Mt. Tamalpais and the Marin shoreline. The climate at Point Pinole is influenced by breezes and fog from the bay and offers a cool respite from the hot inland weather.

The park includes several picnic areas, a fishing pier, a group campsite, a climbing structure for children’s play, a bridge over the railroad tracks. The new vehicle and pedestrian and bicycle trail that allows continuous travel around the San Francisco Bay.

Activities
From the main staging area, Park visitors can travel south along the Bay Trail towards the Dotson Family Marsh and visit the beautiful, lono tree located off the China Clipper Trail; or venture north, among eucalyptus groves, toward the children’s playground and enjoy a game of horseshoes.

Fishing
The 1,250-foot pier at the north-west point of the park was jointly built in 1977 by the Park District and the California Department of Fish and Game. Although a California state fishing license is required to fish along the 5.5-mile shoreline, visitors do not need one to fish from the pier at the end of the point. California Fish and Wildlife regulations apply for the number and size of fish that may be taken. Please review current regulations and check signs posted at the pier.

Camping
The group campsites located south of the pier are a sheltered, easy site that includes basic amenities such as water, cooking grills, storage for gear, and restrooms nearby. A shuttle structure provides coverage for the picnic area.

Flora and Fauna
The varied habitats in the park attract over 100 species of birds such as egrets, herons, hummingbirds, the rare salt marsh song sparrow, and many types of owls. Thanks to staff and volunteer restoration efforts, the marsh is home to several protected species including the California black rail and the California clapper rail. Other species here are the salt marsh harvest mouse, black-tailed deer, and non-poisonous snakes.

The eucalyptus woodlands offer shelter for many species of wildlife, such as deer, owls, and Monarch butterflies. Point Pinole is also home to many native plant species, including the abundant purple needle grass. Point Pinole is also home to many native plant species, including the abundant purple needle grass.

History
The Huchiun-Aguasto, an Ohlone-speaking tribe, thrived in this area for many generations, in part due to their ability to both manage and harvest shellfish by the bluffs in a manner that increased shellfish abundance. After 1823, local Native people became the primary labor force on a 1,739-acre, Mexican-era cattle ranch in the area. Today’s Huchiun continue to think of this land as home.

Following California statehood in 1850, Point Pinole was the site of Chinese and Cretan fishing villages and small, American-owned ranches and farms. From 1881 to 1960, the area was the site of four dynamite companies, including the Giant Powder Company, which added “Giant” to local place names. In 1943, Bethlehem Steel bought the land and later sold it to the Park District, which opened the park to the public in 1973.

The workers at Giant Powder Company included many ethnic groups: Portuguese, Italian, Slovene, Chinese, Anglo-Irish, Scottish, Scandinavian, and German.

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Resources
Park Activities, Events, and Facilities: ebparks.org/activities
California Department of Fish and Wildlife: wildlife.ca.gov

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