

playhere!

Your pocket guide to healthy, outdoor family adventures.

How about a fun,
HEALTHY quest for
the whole family?

See page 3!

parksforlife



SANTA CLARA
COUNTY PARKS

fallwinter
2013



Discover

...how many great places there are to explore right here in Santa Clara County – your own big backyard! Take a look inside to discover the wide variety of natural, historical, cultural, recreational and educational opportunities for your family, friends and you.

The Santa Clara County Park system is composed of urban and mountain parks which have a wealth of trails, lakes, streams, and open space environments. It is one of the most diverse recreational areas in all of California. Our natural environments range from the wetlands of San Francisco Bay to the oak woodlands of the Diablo Mountain Range to the majestic redwoods of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Santa Clara County acquired its first parkland in 1924, purchasing 400 acres near Cupertino which became Stevens Creek County Park. In 1956, the Department of Parks and Recreation was formed. Currently, the regional parks system has expanded to 29 parks encompassing nearly 46,000 acres.

parkhere.org



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Check online calendar at parkhere.org for most current calendar information and updates.

In accordance with the requirements of title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), Santa Clara County Parks (County Parks) will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities. County Parks will make reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. If you have questions or need assistance with accessibility in County Parks please contact our ADA Coordinator, at ADAcoordinator@prk.sccgov.org or call (408) 355-2200. Please contact us at least 72 hours before the scheduled program or event so we have time to assess your request and assist you.

Due to extreme weather conditions and other unforeseen situations, some scheduled programs may be cancelled or changed. For those with reservations, individuals will be contacted. For non-reservation programs, it is recommended to check the parks website calendar for changes or updates, or call the number listed with questions or concerns.

Illustrations by Suzanne Bauer©2005-2014
Design by Fortune2

Key to symbols



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Program (see page 3)



Healthy Trails Challenge Hike or Walk (see page 4)



Reservations required. See program description for appropriate phone number.



Online reservation available.
Go to parkhere.org



Easy Hike: Flat to gently rolling pathways and trails. Leisurely pace.



Moderate Hike: Steeper or more frequent uphill grades. Leisurely to moderate pace.



Strenuous Hike: Steep hills or long distances. Moderate to vigorous pace.



Bring a lunch, snack, or dinner as appropriate.



Appropriate for children accompanied by an adult.



All or mostly wheelchair accessible.



Bring a bike in good working condition. Helmets required.



Strenuous Ride: Bring a bike in good working condition. Helmets required.



Well-behaved dogs allowed. Must be controlled on a 6' max. leash.



Bring own canoe/kayak, life jackets and 2 glow sticks per person; call for information and restrictions.



Feature movie shown as part of program.



\$6 vehicle fee to enter park.



Photography program.



HEALTHY PARKS HEALTHY PEOPLE BAY AREA

Encouraged by growing evidence that spending time in nature improves physical and mental health, the Santa Clara County Parks & Recreation Department has joined a collaborative effort with over 30 park, open space, healthcare, and public health agencies cross nine Bay Area counties. The primary purpose of **Healthy Parks Healthy People: Bay Area** is to improve the health and wellbeing of all Bay Area residents, especially those with high health needs, through regular use and enjoyment of parks.

In Santa Clara County Parks, Healthy Parks Healthy People goals are being achieved through:

Healthy Parks Healthy People Nature Walks

On the 1st Saturday of each month guided nature walks are offered along the Coyote Creek Trail and various other park sites. Check the monthly program calendar for locations and details.



Outdoor Recreation Classes

A variety of free outdoor recreation classes, such as kayaking, rowing, yoga in the park, hula hoop fitness, disc golf, and waterskiing are offered throughout the year.



Healthy Trails Challenge

Registered participants accept the challenge and receive rewards from completing at least 5 of the 22 trails featured in the Healthy Trails Guidebook. Staff-led Healthy Trails walks and hikes are offered throughout the year. See page 4 for more information.

Educational/Interpretive Programs

Programs for the public, schools, and community groups are offered year-round. Messages related to environmental stewardship, healthy lifestyles, being active, and connecting with nature are integrated at every opportunity. See page 24 for more information.

Jr. Ranger Programs

Jr. Rangers age 9-11 learn about natural resources, environmental stewardship, and healthy, active living through a variety of outdoor activities with park staff. See page 8 for more information.

Festival in the Park

A free Health and Wellness Fair is held at Hellyer County Park each June. The event draws over 5,000 people from local communities and features over 100 booths that promote and provide health, wellness, fitness, and nutrition resources to Santa Clara County residents.

Employee Wellness Programs

A number of local business and organizations utilize park programs and resources and encourage their employees to use parks as free outdoor fitness centers. Contact us at (408) 355-2207 if your workplace is interested.

*For more information about **Healthy Parks Healthy People: Bay Area** partners and events, go to HPHPBayArea.org.*



Healthy Trails

Your path to fitness, fun and adventure

It's healthy, fun and FREE!



Designed to fit anyone's lifestyle or fitness level – you choose which trails to walk, ride or roll and when and how often to do them. Take one of the many guided walks or go at your own pace to log your miles.

For more info visit parkhere.org or call (408) 355-2268

Sign-up gifts await you! Register today at parkhere.org to receive your detailed guidebook complete with log, maps & hiking tips.

Escape online!



SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS

in partnership with

KAISER PERMANENTE in the community



Day on the Bay

Supervisor Dave Cortese presents the Fourth Annual Day on the Bay: A Multicultural Festival on Sunday, October 13th, from 10am to 3pm at Alviso Marina County Park.

Held in partnership with the Santa Clara County Parks Department, Day on the Bay is a celebration that brings people together to enjoy activities, rich in diversity and talent, and abundant in ethnic expression. More than that, Day on the Bay is also an informational fair where the local community can meet non-profit, government, and community-based organizations to learn about their services. Free food will be

provided to the community and Free pumpkins for the kids (while supplies last). There will also be community groups providing ethnic food booths, arts and crafts and live entertainment on two stages, as well as face painting, fire trucks, kayak trips in the Alviso Slough, girl and boy scout troops, and much more. For more information, call (408) 299-5030.

Volunteer

Become a Volunteer and play an important role in protecting and enhancing parklands.



The Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department offers a broad range of volunteer opportunities. Sign up today! Go to parkhere.org or call the Parks Volunteer Program Office at **(408) 918-4930** or email at volunteer@prk.sccgov.org

Volunteer Benefits

- Meet new friends
- Learn rewarding new skills
- Enjoy the satisfaction of a job well done
- Receive "County Parks Volunteer" newsletter
- Receive invitations to upcoming volunteer events, training sessions, and recognition events. . .
- Become a Volunteer Leader

Volunteers ages 15 and under must have a parent/guardian present at event.

Volunteers ages 16 and 17 must fill out the volunteer application, have a parent sign it, and bring it with them on the day of the event.

YEAR-ROUND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Adopt-a-Trail

Adopt-a-Trail volunteers, after completing Department training, take care of a trail, or section of trail, within a County Park. Adopt-a-Trail volunteers conduct trail brushing/pruning, litter/debris removal, routine trail tread/drainage clearing, and major trail problem reporting. Participants who agree to participate for one-year receive in-park signage acknowledging their commitment.

Camp & Site Hosts

County Parks has an on-going need for Camp & Site Host volunteers. Hosts receive a full-utility campsite in exchange for 20-hours per week of volunteer service. Duties may include site security, camp/restroom maintenance and assisting park staff with educational programs. Per State law, fingerprinting for this position is required.

Docents

Docents are needed on an on-going basis to assist Park Staff in conducting educational and recreational programs and help operate park visitor centers throughout County Parks. As a Docent, you will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of Interpretive and Outdoor Recreation programs. Per State law, fingerprinting for this position is required.

Park Volunteer Lead

Park Volunteer Leads are needed to assist Park Staff and Volunteer Program in providing lead support at volunteer events in areas related to volunteer registration, event record keeping, documentation, roll call and other assignments as directed by Park Staff. Leads would provide event instructions to volunteers, ensure safe keeping of tools and safety of volunteers, and notify Park staff when volunteers are deviating from tasks. Leads can be assigned to specific Park locations or events. Per State Law, fingerprinting for this position is required. In addition, applicants will attend Park Lead Academy & CPR/First Aid training. Special uniforms will be provided for this volunteer position.



Trail Crew Lead Volunteers

We're always looking for some good people who would like to be highly skilled trail "hot-shot" group members. Trail Crew Leads are provided with in-depth trail-building and maintenance training, then assist park staff with major trail projects. Trail Crew Leads also oversee adopt-a-trail groups and Trail Day events for scheduled trail projects. Per State law, fingerprinting for this position is required.

Trail Watch

County Parks is looking for hikers, bikers and horseback riders who use, or would like to use, park trails and want to help Park Ranger staff by patrolling, providing visitor information, providing basic services in emergencies, and correcting or reporting park violations. All candidates must complete a 16-hour training academy and a training hike/ride prior to being activated. Volunteers are asked to provide a minimum of 48-hours of service annually once active. Uniforms are provided to all volunteers.

Individual Volunteer Projects

Perfect for scout troops or Eagle Scouts, corporate volunteers, school groups, individuals, or any other group looking to help out! If our ongoing programs or annual events don't fit your schedule or aren't exactly what you are looking for, we can still find something for you! We'll see what we can do to accommodate you or your group and make the project beneficial for everyone involved. What an excellent way of promoting teambuilding....

Work Together and Play Together!

Monthly Volunteer Projects

To find out more information or register for one of the volunteer events below, go to parkhere.org or call the Parks Volunteer Program Office at **(408) 355-2254**.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

**Park Beautification Day
Alviso Marina**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

**California Coastal Cleanup Day
(Various Parks)**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

**Park Beautification Day
Lexington Reservoir**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

**Creek Cleanup Day
Uvas Reservoir
South Bay Fishing in the City
Lake Cunningham**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

**Park Beautification Day
Los Gatos Creek
Shoreline Clean-up Day
Calero**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

**Trail Watch Academy
Muriel Wright Residential Center**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

**Park Beautification Day
Los Gatos Creek
Shoreline Clean-up Day
Calero**

NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 31

**Fantasy of Lights
Vasona Park**

Park News

*What's happening in the
Santa Clara County Parks*



In 2004, "...Walter Cottle Lester donated the 287 acres that his family had farmed for more than 150 years in South San Jose with the vision of creating a historical agricultural park in the heart of Silicon Valley", said Mike Wasserman, Supervisor, County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors. "With the construction of Phase I of Martial Cottle Park, Mr. Lester's vision will become a reality and the County will provide vital agricultural, recreational, and educational resources for our community," continued Supervisor Mike Wasserman whose district includes Martial Cottle Park. A portion of the park property was donated to the County and a portion sold to the State of California, whereby the entire park is jointly owned by the County of Santa Clara and the State of California.

The design of Martial Cottle Park was completed earlier this year and, on June 4, 2013, the County Board of Supervisors awarded the construction contract for the project to O.C. Jones & Sons. The Contractor is on the site and major construction activities will begin in August. A large segment of the Park's perimeter multi-use trail is expected to be open for public use by the end of this year. The remainder of the Park improvements, such as a new Visitor Center, day use facilities and other facilities, are scheduled for completion in late Fall 2014.

The new park will include a continuous multi-use trail system around the perimeter and center of the Park including a pedestrian connection to the neighborhood south of Highway 85. An approximately 30+ acre landscaped day-use area will include a Visitor Center, picnic areas, restrooms, pathways, large open grassy areas, and a Parks office/maintenance facility, as well as a youth interpretive area and other interpretive elements depicting the history of agriculture on the Cottle Ranch and within Santa Clara County. A majority of the Park will remain in active agricultural use under the management of a Master Farmer. Additionally, a large area of the Park along Chynoweth Avenue is being developed for use by Cooperative Partners such as City Community Gardens, University of California Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, 4-H and agricultural research programs, and an urban forestry program.

Call (408) 355-2215 for more information about this new park.

parks for life



SANTA CLARA
COUNTY PARKS



Join

us to explore a Santa Clara County park's wildlife, habitats, Ohlone cultural history and resource protection.



Jr. Rangers hike, play games and do activities to nurture a budding relationship with nature. The spring and fall programs each run 4 weeks, meeting once a week for 2 hours. This free program is limited to the first 20 applicants for each participating park.

Are you 9 – 11 years old?

Become a Junior Ranger

FREE!

At a Typical Wildlife Session:

- Meet at Park Visitor Center
- Identify local wildlife by examining animal pelts
- Explore Park to find animal signs such as tracks & scat
- Examine owl pellet contents
- Play Web of Life and other outdoor games
- Discuss how animals become endangered and extinct
- Learn about how conservation efforts succeed

At an Overnight Campout:

- Meet Junior Rangers from other Parks
- Eat good food in the great outdoors
- Explore nature through hikes and games
- Take a night hike
- Make and eat s'mores around a campfire
- Learn how to pitch a tent
- Sleep under the stars

For registration information and placement on a mailing list call **(408) 846-5632**, go to parkhere.org or email interp@prk.sccgov.org.



Can't do a scheduled Jr. Ranger Program?

We've got an option for you!

Earn your official Jr. Park Ranger patch by going outside and completing activities in your local park, neighborhood or backyard. Download the Discovery Guide at parkhere.org. Printed guides are available in limited quantity and may be requested by email at interp@prk.sccgov.org.





September

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1



Morning Wildlife Hike • Ed Levin • 9am-10:30am

Discover some secrets of the wild on an easy 1.5-mile hike. Explore the basics of the food chain as you learn how to read animal tracks and about park inhabitants like coyotes, bobcats, deer and turkeys. Meet at the park office by Spring Valley Pond. Bring sturdy shoes, water, and binoculars if you have them. (408) 262-6980



Story Time with a Ranger

Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 10am-12pm

Explore tales and adventures of the natural world through short stories and participate in fun activities with a Ranger. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. All ages welcome. (408) 918-7983

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Nature Walk Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-11 am

Take an easy 2-mile nature walk on a flat, paved trail with park staff. Explore the beautiful creek habitat along the Coyote Creek Trail. Meet at the Silver Creek Valley Rd. parking lot with appropriate shoes, sun protection, water, and snacks. (408) 355-2240



Family Hike With a Ranger • Calero • 10am-12pm

Take a 2-mile hike with a Ranger to explore the hills and look for wildlife.

Meet at the park office with layered clothing, sturdy walking shoes, sun protection, water and snacks. (408) 268-3883



Our Home on the Mountain • Mt. Madonna • 6:30pm-8pm

Explore the habitat of a redwood forest with a Ranger. Take a short hike and play some family-friendly games. Meet at the Azalea Knoll group area with sturdy hiking shoes, layered clothing, insect repellent and water. (408) 842-2341



Star Party • Grant • 8pm-11 pm

Join the Halls Valley Astronomical Group for a night of star-gazing fun. Knowledgeable volunteers will provide you with a chance to look through a variety of telescopes and answer questions about the night sky. Meet at Halley Hill (across from campsite #22). Park entrance gates close at 10pm. (408) 274-6121



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, continued



In the Park After Dark Movie Night • Santa Teresa • 8pm-11pm

Meet at the Corral parking lot to enjoy a free movie night under the stars with family and friends. Bring low chairs or blankets and a flashlight. Donations for Second Harvest Food Bank gladly accepted. Food available for purchase. (408) 225-0225



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8



A Taste of Archery • Santa Teresa • 9am-2pm

Drop in with the Black Mountain Bowmen and learn how to shoot a compound or recurve bow, fletch arrows, and make a bow string. A mandatory safety class will be given prior to shooting a bow. Please bring snacks, water, and sun protection. Equipment provided by Predator's Archery in Gilroy. Meet at the Santa Teresa Archery Range on Avenida Espana. Families welcome, ages 6-up. **Registration required online or by calling 408-355-2240.**



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14



Whole Lotta Shakin' Going On

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-12pm

Discover the ingredients that make up our "rock soup", how rocks got here, and why earthquakes happen. Explore the park's landscape and fascinating geology through fun activities and a 3-mile hike with a Ranger. Meet at the Mendoza parking lot on Roop Rd. Bring water, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes. **For reservations call (408) 842-7800.**



Climate Change Hike • Ed Levin • 9:30am-12pm

Curious about climate change? Come on a 3.6-mile hike and discover how small changes can lead to broad consequences, both globally and locally here in the Bay Area. Meet at the Sandy Wool upper parking lot (near dog park) with sturdy footwear, sun/rain protection, snacks, and water. **For reservations call (408) 262-6980.**



Safe Biking Adventures Creek Trail Ride • Hellyer • 10am-1pm

Meet at the park office with your bike and gear, then set out on a 6-10 mile family ride on the flat, paved Coyote Creek Trail. Dress in layered, comfortable riding clothes (no sandals please) and bring plenty of water and snacks. Helmets required for all riders. (408) 225-0225



History Walk • Grant • 1:30pm-3:30pm

Join park staff on a leisurely walk to see historical features in the park. Learn about the history of Halls Valley from the Ohlone days to more recent past. End your walk with a tour of the Grant Ranch House. Meet at the Ranch House. (408) 274-6121





WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18



Full Moon Paddle • Anderson Reservoir • 7pm-9:30pm

Discover history and nature on a paddle tour of Anderson Reservoir. Experienced paddlers only, no instruction or equipment is provided. Meet at the reservoir launch ramp with your kayak/canoe, life jacket, and 2 glow sticks per person. **For reservations call (408) 846-5622.**



Healthy Trails Evening Hike

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 7pm-8:30pm

Join a Park Interpreter on an easy 2-mile hike along the paved Martin Murphy Trail. Enjoy scenic views of the surrounding hillsides and oak woodlands by summer twilight. Meet at the Harvey Bear Ranch entrance with sturdy hiking shoes, water, snacks, and a camera. **(408) 918-7775**



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21



Fall Flutters • Alviso Marina • 10am-12pm

Join a park docent for an easy 2-mile stroll to enjoy views of the wetlands, migratory birds, and other wildlife. Observe California's smallest butterfly, the Western Pygmy Blue, and learn how it thrives in a harsh, alkaline environment. Meet in the parking lot near the restrooms. Dress in layers with sturdy hiking shoes, sun protection, and drinking water. **(408) 918-7771**



Sunset History Hike • Grant • 6pm-9pm

Join park staff for a special evening in the park. Enjoy a sunset walk, multimedia presentation, and tour of the Grant ranch house. Not recommended for children under 13. **For reservations call (408) 274-6121.**



A Walk in the Dark • Anderson Lake • 7:30pm-9:30pm

Take a moderate 1.5-mile walk to a pond at the top of a hill high above Anderson Lake. Listen to the sounds of the night and look for wildlife as you explore their home. Meet in the parking lot at the top of the dam. **(408) 918-7984**



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22



Beginning Photography for Kids

Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 10am-1pm

Learn to use a digital camera to tell a story, record an event, and take photos you'll be proud to share with friends. Camera and composition instruction provided before taking an easy walk in the park. Bring a digital camera (not a phone camera) and meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. in Morgan Hill. **For reservations call (408) 779-3634.**





SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28



History Tour by Van • Almaden Quicksilver • 9am-1:30pm

Step back in time and experience what life was like back in the mining heyday. Ride by van to various historic sites and enjoy a brown-bag lunch in the park. Tour costs \$10 per person. Children must be over 6 years old and 60 lbs. Meet at the Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum. Bring a bag lunch, water, and sun protection.

For reservations call (408) 918-7773.



Henry Miller's Summer Home • Mt. Madonna • 10am-12pm

Step back in time with a Park Ranger on a 1.5-mile hike to learn about the "Cattle King" and explore the ruins of his summer home on Mt. Madonna. Meet at the Ranger office with water and sturdy hiking shoes.

(408) 842-2341



Hula Hoop Fitness Class • Vasona • 2pm-3pm

No longer just child's play, hula hoop has evolved into a fun form of fitness! Join us for a low impact, energizing class using adult-size hoops. Learn the basics of moving a hoop around your torso and incorporating your feet and arms. Meet on lawn by the Boat Center.

Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29



Healthy Trails Hike • Santa Teresa • 10am-12pm

Join a Park Interpreter on an easy 1.8-mile hike along the Norred Trail. Enjoy the view of the valley below as you meander through beautiful grassland habitat. Meet at the historic Bernal Ranch at the end of Camino Verde Dr. with sturdy hiking shoes, water, snacks, and a camera.

(408) 918-7772



Wonders of Wildlife Riparian Walk

Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 10am-12pm

Take a short hike through a riparian area to identify animal signs, look for wildlife, and explore how we all fit into the creek-side ecosystem's web of life. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave.

For reservations call (408) 918-7982.



Exploring the Rancho La Polka

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 1pm-3pm

Explore the park's rich geologic and cultural history on a 3-mile hike with a Ranger. Discover how the Ohlone People and Murphy family settlers lived off this land. Participate in activities that demonstrate how this unique landscape formed over time. Meet at the Mendoza parking lot on Roop Rd. with water, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes.

For reservations call (408) 842-7800.





October

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Nature Walk Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-11am

Take an easy 2-mile nature walk on a flat, paved trail with park staff. Explore the beautiful creek habitat along the Coyote Creek Trail. Meet at the Silver Creek Valley Rd. parking lot with appropriate shoes, sun protection, water, and snacks. **(408) 355-2240**



Light in a Dark Place

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 10am-11:30am
Discover how underground miners found their way through dark places as they searched for precious metals deep in the earth. See different lighting methods and how they changed over time. **(408) 918-7773**



Introduction to Photography Santa Teresa's Historic Bernal Ranch • 10am-1pm

Join a Docent for a FREE outdoor photography workshop. Learn how to choose and use a camera, how to take better outdoor pictures, and about photo composition. Workshop begins with an indoor slideshow, followed by demonstrations and a walk around the historic area to take pictures. Meet at the Bernal Ranch barn, 372 Manila Dr., San Jose.

Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.



Nature Drawing Class • Santa Teresa • 10am-11:30am

Come hone your drawing skills while enjoying a pleasant morning at the park. We will focus on drawing plants, rocks, birds, and animals. Materials provided or bring your own. Appropriate for ages 8 to adult. Children must be accompanied by an adult. All skill levels welcome. Meet at the Pueblo Group Picnic Area.

Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.



Discover the Anza Trail • Los Gatos Creek • 10am-11:30am

Join a Ranger from the National Park Service for an interpretive walk along the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. Follow the path of the men, women, and children who established the Bay Area's first Spanish settlement in 1776, and explore this important chapter in California history. Meet in the parking lot off Dell Ave. All ages welcome. **(408) 918-7771**



The Life and Times of Tiburcio Vasquez

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 2pm-3pm

Join author John Boessenecker, a San Francisco-based attorney and author of several books on crime and law enforcement in the Old West. Learn about his most recent work on Tiburcio Vasquez which deals with violence, banditry, and retribution on the early California frontier. **(408) 918-7774**



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6



Story Time with a Ranger

Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 10am-12pm

Explore tales and adventures of the natural world through short stories and participate in fun activities with a Ranger. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. All ages welcome. **(408) 918-7983**



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Nature on the Gaviota Trail • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 10am-1pm

Discover the park's rich natural history on a moderate 3-mile hike along the Gaviota, Blue Oak and Coyote Ridge Trails. Search for three different oak tree species and hunt for clues that wildlife crossed the trail. Meet at the campground overflow parking lot with water, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes.

For reservations call (408) 842-7800.



Star Party • Grant • 8pm-11pm

Join the Halls Valley Astronomical Group for a night of star-gazing fun. Knowledgeable volunteers will provide you with a chance to look through a variety of telescopes and answer questions about the night sky. Meet at Halley Hill (across from campsite #22). Park entrance gates close at 10pm. **(408) 274-6121**



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13



Day on the Bay: A Multicultural Festival • Alviso Marina • 10am-3pm

Celebrate our multicultural community with many non-profit, government, and community-based organizations. Free food, arts and crafts, and live entertainment on two stages. Free activities from face painting to kayaking in the Alviso Slough. **(408) 299-5030**



History of Almaden Air Force Station

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 1pm-3pm

Come learn about the history of this fascinating site, see actual artifacts, and enjoy a slide show of amazing historic photos of the radar station when it was in operation between 1958 and 1980. Presented by Basim Jaber (Historian/Archivist and founder of the USAF 682nd Radar Squadron Veterans Association). **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



Huckleberry Hound Dog Hike • Mt. Madonna • 3pm-5pm

Get some exercise on this moderate 2-mile hike to explore the redwood habitat with your dog. Bring doggie bags, leash (6ft. max.), insect repellent, water, layered clothing, and sturdy shoes. Meet at the Huckleberry Group Campsite. **(408) 842-2341**





SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19



Henry Miller's Summer Home • Mt. Madonna • 10am-12pm

Step back in time with a Park Ranger on a 1.5-mile hike to learn about the "Cattle King" and explore the ruins of his summer home on Mt. Madonna.



Meet at the Ranger office with water and sturdy hiking shoes. **(408) 842-2341**



History Walk • Grant • 1:30pm-3:30pm

Join park staff on a leisurely walk to see historical features in the park. Learn about the history of Halls Valley from the Ohlone days to more recent past. End your walk with a tour of the Grant Ranch House.



Meet at the Ranch House. **(408) 274-6121**



Halloween Hike • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 7pm-9pm

Come dressed up in your Halloween costumes for this night hike on the Martin Murphy Trail (2-mile paved loop). Learn about some of the creepy crawlies that live in the park and hear a few family-friendly ghost stories. Bring flashlights and warm clothes. Meet at the Bear Ranch entrance at the end of San Martin Ave.



Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.



Spider Night • Santa Teresa Park's Historic Bernal Ranch • 7:30pm-10pm

Reserve your space for this annual crowd-pleaser and learn everything you need to know about arachnids, including our local California brown tarantula. View cages and cages of creepy crawlers and handle some if you dare. Hear spider poems and folklore followed by popcorn, lemonade and the classic big-bug movie "Tarantula." **For reservations call (408) 226-5453.**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20



Healthy Trails Hike • Almaden Quicksilver • 10am-2pm

Join a Park Interpreter on a strenuous 5.2-mile hike along the Deep Gulch/Mine Hill Trails. Enjoy scenic views of the surrounding hillsides where extensive cinnabar mining once took place in the 18th and 19th centuries. Meet at the Hacienda entrance with sturdy hiking shoes, water, and a lunch to eat on the trail. **(408) 918-7772**



Beginning Photography for Kids

Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 10am-1pm

Learn to use a digital camera to tell a story, record an event, and take photos you'll be proud to share with friends. Camera and composition instruction provided before taking an easy walk in the park. Bring a digital camera (not a phone camera) and meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. in Morgan Hill. **For reservations call (408) 779-3634.**





SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26



History Tour by Van • Almaden Quicksilver • 9am-1:30pm

Step back in time and experience what life was like back in the mining heyday. Ride by van to various historic sites and enjoy a brown-bag lunch in the park. Tour costs \$10 per person. Children must be over 6 years old and 60 lbs. Meet at the Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum. Bring a bag lunch, water, and sun protection. **Reservations required, call (408) 918-7773.**



Native People, Native Plants Nature Walk • Stevens Creek • 9am-12pm

Join a park docent for a leisurely 2.3-mile nature walk along the Stevens Creek/Tony Look Trail. Discover the rich variety of trees, shrubs, and plants found in the park and how the area's Ohlone used these valuable resources. Meet at the main park entrance on Stevens Canyon Rd. Dress in layers with sturdy shoes, sun protection, and drinking water. **(408) 918-7771**



Creepy Campground Trail Exploration

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 6pm-8pm

Come on out for a hauntingly good time! Discover how Halloween got its name and what spooky creatures are found in the park. Take a 1.5-mile hike to a valley overlook to view mysterious stars and planets. Meet at the trailhead by the RV campground with long pants/sleeves and sturdy hiking shoes. **For reservations call (408) 842-7800.**



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27



Living History Day

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 11am-3pm

Come visit Casa Grande, once the magnificent home of New Almaden Mine Managers. Costumed Docents and staff will guide you through Victorian period rooms and museum exhibits. Children will be able to participate in a seasonal craft activity to take home. **(408) 918-7774**



Halloween Haunt • Ed Levin • 4pm-8pm

Join park staff for a night of spooky family fun. Play ghostly games, carve a free pumpkin (limited availability), eat s'mores around a glowing campfire, and take a creepy hike around Spring Valley Pond. Meet at the park office. Costumes and all ages welcome. Food available for purchase. Bring a canned food donation for the Second Harvest Food Bank. **(408) 262-6980**



MONDAY, OCTOBER 28



History Through a Changed Landscape • Almaden Quicksilver • 10am-2pm

Take a 4-mile hike back through time to learn about mining history and more current events that helped shape the landscape of this historic park. Meet at the Woods Rd. lot off of Hicks Rd. Bring a bag lunch, water, sun/rain protection, and sturdy hiking shoes. Not recommended for children under age 5. **(408) 918-7774**





November



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Introduction to Geocaching • Almaden Quicksilver • 8:45am-12pm

Join a Docent on a beginner's geocaching adventure to find 6-7 hidden caches in the park. Meet at the Canyon Rd. parking lot. Bring sun protection, water, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes. GPS units provided.

Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Nature Walk

Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-11am

Take an easy 2-mile nature walk on a flat, paved trail with park staff. Explore the beautiful creek habitat along the Coyote Creek Trail. Meet at the Silver Creek Valley Rd. parking lot with appropriate shoes, sun protection, water, and snacks. **(408) 355-2240**



Tools of a Miner

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 10am-4pm

Come on out for a special 1-day exhibit with demonstrations and tools used by miners to do their dangerous underground work. Many collectors from California will be here to share their artifacts and expertise on mining in the 1880's. Educational and fun for all ages. **(408) 918-7773**



Healthy Trails Hike • Calero • 10am-1pm

Join a Park Interpreter on a moderate 3.5-mile hike along the Los Cerritos/Pena Trails. Enjoy breathtaking views of the reservoir and backcountry. Meet at the park entrance on McKean Rd. (south of lake entrance) with sturdy hiking shoes, water, and a lunch to eat on the trail. **(408) 918-7772**



Star Party • Grant • 6:30pm-10:30pm

Join the Halls Valley Astronomical Group for a night of star-gazing fun. Knowledgeable volunteers will provide you with a chance to look through a variety of telescopes and answer questions about the night sky. Meet at Telescope Row in main parking area. Park entrance gates close at 9pm. **(408) 274-6121**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9



Plan for Survival • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-11am

Overcome potential obstacles and learn how to explore the great outdoors with confidence. Learn basic survival skills and techniques to help ensure you have safer adventures in parks and back-country areas. Meet at the visitor center. No equipment required, but OK to bring your typical hiking gear or camping equipment. **(408) 842-7800**



Animal Drawing Class • Hellyer • 10am-11:30am

Learn to draw animals from mountain lion, bobcat, snake, bird and other mounted specimens. Carefully observe a variety of animals, practice new skills, and translate your observations into realistic drawings. All skill levels and ages 8 and up welcome. Children, please bring an adult who would like to participate. Bring a sketch pad and pencil or use ours.



Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10



Ham and Turkey Time • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-11am

Come find out why wild pigs and turkeys are commonly seen in the park and how they got here. Did you know that neither species are "native Californians"? Meet at the campfire center by the RV campground. **(408) 842-7800**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16



Autumn: Nature's Colorful Palette • Mt. Madonna • 9am-1:30pm

Enjoy the season's fall colors and spectacular views of the surrounding watershed as you pass through coast hardwood and redwood forests, serpentine, and mixed chaparral habitats. Meet at the Sprig Trail entrance on Hecker Pass Rd./Hwy 152. Dress in layers with sturdy hiking shoes and bring drinking water and snacks. **(408) 918-7771**



Family Moonlight Hike • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 5pm-6:30pm

Enjoy a beautiful outing under the moon and stars on the paved Martin Murphy Trail (2-mile loop). Watch for wildlife, identify overhead constellations, and discover some secrets of this historic and ecological area. Meet at the Bear Ranch entrance at the end of San Martin Ave. with layered clothing, comfy shoes, and a flashlight. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17



Beginning Photography for Kids

Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 10am-1pm

Learn to use a digital camera to tell a story, record an event, and take photos you'll be proud to share with friends. Camera and composition instruction provided before taking an easy walk in the park. Bring a digital camera (not a phone camera) and meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. in Morgan Hill. **For reservations call (408) 779-3634.**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23



Ohlone Cuisine • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 10am-12pm

Experience the foods that the Ohlone Indians ate for thousands of years. Make "haute cuisine" from acorns and sample other locally found natural foods. Meet at the campfire center by the RV campground. **For reservations call (408) 842-7800.**



History Through a Changed Landscape • Almaden Quicksilver • 10am-2pm

Take a 4-mile hike back through time to learn about mining history and more current events that helped shape the landscape of this historic park. Meet at the Woods Rd. lot off of Hicks Rd. Bring a bag lunch, water, sun/rain protection, and sturdy hiking shoes. Not recommended for children under age 5. **(408) 918-7774**



A Spectacular Drive-thru Holiday Lights Show!



Nov. 29–Dec. 31, 2013 • 6–10pm

*Vasona Lake County Park • 333 Blossom Hill Rd. • Los Gatos
Drive-thru only • For more info please visit parkhere.org
or call (408) 355-2201. Please bring a donation of canned
goods benefiting Second Harvest Food Bank*

Early Bird Discount!

Nov. 29-Dec. 5 • \$10 per vehicle (up to 9 guests)

Dec. 6-Dec. 31 • \$15 per vehicle (up to 9 guests)

\$25 per Vehicle 10-25 guests (no discounts)

\$50 Commercial and School Buses (no discounts)

Cash or Check only, no Debit or Credit Cards

Reindeer Express Bus Tours!

Visit parkhere.org for complete details



December

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Nature Walk Coyote Creek Parkway, 9am-11am

Take an easy 2-mile nature walk on a flat, paved trail with park staff. Explore the beautiful creek habitat along the Coyote Creek Trail. Meet at the Silver Creek Valley Rd. parking lot with appropriate shoes, sun protection, water, and snacks. **(408) 355-2240**



History Through a Changed Landscape • Almaden Quicksilver • 10am-2pm

Take a 4-mile hike back through time to learn about mining history and more current events that helped shape the landscape of this historic park. Meet at the Woods Rd. lot off of Hicks Rd. Bring a bag lunch, water, sun/rain protection, and sturdy hiking shoes. Not recommended for children under age 5.



(408) 918-7774



Nature Ornaments • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 10am-12pm

Take a 2-mile easy hike with a Park Ranger to explore natural ornaments adorning winter trees and shrubs along the trail. Add to your own holiday decor by making a nature ornament to take home. Meet at the Visitor Center. Bring a lunch, water, comfortable clothes, and sturdy hiking shoes.



For reservations call (408) 842-7800.



Star Party • Grant • 5:30pm-10:30pm

Join the Halls Valley Astronomical Group for a night of star-gazing fun. Knowledgeable volunteers will provide you with a chance to look through a variety of telescopes and answer questions about the night sky. Meet at Telescope Row in main parking area. Park entrance gates close at 6:30pm.

(408) 274-6121

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8



Holiday Ranch House Tours • Grant • 1pm-4pm

Take a break from the shopping and come on an historical open-house tour of the Grant Ranch House all dressed up for the holidays. Enjoy a complimentary hot beverage and pastry while you relax and recharge your spirits with history and nature. **(408) 274-6121**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14



Living History Day

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 11am-3pm

Come visit Casa Grande, once the magnificent home of New Almaden Mine Managers. Costumed Docents and staff will guide you through Victorian period rooms and museum exhibits. Children will be able to participate in a seasonal craft activity to take home. **(408) 918-7774**



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, continued



Holiday Ranch House Tours • Grant • 1pm-4pm

Take a break from the shopping and come on an historical open-house tour of the Grant Ranch House all dressed up for the holidays. Enjoy a complimentary hot beverage and pastry while you relax and recharge your spirits with history and nature. **(408) 274-6121**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15



History of Almaden Air Force Station

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 1pm-3pm

Come learn about the history of this fascinating site, see actual artifacts, and enjoy a slide show of amazing historic photos of the radar station when it was in operation between 1958 and 1980. Presented by Basim Jaber (Historian/Archivist and founder of the USAF 682nd Radar Squadron Veterans Association). **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



HELLO!



Holiday Ranch House Tours • Grant • 1:00pm-4:00pm

Take a break from the shopping and come on an historical open-house tour of the Grant Ranch House all dressed up for the holidays. Enjoy a complimentary hot beverage and pastry while you relax and recharge your spirits with history and nature. **(408) 274-6121**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21



Holiday Exploration of the Bear Ranch

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-11am

Search for clues of wildlife on a 2.5-mile hike with a Ranger. You'll be surprised to see how active the park is in the dead of winter! Meet at the Bear Ranch parking lot on San Martin Ave. Wear layered clothing and sturdy hiking shoes. Bring water and snacks. **(408) 842-7800**



Migrating Newts Find a Way • Almaden Quicksilver • 9am-1:30pm

From mid-November to March, thousands of California newts migrate to hereditary breeding ponds. Learn how these fascinating creatures triumph over distance and danger on a moderate, 3.8-mile hike. Meet at the Wood Rd. park entrance (junction of Hicks and Mt. Umunhum Rds.). Dress in layers with sturdy hiking shoes, sun protection, snacks, and drinking water. **(408) 918-7771**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28



Forest Secrets • Mt. Madonna • 9am-12pm

Join a park docent for a 3-mile nature walk along the Miller Nature Trail and Tanoak Trail. Discover the plants and animals that thrive in the winter forest. Meet at the Miller Ruins near the park office. Dress for changeable weather with sturdy hiking shoes, a hat, and drinking water. **(408) 918-7771**





January

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Nature Walk Coyote Creek Parkway, 9am-11am



Take an easy 2-mile nature walk on a flat, paved trail with park staff. Explore the beautiful creek habitat along the Coyote Creek Trail. Meet at the Silver Creek Valley Rd. parking lot with appropriate shoes, sun protection, water, and snacks. **(408) 355-2240**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7



Lichen: A Closer Look • Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-12pm

Take a 1.7-mile nature walk with a park docent to learn about the life cycle of lichen, those colorful patches found growing on rocks and tree trunks. Discover the incredible beauty and variety of lichen and learn ways these organisms benefit both wildlife and the environment. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. Dress in layers, with sturdy shoes, water, and a camera. **(408) 918-7771**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11



Forest Secrets • Mt. Madonna • 9am-12pm

Join a park docent for a 3-mile nature walk along the Miller Nature Trail and Tanoak Trail. Discover the plants and animals that thrive in the winter forest. Meet at the Miller Ruins near the park office. Dress for changeable weather with sturdy hiking shoes, a hat, and drinking water. **(408) 918-7771**



Winter Wildlife Watch • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-12pm

Take an invigorating hike through oak-studded hills and down to the tranquil waters of Coyote Lake in search of winter wildlife. Discover which animals are migratory, wintering and resident. Bring a backpack with water, snacks, binoculars, and sun/rain protection. Meet at the Mendoza parking lot on Roop. Rd. **(408) 842-7800**



Family Moonlight Hike • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 5:30pm-7pm

Enjoy a beautiful outing under the moon and stars on the paved Martin Murphy Trail (2-mile loop). Watch for wildlife, identify overhead constellations, and discover some secrets of this historic and ecological area. Meet at the Bear Ranch entrance at the end of San Martin Ave. with layered clothing, comfy shoes, and a flashlight. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**





February

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Nature Walk Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-11am

Take an easy 2-mile nature walk on a flat, paved trail with park staff. Explore the beautiful creek habitat along the Coyote Creek Trail. Meet at the Silver Creek Valley Rd. parking lot with appropriate shoes, sun protection, water, and snacks. (408) 355-2240



Animal Drawing Class • Hellyer • 10am-11:30am

Learn to draw animals from mountain lion, bobcat, snake, bird and other mounted specimens. Carefully observe a variety of animals, practice new skills, and translate your observations into realistic drawings. All skill levels and ages 8 and up welcome. Children, please bring an adult who would like to participate. Bring a sketch pad and pencil or use ours. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8



Introduction to Geocaching • Almaden Quicksilver • 8:45am-12pm

Join a Docent on a beginner's geocaching adventure to find 6-7 hidden caches in the park. GPS units provided. Meet at the Wood Rd. parking lot. Bring sun protection, water, snacks and sturdy hiking shoes. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



Forest Secrets • Mt. Madonna • 9am-12pm

Join a park docent for a 3-mile nature walk along the Miller Nature Trail and Tanoak Trail. Discover the plants and animals that thrive in the winter forest. Meet at the Miller Ruins near the park office. Dress for changeable weather with sturdy hiking shoes, a hat, and drinking water. (408) 918-7771

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9



History of Almaden Air Force Station

Casa Grande/New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum • 1pm-3pm

Come learn about the history of this fascinating site, see actual artifacts, and enjoy a slide show of amazing historic photos of the radar station when it was in operation between 1958 and 1980. Presented by Basim Jaber (Historian/Archivist and founder of the USAF 682nd Radar Squadron Veterans Association). **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11



Lichen: A Closer Look • Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-12pm

Take a 1.7-mile nature walk with a park docent to learn about the life cycle of lichen, those colorful patches found growing on rocks and tree trunks. Discover the incredible beauty and variety of lichen and learn ways these organisms benefit both wildlife and the environment. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. Dress in layers, with sturdy shoes, water, and a camera. (408) 918-7771



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15



The Night Shift • Calero • 5pm-6:30pm

Take a short full moon hike and participate in activities to discover which animals come out at night and how they are adapted to night prowling. Meet by the park office off of McKean Rd. (south of reservoir entrance). Wear layered clothing and sturdy hiking shoes. **(408) 268-3883**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16



The Great Backyard Bird Count Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-2pm



Join a nationwide bird census effort! The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual winter event in the US and Canada. Learn about our local migratory, wintering and resident birds as you help look for and count species along the oak studded trails and tranquil shores of Coyote Lake. Meet at the campfire center by the RV campground. Bring binoculars, layered clothing, lunch, water, and sturdy hiking shoes. **(408) 842-7800**



Field Trip & Class Programs

County Parks offer a variety of educational programs for schools and community groups. Explore nature with park staff or take a guided tour back in time at one of our historic sites (see page 29).

Check the parks website at parkhere.org for more information.



Spring 2014 Preview

Events are subject to change. Check the website calendar at parkhere.org for current program information & updates.

March

SATURDAY, MARCH 1



Healthy Parks, Healthy People Nature Walk Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-11am

Take an easy 2-mile nature walk on a flat, paved trail with park staff. Explore the beautiful creek habitat along the Coyote Creek Trail. Meet at the Silver Creek Valley Rd. parking lot with appropriate shoes, sun protection, water, and snacks. (408) 355-2240



SATURDAY, MARCH 8



Forest Secrets • Mt. Madonna • 9am-12pm

Join a park docent for a 3-mile nature walk along the Miller Nature Trail and Tanoak Trail. Discover the plants and animals that thrive in the cool forest. Meet at the Miller Ruins near the park office. Dress for changeable weather with sturdy hiking shoes, a hat, and drinking water. (408) 918-7771



Family Moonlight Hike • Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 6:30pm-8pm

Enjoy a beautiful outing under the moon and stars on the paved Martin Murphy Trail (2-mile loop) with a Docent. Watch for wildlife, identify overhead constellations, and discover some secrets of this historic and ecological area. Meet at the Bear Ranch entrance at the end of San Martin Ave. with layered clothing, comfy shoes, and a flashlight. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



TUESDAY, MARCH 11



Lichen: A Closer Look • Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-12pm

Take a 1.7-mile nature walk with a park docent to learn about the life cycle of lichen, those colorful patches found growing on rocks and tree trunks. Discover the incredible beauty and variety of lichen and learn ways these organisms benefit both wildlife and the environment. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. Dress in layers with sturdy shoes, water, and a camera. (408) 918-7771

SATURDAY, MARCH 15



Hula Hoop Fitness Class • Vasona • 2pm-3pm

No longer just child's play, hula hoop has evolved into a fun form of fitness! Join us for a low impact yet energizing class using adult-size hoops. Learn the basics of moving a hoop around your torso as well as incorporating your feet and arms. Meet on the lawn by the Boat Center. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**





SATURDAY, MARCH 22



Wildflowers of the Serpentine Realm

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-12pm

Explore one of the rarest habitats in the world - serpentine. Take a 5-mile hike to look for spectacular wildflowers, rare plants, and threatened butterflies that inhabit this unique environment. Meet at the Coyote Lake Dam parking lot. Bring hard-soled walking boots/shoes, layered clothing, water, lunch, camera, and magnifying glass (optional). **(408) 842-7800**



SATURDAY, MARCH 29

Trickles to Torrents • Calero/Rancho San Vicente • 9am-1:30pm

Join a park docent for a moderate 5.5-mile loop hike to see how water from winter storms finds its way to the valley below. Meet at the Calero Park office off of McKean Rd. (south of reservoir), then carpool to the trailhead. This is a guided hike in an area not yet open for public access; group stays together; some steep sections; restrooms not available except at meeting location. Dress in layers with sturdy shoes, hat, and water.



Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.



make friends



learn



discover

Join

Are you 9 - 11 years old?

Become a Jr. Ranger and join us to explore wildlife, habitats and history...

FREE!

Jr. Rangers hike, play games and participate in activities that help build lasting relationships with nature. Jr. Ranger Programs run each spring and fall in various Santa Clara County Parks. For registration information call **(408) 846-5632**, go to **parkhere.org** or email **interp@park.sccgov.org**.



Can't do a scheduled Jr. Ranger Program?

We've got an option for you!

Earn your official Jr. Park Ranger patch by completing activities in the Jr. Ranger Discovery Guide on your own. Download the Discovery Guide at **parkhere.org**.

Printed guides are available in limited quantity and may be requested by email at **interp@prk.sccgov.org**.





Events are subject to change. Check the website calendar at parkhere.org for current program information & updates.

APRIL

SATURDAY, APRIL 5



Wildflower Scavenger Hunt • Almaden Quicksilver • 10am-12pm

Join Friends of the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association on a wildflower scavenger hunt through various stations along the Wood Road Trail. Meet at the Wood Road Parking lot. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



SUNDAY, APRIL 6

Photographers Day • Calero/Rancho San Vicente • 9am-3pm

Enjoy a wealth of photo opportunities as you join a park docent for a leisurely 3.5-mile out-and-back hike through rolling serpentine grasslands with a focus on the park's natural beauty. Meet at the Calero Park office off of McKean Rd. (south of reservoir), then carpool to the trailhead. This is a guided hike in an area not yet open for public access; group stays together; some steep sections; restrooms not available except at meeting location. Pack a lunch, water, camera, hat, layered clothing, and sturdy shoes. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**

TUESDAY, APRIL 8



Native Plant Discovery Stroll Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-12pm

Join a park docent for a leisurely 1.7-mile stroll to discover the rich variety of native trees, shrubs, and plants growing along Coyote Creek. Discover how plants were used by the area's Ohlone Indians and how agriculture introduced by early settlers has changed the landscape. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. Dress in layers with sturdy shoes, hat, and water. **(408) 918-7771**

SATURDAY, APRIL 12



Wildflower Drawing Class • Santa Teresa • 10am-11:30am

Increase your confidence in drawing and learn some skills to help you draw what you see during wildflower season. Materials are provided, but if you have a sketch pad and set of colored pencils or watercolors, bring them along. Instruction appropriate for ages 8-adult. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. All skill levels welcome. Hat and sunscreen recommended. Rain cancels. Meet at the Fortini Trailhead. Note: There is no restroom at this location. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**



Power to the Petal • Calero/Rancho San Vicente • 11am-2pm

Take a 4-mile hike with a Ranger to explore a bounty of wildflowers and discover why this unique environment provides critical habitat for endangered species. Meet at the Calero Park office, then carpool to the trailhead. Bring sturdy hiking shoes, sun protection, lunch and water. This is a guided hike in a closed area not normally open to the public; restrooms not available except at meeting location. **(408) 268-3883**



SATURDAY, APRIL 19



Foothill Ramble • Calero/Rancho San Vicente • 9am-1:30pm

Take a moderate 5.5-mile loop hike with a park docent from valley floor to ridge-top to enjoy spring wildflowers in a variety of habitats. Meet at the Calero Park office off of McKean Rd. (south of reservoir), then carpool to the trailhead. This is a guided hike in an area not yet open for public access; group stays together; some steep sections; restrooms not available except at meeting location. Pack a lunch and dress in layers with sturdy shoes, hat, and water. **Registration required online or by calling (408) 355-2240.**

SUNDAY, APRIL 20



April Showers and Wildflowers Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch • 9am-12pm

Enjoy scenic views and spectacular spring wildflowers as you hike 4 miles through majestic oak forests and savannah-like grasslands. Meet at the launch ramp parking lot with sturdy hiking shoes, water, snacks, sun protection, and camera. **(408) 842-7800**

SATURDAY, APRIL 26



Power to the Petal • Almaden Quicksilver • 11am-2pm

Take a moderately strenuous 4-mile hike with a Ranger to explore the spring's bounty of wildflowers. Meet at the Hacienda park entrance. Bring sturdy hiking shoes, sun protection, lunch, and water. **(408) 268-3883**



Events are subject to change. Check the website calendar at parkhere.org for current program information & updates.

May



TUESDAY, MAY 13

Native Plant Discovery Stroll Anderson Lake/Coyote Creek Parkway • 9am-12pm

Join a park docent for a leisurely 1.7-mile stroll to discover the rich variety of native trees, shrubs, and plants growing along Coyote Creek. Discover how plants were used by the area's Ohlone Indians and how agriculture introduced by early settlers has changed the landscape. Meet at the Visitor Center at the end of Malaguerra Ave. Dress in layers with sturdy shoes, hat, and water. **(408) 918-7771**

History

Step back in time and explore your rich cultural history at one of these park sites!



Casa Grande

Casa Grande and the New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum

Come visit the newly renovated Casa Grande and New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum! Step back in time as you explore exhibits that illustrate how and why cinnabar, the ore of mercury, was mined at New Almaden. Discover how cinnabar and mercury were used by people, how mining technology changed over time, and how this site contributed to the success of the California Gold Rush. Visit antique furnished rooms that reflect how Casa Grande served as an exquisite home to mine managers and their families.



Casa Grande, located within Santa Clara County's only National Historic Landmark District, preserves the history of California's first and richest mine, and provides a glimpse of life in this historic community over 150 years ago. The museum is open Monday, Tuesday & Friday: 12pm-4pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10am-4pm. Group tours are available daily by reservation. Admission and tours are free. Call **(408) 323-1107** for more information or to book a tour.

To book a wedding, special event, or meeting room call **(408) 355-2220**.





Ranch House

Santa Teresa's Historic Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch

A visit to the Ranch immerses you in the realities of living and working on a family farm or ranch in the late 1800s-early 1900s. Explore exhibits in and around the restored ranch house and barns to discover how families lived and worked. Take a walk along the interpretive trail to the famous Santa Teresa Spring to learn how the ranch lands changed over time. House and barn exhibits are open to walk-in visitors Fridays: 10am-4pm; Saturdays 11am-5pm. The park is open for self-guided exploration from 8am to sunset daily. Tours and school programs are available by reservation. Call **(408) 226-5453** for information.



Chitactac Exhibit Shelter

Chitactac-Adams

Explore the life and ways of Santa Clara County's native Ohlone Indians at this cultural history park. View authentic petroglyphs and artifacts from thousands of years ago. Take a walk back into pre-history as you explore the interpretive trail and learn how nature sustained an Ohlone village along Uvas Creek. The site's exhibits and interpretive trail are open daily from 8am to sunset. Tours are available for groups of 10 or more by reservation. Call **(408) 918-7772** for information.



Special events and family programs are scheduled year-round at these sites, so check the calendar! Admission and programs are free unless otherwise noted. School field trip programs are aligned with the content standards for California public schools.

Dogs (except service dogs) are not allowed at these County Park historic and archaeological sites.



SANTA CLARA COUNTY PARKS

Provide, protect and preserve regional parklands for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations.

Mission of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department

Almaden Quicksilver
21785 Almaden Rd.
San Jose, CA 95120

**Casa Grande/
New Almaden Quicksilver
Mining Museum**
21350 Almaden Rd.
San Jose, CA 95120

Alviso Marina
Mill St.
Alviso, CA 95002

**Anderson Lake
(Park Office)**
19245 Malaguerra Ave.
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Anderson Lake
18390 Cochrane Rd.
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

**Bernal-Gulnac-
Joice Ranch**
372 Manilla Dr.
San Jose, CA 95119

Calero
23205 McKean Rd.
San Jose, CA 95120

Chitactac-Adams
10001 Watsonville Rd.
Gilroy, CA 95020

Chesbro Reservoir
17655 Oak Glen Ave.
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

**Coyote Lake
Harvey Bear Ranch**
10840 Coyote Lake Rd.
Gilroy, CA 95020

Ed Levin
3100 Calaveras Rd.
Milpitas, CA 95035

Field Sports Park
9580 Malech Road
San Jose, CA 95013

Hellyer
985 Hellyer Ave.
San Jose, CA 95111

Joseph D. Grant
18405 Mt. Hamilton Rd.
San Jose, CA 95140

Lexington Reservoir
17770 Alma Bridge Rd.
Los Gatos, CA 95032

Los Gatos Creek
1250 Dell Ave.
Campbell, CA 95008

Motorcycle
300 Metcalf Rd.
San Jose, CA 95138

Mt. Madonna
7850 Pole Line Rd.
Watsonville, CA 95076

Penitencia Creek
Jaskson Ave. & Maybury Rd.
San Jose, CA 95132

Rancho San Antonio
22500 Cristo Rey Dr.
Cupertino, CA 95014

Sanborn
16055 Sanborn Rd.
Saratoga, CA 95070

Santa Teresa
260 Bernal Rd.
San Jose, CA 95119



Stevens Creek
11401 Stevens Canyon Rd.
Cupertino, CA 95014

Uvas Canyon
8515 Croy Rd.
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Uvas Reservoir
4200 Uvas Rd.
Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Vasona
333 Blossom Hill Rd.
Los Gatos, CA 95032

Villa Montalvo
15400 Montalvo Rd.
Saratoga, CA 95070

Santa Clara County Parks Office
298 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032
Phone: (408) 355-2200 • Fax: (408) 355-2290
Reservations: (408) 355-2201

