### Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove

#### Programs are free, drop-in, & meet at the visitor center unless otherwise noted.

### Program Key:

- 🏃 = Wheelchair accessible
- $ = Fee program
- ✔️ = Register online at ebparksonline.org or call 888-327-2757
- (non-res.) = Residents outside of Alameda & Contra Costa counties

### Contact Us:

- **Telephone:** 510-544-3187
- **Email:** ccove@ebparks.org
- **Address:** 1252 McKay Avenue Alameda, CA 94501
- [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/crabcovealamedaca/)

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<th>Juli 2023</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Story Time</strong>&lt;br&gt;Every Fri 10:30-11 am&lt;br&gt;Come meet story characters like the Lorax, hermit crabs, and “Swimmy the Fish”; then meet a real animal, do a craft or play a game.</td>
<td><strong>Fish Feeding Time</strong>&lt;br&gt;Every Wed, Sat &amp; Sun 3-3:30 pm&lt;br&gt;Visit our aquariums to see who lives here! Observe crabs, fish and other critters while they eat!</td>
<td><strong>Family Nature Fun</strong>&lt;br&gt;Every Sat, Sun 1:30-2:30 pm&lt;br&gt;Spend an afternoon at the Bay, make new discoveries, and enjoy a new activity each week with games, crafts, and special surprises.</td>
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<td>Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove at Crown Memorial State Beach officially opened on July 4, 1980. You can see bay creatures in our 600-gallon aquarium and 6 other aquariums. The visitor center is open Wed-Sun, 10am-5pm, March - October (10am-4pm November - February).</td>
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Saturday and Sunday Strolls

Wake up and walk into nature. Each week we will explore a different park and the natural wonders within. Hikes range from 2 to 5 miles. Great for families. Bring water.

Sat July 1, 9:30-11:30am, Reinhardt Redwood Regional Park (Wayside Parking Lot):
Walk into the cool redwood forest & discover the plants and animals that live here. We'll hike over 2 miles up the hilly Bridle trail and back along the flat Stream trail.

Sun July 30, 9:30am-Noon, Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserve (Huckleberry Staging Area): Huckleberries are not so common in the East Bay, except in and around this botanic preserve. Come out with us to find them and other green outliers in this unique vegetative community. Meet at the Huckleberry Trailhead.

July 4th Open House

Celebrate the beauty and diversity of our Bay with family-friendly activities. Ongoing crafts on deck all afternoon.

Scheduled programs:
1:00 - 1:30 pm  Turtle Time.
1:30 - 2:00 pm  Listen to some nature stories.
2:00 - 2:30 pm  Celebrate Plastic Free July!
2:30 - 3:00 pm  Meet one of our reptile residents and learn some snake secrets.
3:00 - 4:00 pm  Clean up the beach and add to our museum of coastal oddities!
**Alameda 4th of July Parade**

Enjoy Alameda’s hometown parade, one of the longest parades in the nation! Watch for our Mobile Visitor Center as we promote the love of nature and the Regional Parks.

![Parade Route Diagram]

**Tern Town Birdwalk**

This morning we will walk to an amazing bird sanctuary built for endangered California Least Terns. Along the way look at marsh plants like pickleweed or watch for predators flying above. We will have special access to see this nesting island closer than you normally can. Bring binoculars. Spotting scopes optional.

**Where:** Hayward Regional Shoreline

Meet at the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center at 4901 Breakwater Ave in Hayward.
**Grunion Search**

A silver fish dancing on the sand in the middle of the night? Yes, grunion have been seen here in the past. Will they show up this year? This is a rare spawning sight not to be missed!

**Ages 10+ years. Registration Required.**

**Space is limited.**

1:15 –3:15am, Tue night Jul 4/ Wed morning Jul 5

tinyurl.com/grunion075

12:15-2:15am, Mon night Jul 17/ Tue morning Jul 18

tinyurl.com/grunion0718

*Bring a small flashlight that we will cover with red cellophane or tape to not harm the fish. No flash photography. Dress warmly as it can be very chilly at this hour.*

Meet at the Otis Street Parking lot. We will open up the gate just before the program begins. Gate will then be locked but guests will be able to exit. Program will begin at the surf shack after everyone has checked in.

**Low Tide Exploration**

We will venture into the mud during low tide and peer under rocks to look for crabs and other crustacean critters! Wear old shoes or rain boots and clothes that can get dirty.

**Sat July 8th:** 10-11:30

**Sun July 9th:** 10:30-noon
Sea Squirts ☑$  

Play games, explore nature, sing songs, and do a craft related to the theme of the day!

Ages 3-5 years.  

**Topic: Skulls and Skeletons**

*Registration required. Fee: $5 ($7 non-residents)*  

*To register visit: tinyurl.com/seasquirts0711*

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Celebrate World Snake Day  

They are: long, slender and curious; they certainly won’t wear a belt or a necktie. They are not: slimy, creepy or aggressive. Come get to know a really snake by the shore with a naturalist.

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Wednesday Walk  

Check out the East Bay Skyline National Recreational Trail. There are rolling hills and sweeping vistas as we head south from Vollmer Peak, eventually doubling back to our starting point. About 5 miles. Some parts may be steep and uneven. Meet at the trailhead for Vollmer Peak.

**Where:** Tilden Regional Park (Vollmer Peak Trail Entrance)  

Meet at trailhead for Vollmer Peak.
Return of the Terns

Join us for a special day dedicated to the California Least Tern, an endangered species! View a presentation (outside) about their fascinating behaviors and the reasons for their success at the largest colony in Central/Northern CA (all visitors welcome):
10:15am, 11:30am, and 12:45pm.

Reserve your spot to view the nest site teeming with several hundred pairs of terns and their chicks, accessible only on our tour bus (space limited), which leaves from the Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove right after each presentation. Experts aboard the bus will interpret bird behavior. Masks on the bus will be required, and the windows will be kept open, so please dress with warm layers if it is a typical cool day.

At 3pm, join a naturalist to look for these amazing acrobats hunting at Crab Cove (binoculars available for loan).

Bus rides to the colony (reservations required): 11am, 12:15pm, and 1:30pm

Ages 8 and up (for bus ride).

Fee: $12 per person for bus ($14 non-resident). Registration required.

Arrive 45 minutes before the program to view a slide show that will help you learn about their long journey and fascinating behavior.

Bus ride from Crab Cove to the proposed Alameda Wildlife Refuge is about 10 minutes each way. To avoid disturbing the endangered terns, visitors must stay on the bus to view activity.
**Going Batty**

As dusk turns to twilight, we will watch and listen for bats. Using special acoustic technology, we will attempt to identify a variety of local species. Meet at the amphitheater.

Dress in layers. Bring a blanket to sit on and flashlight for the walk back to the parking lot.

**Where:** Anthony Chabot Regional Park
(Campground Amphitheater)

*Due to recent storm damage, the Park is not accessible via Redwood Road from I-580 westbound in Castro Valley. You must access via Redwood Road from Skyline Blvd.*

**Beginners Nature Journaling**

Observe nature up close and personal and make memories of what you see! Learn the basics of nature journaling. We will provide art supplies to draw and write with. Bring your own journal or purchase one of ours—$4 donation/limited supplies.

**Anthony Chabot Campfire**

Join us for after-dark fun! Learn about the parks and nature around you through games, songs, photos and stories around the campfire. New topic each week. Non-campers are welcome to come in for the program!

- **Jul 1:** Sharks
- **Jul 8:** Bay Area Bats
- **Jul 15:** Snakes!
- **Jul 22:** Nocturnal Animals
- **Jul 29:** Nocturnal Animals

*Due to recent storm damage, the Park is not accessible via Redwood Road from I-580 westbound in Castro Valley. You must access via Redwood Road from Skyline Blvd.*
Volunteer Opportunities

If you are between the ages of 13 and 17 and coming by yourself, you must bring a liability form signed by a parent/guardian. Please email Michael at mcharnofsky@ebparks.org for the form. If you are part of a group, please contact Michael before registering.

Sand Dune Habitat Restoration

Sat, Jul 15
9-11 am

In 2020, a beautiful sand dune habitat was created at Encinal Beach, with unique California native plants. We need the help of weed warriors to pull invasive weeds, preventing them from taking over. This will help benefit local wildlife!

Snacks and refreshments served; tools provided. Students earn community service hours. Heavy rain cancels. Ages 8 and up.

Registration Required: https://tinyurl.com/sandcastle0715

Bayside Beach Cleanup

Sat, Jul 15
1-3 pm

Celebrate Plastic Free July by helping to clean up the beach!
We'll pick up trash and sift the sand for micro plastics.

Bring buckets and gloves or borrow ours.

Students can earn community service hours.