

Regional in Nature

Activity Guide

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2026



Pelican Palooza 6
Del Valle Regional Park, *Roger Nyemaster*



Naomi Wiener

Wrapping up the 2026 Trails Challenge.....3

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Top left: An aerial view of Wildcat Canyon Regional Park, with El Cerrito and Albany beyond, highlights the close connection between the East Bay's open spaces and surrounding communities—and the importance of reducing wildfire risk along the wildland-urban interface.

Below, from middle: Photos show before and after of a recent tree-thinning project in Tilden Regional Park. Bottom: The Diablo Hand Crew is a group of Park District Fire Department staff who work primarily on foot in terrain where vehicles may have limited access. They use hand tools and other equipment to create and strengthen fire lines, remove hazardous vegetation, and support wildfire suppression.

Creating Safer, More Fire-Resilient Parks

The sight of trees being cut down in a Regional Park can be surprising. But removing selected trees—particularly invasive and highly flammable eucalyptus—and other overgrown vegetation is an important tool for protecting Regional Parks, neighboring communities, and people who live and recreate in the East Bay.

Wildfire is part of California's landscape, and we can never fully prevent it. What we can do is manage the land strategically with projects that achieve multiple benefits: to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire while also restoring habitat where native plants and wildlife can thrive.

In centuries past, the land was managed through periodic cultural burning by Indigenous peoples and through grazing by wildlife. Together, these disturbances kept fast-growing shrubs in check. Over time, as wild herds disappeared and policy on wildfire shifted to a focus on suppression, non-native grasses grew thick on the hillsides, leaving behind a blanket of thatch that can smother and choke out native flora and transform open space into vast flammable fuel loads.

Today, the Park District uses methods such as vegetation thinning and planned grazing to

create the land disturbances needed to better balance ecosystems. Projects also include pond restoration, which both enables grazing animals to spread out farther into open space and improves habitat.

The Park District's vegetation management work focuses on creating strategic fuel breaks and reducing concentrations of hazardous vegetation in carefully selected areas. These projects can slow a fire's spread, reduce fire intensity, and provide firefighters with safer, more effective places to make a stand.

The fuels management team is made up of professionals with expertise in wildfire risk, forestry, natural resources, and habitat protection. Before vegetation is removed, the team identifies areas where treatment can provide the greatest fire-safety benefit. Work is conducted sensitively, with consideration for wildlife habitat, native plants, erosion, and forest health.

Learn more about the Park District's current work in a 1-hour video, *Wildfire Resiliency*, at bit.ly/wildfire-resiliency.



Lisa Gorrell

Park News & Happenings



Kim Grandfield

One in a Million Reasons to Give

There are a million reasons to love East Bay Regional Parks: a child getting their first glimpse of a deer, a kid learning to swim, a family making time to be together. The Regional Parks Foundation's annual year end drive helps protect precious habitats and expand opportunities for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to experience their parks. Make a special year end gift today and help the Foundation raise \$1 million for the future of East Bay Regional Parks. Visit regionalparksfoundation.org/mil.



Celebrating Native American Heritage Month

Join the Park District in celebrating Native American Heritage Month this November by honoring Indigenous history, cultures, and contemporary communities. In the Bay Area, Ohlone, Bay Miwok, Delta Yokut, and many other Native Peoples continue to live on these lands, sustaining distinct traditions, languages, and knowledge systems. Visit ebparks.org/native-american-heritage-month to find programs in November that seek to celebrate the rich history and traditions of local tribes.

Green Friday

Celebrate Green Friday — the day after Thanksgiving — with waived fees for parking, boat launching, fishing, and entry to Ardenwood Historic Farm; only state fishing licenses, watercraft inspections, and concession fees apply. Find volunteering opportunities on page 6.



Head for the Trails Challenge Finish Line

There are just two more months to finish the 2026 Challenge. Complete any five of the featured trails or a total of 26.2 miles on any combination of Regional Park trails and submit your completed log by midnight Dec. 31 to earn your commemorative finisher pin (while supplies last). The challenge resets Jan. 1 with a new guidebook and a fresh set of trails to explore. Learn more at ebparks.org/trails-challenge.



In the Spotlight



Christine La



Davor Desancic



Quarry operations 1976



Quarry operations 1976

Quarry Lakes Celebrates 25 Years

For 25 years, Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area has offered Fremont residents and visitors a place to walk, fish, picnic, and connect with nature. But the landscape has a much longer story—one shaped by quarrying, water management, and decades of regional collaboration.

Starting in the late 1800s, deep gravel deposits along Alameda Creek were extensively quarried for various purposes. A post-war boom created a flurry of work supporting transportation projects in the growing Bay Area. By the mid-1900s, excavation had dramatically altered the landscape, leaving large, deep pits that intersected the region's groundwater system. As quarrying declined, the Alameda County Water District began using the area to help refill underground water supplies for Fremont, Newark, and Union City.

In the 1970s, the Park District expanded its search for parkland in southern Alameda County and worked

with other public agencies to identify recreation and public access options along Alameda Creek. The Park District and Water District eventually agreed to jointly manage the quarry lands with the Park District overseeing recreation and the Water District maintaining management of the water.

Acquisition involved multiple agencies, landowners, and jurisdictions. In 1988, voter-approved Measure AA provided funding to help complete acquisition and development. The former industrial landscape required extensive grading, reshaping, and trail construction. Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area opened in 2001.

Since then, Quarry Lakes has become a community mainstay, offering space for social gatherings, a swim beach, fishing, and non-motorized boating.

The public is invited to a special celebration of Quarry Lakes on Nov. 7. See details at right.



Anniversary Celebration

Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area, Fremont

Celebrate 25 years of Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area with a day of family-friendly fun. Enjoy fishing games, guided walks, and a visit from the Mobile Fish Tank. Grab a bite from local food trucks, explore information booths from the Park District and community partners, and get an up-close look at a fire truck and patrol car. Meet at the Ensenada Pavilion Picnic Area. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 7 (Sat) 10am-2pm



Early Explorers



Christine La

Snakes

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Snakes are some of the most interesting animals at Coyote Hills. Come get to know our slithering animal ambassadors that live at the Visitor Center and learn how wild snakes survive in their habitat. Program is tailored to kids ages 5-12, but all ages are welcome. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 8 (Sun) 2-3pm



Allan Mendez

Outdoor Discoveries

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Kids ages 4-8 learn about nature through a lesson and a related craft or activity. In November, our theme is Turkeys. In December, it's Animals in Winter. Meet at the Wilderness Room. Registration required.

Nov 9 (Mon) 10:30am-noon; program code 60480

Dec 14 (Mon) 10:30am-noon; program code 60481



Birding Basics for Kids

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Beautiful birds abound—but how do you tell who's who? Join kid-friendly games at the Visitor Center that teach young birders the basics of bird identification. Program is tailored to ages 5 and up. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 14 (Sat) 11am-noon

Lakeside Littles

Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area, Pleasanton

Activities introduce young explorers to nature. In November, our theme is Beautiful Birds. In December, it's Clouds and the Water Cycle. Programs are designed for ages 1-5. Meet at the Interpretive Pavilion. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 16 & Dec 21 (Mon) 10-11am

Tilden Tots on the Farm

Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley

Meet animals and enjoy activities tailored to young families. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 18 (Wed) 10:30-11:30am

Dec 16 (Wed) 10:30-11:30am

Rainbow Walk

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Discover a full rainbow of colors in nature on this half-mile walk along Quail Trail. Young explorers are invited to pick a random paint color sample out of a bag and search for that hue in plants, rocks, sky, water, and animals. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 19 (Sat) 10:30-11:30am



Robert Thompson

Rainy Day Science

Big Break Regional Shoreline, Oakley

Family-friendly science projects with ages 5-12 in mind are inspired by water and winter weather. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 28 (Mon) 11am-1pm

Boating

Birding by Kayak

Big Break Regional Shoreline, Oakley

Scout for shorebirds among the Delta's wetlands on a guided paddle excursion. We'll start off with dry land instruction, then head out onto the water. Kayaks and safety equipment provided. Ages 13 and up. Meet at the kayak launch. Registration required.

Nov 6 (Fri) 10am-1:30pm; program code 60454; resident fee \$40, non-resident fee \$44

Dec 3 (Thu) 9am-1pm; program code 60455; resident fee \$52, non-resident fee \$58

Dec 23 (Wed) 11am-3pm; program code 60456; resident fee \$52, non-resident fee \$58



Allan Mendez

Birding by Boat

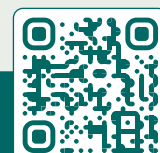
Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Whether you're new to birding or a longtime enthusiast, come relax, connect with nature, and enjoy a scenic boat ride while spotting birds along the way. Life vests are required and will be provided. Ages 2 and up. Meet at the marina. View fees on website. Registration required.

Dec 5 (Sat) 9:30-11:30am; program code 60553

Dec 19 (Sat) 9:30-11:30am; program code 60554

Dec 26 (Sat) 9:30-11:30am; program code 60555



For all activities, visit ebparks.org/things-to-do

Birding

Monday Birding

Various parks

Join guided birding walks each Monday at a different Regional Park to enjoy the avian diversity of the East Bay. Walks are 2-5 miles, and incline and terrain vary by location. Time is 9am-noon for all walks. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 2 Hayward Regional Shoreline, Hayward. Meet at the Winton Avenue Staging Area.

Nov 9 Radke Martinez Regional Shoreline, Martinez. Meet at the marina.

Nov 16 Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. Meet at Vollmer Peak Staging Area.

Nov 23 SF Bay Trail at Marina Bay Park, Richmond. Meet at the parking lot.

Nov 30 EBMUD Watershed, Orinda. Meet at the Briones Overlook Staging Area.

Dec 7 Point Pinole Regional Shoreline, Richmond. Meet at the Dotson Family Marsh.

Dec 14 Tilden Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Berkeley. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Dec 21 Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline, Oakland. Meet at the first parking lot at the Swan Way park entrance.



Fascinating World of Birds

Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley

Search for birds and learn about current natural events on this series of walks, which range from 1 to 3 miles on gravel trails with up to 500 feet of elevation. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov (Sundays) 8-9:30am

Pelican Palooza

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Every winter, the American white pelican makes its journey to Lake Del Valle after traveling thousands of miles from its breeding grounds in Canada. These large birds are easy to see and often congregate in groups along the edges of the shoreline near the marina. Join a naturalist-led gathering to take a closer look through provided spotting scopes. Meet at the marina. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov & Dec (Weekends) 1:30-3pm



Courtesy Flickr @MelRoseJ

The Early Birder Sees the Bird

Start your day with fresh air, quiet trails, and the sounds of local birdlife. Join us for a relaxed walk as we look and listen for birds active in the morning.

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Join a 2-mile walk with up to 500 feet of elevation gain to observe wintering birds that have returned to Coyote Hills. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 15 (Sun) 8-9:30am

Alameda Creek Regional Trail, Fremont

Join this guided walk of about 2 miles on flat, paved trail to see how birds are responding to this changing landscape. Meet at the Niles Staging Area. Drop-in; no registration required.

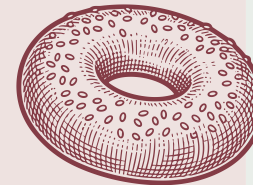
Dec 6 (Sun) 8-9:30am

Bagels With Bay Gulls

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Join a 2-mile walk to look for shorebirds—and enjoy a bagel along the way. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 13 (Sun) 9-11am



Beginner Winter Birding

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Del Valle's lake provides an important stop along the Pacific Flyway, where many species of waterfowl pause during their long seasonal journeys south. We'll learn the basics of birding on a 1-mile walk along a gravel trail with rolling hills. Binoculars will be provided for those who need them. Meet at the East Shore Trailhead near the marina. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 20 (Sun) 9:30-11:30am

Christmas Bird Count

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Join this annual event held in partnership with the Ohlone Audubon Society and help record birds spotted at Coyote Hills. Birders of all experience levels are welcome to take part in this community science tradition and contribute to a better understanding of local bird populations. Bring binoculars if you have them. Expect a 2-mile hike and up to 500 feet of elevation gain on dirt trails. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 20 (Sun) 11am-noon

Volunteering

Teens Talk Trash

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Learn about concepts related to the waste cycle and how you can make a positive difference, then participate in litter pick-up and data collection. Ages 13-18. Earn 1.5 hours of volunteer service credit. Meet at the marina. Registration required; program code 60818.

Nov 8 (Sun) 2:30-4pm

Barn Owl Box Service

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Help prepare barn owl boxes for next year's residents by clearing out old nest debris. Learn about what owls eat by examining owl pellets left behind. This service project includes about 1 mile of walking, ladder climbing, and exposure to nest debris. Personal protective equipment will be provided. Ages 10 and up. Meet at the Del Valle Campground Store. Registration required.

Nov 28 (Sat) 9am-12:30pm; program code 60518

Nov 29 (Sun) 9am-12:30pm; program code 60525

Green Friday

Various locations

Skip the Black Friday shopping crowds and spend Green Friday giving back to your Regional Parks by pitching in on beautification projects. Participation slots are limited; registration required.

Nov 27 (Fri) 9am-noon

Contra Loma Regional Park, Antioch; program code 60968

Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area, Fremont; program code 60833



Special Events & Community Gatherings

Davor Desandic

Cafecito in Nature: Con Raices y Recuerdos

Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley

Celebrate Día de los Muertos with a half-mile roundtrip lantern-lit walk to Jewel Lake para recordar a nuestros seres queridos (to remember our loved ones). As we walk, we will also honor extinct and endangered park species. Feel free to bring a picture of a loved one to add to our altar. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 1 (Sun) 6-7:30pm

Honoring Memories: A Día de los Muertos Photo Frame Workshop

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Join us in celebrating the tradition of Día de los Muertos by honoring the memory of a loved one, whether a family member, friend, or beloved pet. In this creative workshop, participants will decorate a photo frame to display on our community altar at the Visitor Center or take home. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required; program code 60476.

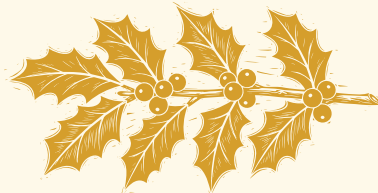
Nov 1 (Sun) 10am-12:30pm

All Abilities Day

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Explore the farm at your own pace and in your own way. This free inclusive program caters to all abilities, offering something for everyone. Stroll along flat, paved trails to visit farm animals, learn about crops, participate in crafts, tour the Patterson House, or enjoy a scenic train ride. American Sign Language interpreters will be on-site.

Nov 4 (Wed) 10am-1pm



Old-Fashioned Christmas at the Patterson House

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Celebrate a turn-of-the-20th-century holiday at a beautifully restored Queen Anne mansion. Join costumed docents for a tour of 14 rooms decorated with Victorian-style holiday ornaments. Tour cost is included in Ardenwood admission.

Dec 4-6, 11-13, & 18-20 (Fri-Sun)

11am & 2pm: All ages, downstairs only, wheelchair accessible (20 min)

11:30am, 1pm, 2:30pm: Full tours for ages 6 and up (45 min)

Community Campfire

Big Break Regional Shoreline, Oakley

Bring a picnic dinner to enjoy as the sun sets. Then, learn about local nature during staff-led stories and activities centered on a theme, followed by s'mores. Meet at the amphitheater. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 12 (Sat) 4-5:30pm



Stargazing at Del Valle: The Geminid Meteor Shower

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

The Geminid meteor shower is one of the brightest meteor displays of the year, running from early to mid-December. Join a naturalist for a stargazing experience with the hope of witnessing this extraordinary meteoric event. Be prepared for a quarter-mile stroll along a dirt trail. Cloudy skies will cancel the program. Meet at the East Ridge Trailhead, which is accessible from Del Valle Road before reaching the Main Entrance (GPS 37.60080, -121.68880). Street parking. Registration required; program code 60820.

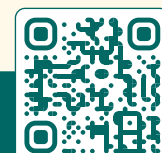
Dec 12 (Sat) 9-11pm

Winter Solstice Celebration

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Celebrate the longest night of the year with an evening of seasonal fun. Warm up by the campfire with stories, music, hot drinks, and s'mores, make a solstice-inspired craft, or visit the Nectar Garden for nature observations at dusk. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 21 (Mon) 4-5:30pm



For all activities, visit ebparks.org/things-to-do

Arts, Culture, & Creativity



Felted Pumpkins

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Create some fun fall decorations out of wool. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 1 & 15 (Sun) 11:30am-12:30pm

Pumpkin Surprise

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Visit the Country Kitchen for a taste of something delicious made from fall's favorite orange gourd. If you want to know what's cookin', you'll have to come and see! Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 1 (Sun) 1:30-2:30pm

Wildlife Photography: Art, Skill, & Ethics

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Join a naturalist and two professional wildlife photographers to learn where to look for wildlife, how to use light and other natural elements to your advantage, and how to photograph animals ethically without causing disturbance. Bring a camera or smartphone, then put your new skills into practice on a moderate trail walk of up to 1 mile as you search for subjects to photograph. Ages 13 and up. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required; program code 60822.

Nov 7 (Sat) 10am-12:30pm

Women in Wilderness: Winter Watercolors

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Build community by surrounding yourself with others who enjoy nature and art. Discover beginner watercolor techniques while learning about women in conservation. Materials provided. Ages 18 and up. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required; program code 60509.

Nov 7 (Sat) 1-3pm



Acorn Cakes

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Celebrate Native American Heritage Month by exploring the significance of acorns to the Ohlone Peoples. Taste acorn cakes and try a traditional game that Ohlone children have played for generations. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 21 (Sat) 1:30-2:30pm

Work and Play With Tule

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Learn how the tule plant functions in the marsh ecosystem and how Native People traditionally and currently use tule for a variety of purposes. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 21 (Sat) 10-11:30am

Coast Live Oak's Golden Birthday Party

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the planting of Coyote Hills' beloved coast live oak tree. Learn about the natural history of oak trees and how they are important for people and wildlife. We will have cake to celebrate. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 29 (Sun) 2-3pm



Spinning Top Workshop

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Discover the history of spinning tops, an ancient toy enjoyed around the world. Make your own wooden spinning top and try a traditional game called skittles, where players spin tops to knock down pins. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 5 (Sat) 11:30am-12:30pm

Dec 12 (Sat) 1:30-2:30pm

Wreath Making at the Lake

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Make a living wreath to welcome visitors to your home this winter. You will have the option of making a single wreath or working with another registered participant to bring home one larger wreath. All supplies and hot cocoa will be provided. Ages 10 and up. Fees: resident, \$15; non-resident, \$17. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required; program code 60817.

Dec 6 (Sat) 1:30-3:30pm

Wreath Making Workshop

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Craft a festive wreath from aromatic evergreens. Bring your own handheld pruners. Ages 10 and up; youth under age 16 must register with an accompanying adult. Fees: residents, \$33; non-residents, \$38. Registration required; program code 60705.

Dec 6 (Sun) 10am-1pm

Clothespin Dolls

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Create and dress up your own darling doll. We'll make them out of clothespins just the way it was done more than 100 years ago. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 13 (Sun) 11:30am-12:30pm

Abalone and Pine Nut Bead Pendants

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Learn about abalone shells and pine nuts and their cultural significance to Ohlone Peoples while creating your own pendant necklace. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 19 (Sat) 1-2:30pm

Wayne Roderick Lectures

Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Berkeley

Free public lectures are offered at the Botanic Garden. Find topics and details at nativeplants.org.

November-March (Saturdays) 10:30am



Nature Journaling Along Alameda Creek

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Slow down and enjoy the beauty of Sunol while capturing your observations through nature journaling. Follow Alameda Creek on an easy walk of about 1 mile, then settle in by the water for drawing demonstrations and time to sketch, watercolor, and journal. Ages 18 and up. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required; program code 60506.

Dec 19 (Sat) 1-3:30pm

Seasonal Wreaths

Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley

Create a fragrant seasonal wreath to decorate your home. All materials provided. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 23 (Wed) 10am-noon

Fun With Felting

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont

Learn how felt is made from sheep's wool and make a felt ball to take home. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 27 (Sun) 11:30am-12:30pm

Weaving Together

Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley

Get inspired by nature as we explore patterns and colors to create unique woven pieces. We will weave small tapestries on homemade cardboard looms using hand-spun wool from the Little Farm's very own sheep.

Dec 27 (Sun) 1-2pm

Hootin' Habitats

Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley

Learn about owl species that live in the Bay Area. Dissect an owl pellet to study what they ate. We'll be walking up to a half mile on paved trail and boardwalk with slight inclines. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 7 & 21 (Sat) 11:15am-12:30pm



Owl Pellets: Bones, Beaks, and Breakfast

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Discover what's on an owl's menu by dissecting an owl pellet and examining the bones, beaks, and other clues inside. Learn about the owl species that call Coyote Hills home. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 8 (Sun) 10-11am

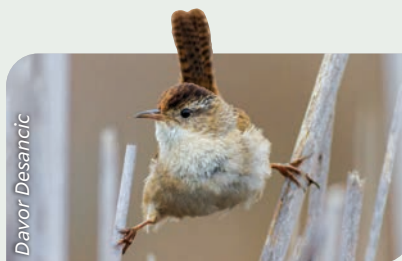
Coyote Hills Treasure Hunt

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Use tried-and-true tools like a map and compass to guide your way around Coyote Hills while you look for hidden treasure. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 14 & Dec 5 (Sat) 1-2pm

Nature Exploration



Small Animal Saturday

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

From bugs and frogs to fish to mammals, we'll explore what it means to be small in the animal world. Bring your curiosity and appreciation for nature's little wonders. Activities take place at the Visitor Center; not a guided walk. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 28 (Sat) 11am-noon

Who Scat That?

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Ever wonder who's been wandering the trails before you? Make your own animal track to take home, then set off on a leisurely walk to search for real signs of wildlife — footprints, scat, and other clues. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 6 (Sun) 10-11:30am

Geology Rocks!

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Discover how the ground beneath our feet and the rocks all around us were formed. Enjoy games and cookies, then take a walk less than a quarter mile up the wooden steps of Muskrat Trail to see and touch some cool rocks. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 12 (Sat) 1-2pm

Coffee and Tea in the Garden

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Visit the Nectar Garden for a cup of hot coffee or tea and a moment of relaxation. Chat with a naturalist and connect with other visitors in this hidden oasis. Drop-in; no registration required.

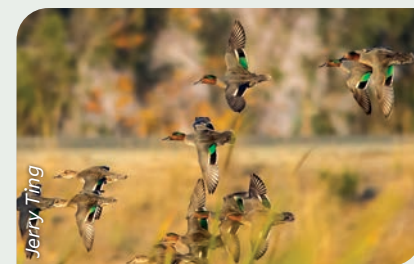
Dec 26 (Sat) 10:30am-noon

Art in the Park

Big Break Regional Shoreline, Oakley

Let the natural setting inspire you while creating art with watercolors, chalk, and nature itself as media. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 29 (Tue) 11am-1pm

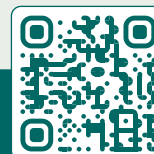


Winging It in Winter

Big Break Regional Shoreline, Oakley

Winter migration brings millions of birds to the Delta every year. Join the flock through play, bird-watching, crafts, and other fun. Meet at the Delta Discovery Map near the pier. Activities will move to the Visitor Center if it rains. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 30 (Wed) 11am-1pm



Guided Hikes & Walks



Native American Heritage Month Hikes

Celebrate Native American Heritage Month with a guided hike. Along the way, learn about the enduring connection of Native Peoples to this land, while exploring the plants, animals, and natural features that make this preserve special.

Brushy Peak Regional Preserve, Livermore

Expect a 4.5-mile trek and up to 1,000 feet of elevation gain. Ages 7 and up. Meet at the Laughlin Staging Area. Registration required; program code 60823.

Nov 1 (Sun) 9am-1pm

Morgan Territory Regional Preserve, Livermore

Expect a 3-mile loop with up to 1,000 feet of elevation gain. Ages 7 and up. Meet at the Morgan Territory Staging Area. Registration required; program code 60824.

Nov 22 (Sun) 9:30am-noon

Botanic Garden Tours

Tilden Regional Parks Botanic Garden, Berkeley

Docent-led tours of the garden are offered on non-rainy Saturdays and Sundays. Meet at the Visitor Center. Walking surfaces are uneven and narrow. Dogs are not allowed. Capacity is limited. Drop-in; no registration required.

Saturdays 2pm

Sundays 11am & 2pm

Trails Challenge Hikes

Various parks

The 2026 Trails Challenge (ebparks.org/trails-challenge) wraps up Dec. 31. Close out the year with one of these guided adventures.

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, Antioch

Expect a 5.2-mile loop with 1,266 feet of elevation gain. Ages 12 and up. Meet at the upper parking lot. Registration required; program code 60472.

Nov 1 (Sun) 9am-1pm

Don Castro Regional Recreation Area, Hayward

Expect a 1.7-mile loop with 82 feet of elevation gain. Meet at the lagoon entrance. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 1 (Sun) 10-11:30am

Vargas Plateau Regional Park, Fremont

Expect 3.9 miles with about 550 feet of total elevation gain and a few steep sections. Meet at the Vargas Plateau Staging Area. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 10 (Thu) 9-11am



Deer Valley Landbank Tour

Deer Valley Regional Park, Antioch

Join a guided tour of the not-yet-opened Deer Valley Regional Park and the former Roddy Ranch Golf Course. The hike will be on mixed terrain including unpaved surfaces. Meet at the former Roddy Ranch Golf Course. Registration required; program code 60909.

Nov 7 (Sat) 10-11:30am

Tracks on the Trail

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Become a wildlife detective! Animals leave clues behind, like tracks and scat. Participants will first learn how to identify some animal tracks, then test those skills on a walk of about 2 miles with 500 feet of elevation gain. Ages 5 and up. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 8 (Sun) 10am-noon

Dec 13 (Sun) 10am-noon

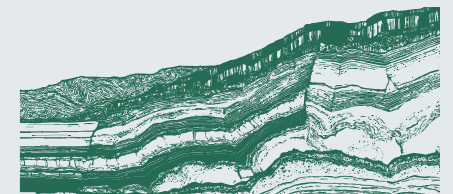


Season's Family Stroll

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Enjoy the changing season on a family-friendly stroll through the preserve. Expect up to 2 miles on dirt and gravel trails with slight inclines. Learn how local animals stay warm during the winter months, then warm up yourself with a cup of hot chocolate. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required; program code 60483.

Nov 15 (Sun) 10am-12:30pm



Geologic Walk

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

If rocks could speak, Coyote Hills would have quite a story to tell! Join a guided walk of up to 2 miles and 300 feet of elevation gain as you explore the edges and slopes of the hills. Along the way, uncover the natural history recorded in the rocks beneath your feet. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 22 (Sun) 10-11am

Green Friday Hike

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Go green on Black Friday and spend time in nature. This moderate 2-mile hike travels over paved, gravel, and wooden boardwalk trails with about 200 feet of elevation gain. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 27 (Fri) 10am-noon



Guided Hikes & Walks



Woodland Wonders

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Explore Sunol's oak woodlands on a 3.5-mile hike and discover the rich community of plants and animals that depend on these trees. Expect up to 1,000 feet of elevation gain on dirt and stone trails with some steep sections. Ages 8 and up. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 28 (Sat) 10am-noon

Turkeys on Trails

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

How many turkeys can you spot along the trails? Join a naturalist for a walk through the park and discover the history, habits, and humor of these fascinating feathered friends. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Nov 29 (Sun) 10-11:30am

Sunset Hike

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Take a moderate 1-mile hike up Glider Hill to watch the sun set over the bay and enjoy sweeping vistas. Expect a steep climb of 250 feet to reach the top. Bring a flashlight to guide your return. Meet at the Visitor Center. Ages 7 and up. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 12 (Sat) 4:30-5:30pm

Any Ferns?

Tilden Nature Area, Berkeley

Take a guided nature walk of up to 2 miles to look for and study different types of ferns. Expect up to 500 feet in elevation gain on dirt and stone trails. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 13 (Sun) 11am-noon

Teatime Trot and Treat

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Tea-making is a tradition across many cultures. Come on an easy half-mile walk in Coyote Hills to meet and listen to stories about some of our native plants that have traditionally been used in making beverages. Bring your own mug, as we'll enjoy tea on our walk. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 13 (Sun) 11am-noon



Courtesy Flickr @Wildtree

Magnificent Manzanitas

Sobranite Ridge Botanic Regional Preserve, Richmond

When most plants go dormant for the winter, manzanitas begin to light up the landscape with bright, fragrant blooms. This 2.6-mile hike with 500 feet of elevation gain takes trekkers to a special population of manzanitas. Meet at the Coach Road Staging Area. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 18 (Fri) 2-4pm



Davori Desandic

End of Year Reflection Hike

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol

Reflect on the past year and welcome 2027 with a renewed connection to nature. We'll tackle 3.5 miles and up to 1,000 feet of elevation gain through the scenic hills of Sunol, with time to pause, reflect, and enjoy the landscape. Ages 18 and up. Meet at the Visitor Center. Registration required; program code 60492.

Dec 20 (Sun) 9am-12:30pm

Last Hike of the Year

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont

Say goodbye to 2026 on a nature walk with time for reflection. This 2-mile hike includes a steep climb to reach a sweeping vista and a journaling opportunity at the top. Meet at the Visitor Center. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 27 (Sun) 3-4:30pm

Sunset Reflections Hike

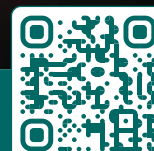
Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore

Close out the year with a peaceful sunset hike and a chance to reconnect with nature. Watch the sun dip behind the hills while taking in the changing colors of the sky and discovering the wildlife that comes alive at this special time of day. The hike covers up to 2 miles on dirt trails with 500 feet of elevation gain. Ages 5 and up. Meet at the East Ridge Trailhead, which is accessible from Del Valle Road before reaching the Main Entrance (GPS 37.60080, -121.68880). Street parking. Drop-in; no registration required.

Dec 27 (Sun) 4:15-5:30pm



Courtesy Flickr @JBrayCFM



For all activities, visit ebarks.org/things-to-do



East Bay

Regional Park District

2950 Peralta Oaks Court
Oakland, CA 94605-0381
ebparks.org

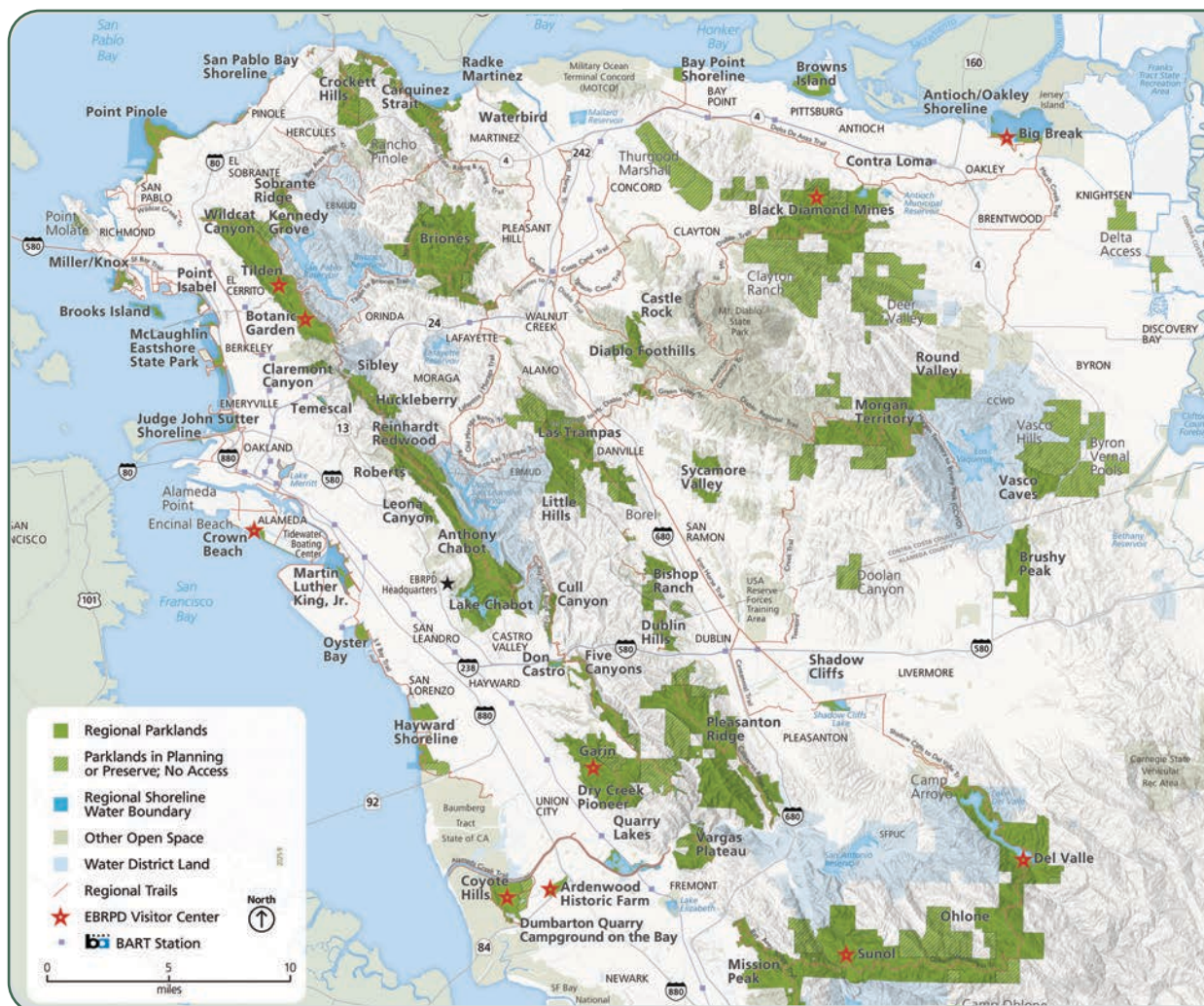
East Bay Regional Park District

2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605-0381

General Information..... 1-888-EBPARKS (1-888-327-2757)
Activities, Events, Maps, and More..... ebparks.org
Camping and Picnic Reservations..... 1-888-EBPARKS
Naturalist and Recreation Programs 1-888-EBPARKS
TRS Relay Service 7-1-1
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Visitor Centers

View hours at ebparks.org/visitor-centers

Ardenwood Historic Farm, Fremont
510-544-2797, awvisit@ebparks.org

Big Break Regional Shoreline, Oakley
Big Break Visitor Center at the Delta
510-544-3050, bigbreakvisit@ebparks.org

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve, Antioch
Greathouse Visitor Center
510-544-2750, bdvisit@ebparks.org

Coyote Hills Regional Park, Fremont
510-544-3220, chvisit@ebparks.org

Crown Memorial State Beach, Alameda
Doug Siden Visitor Center at Crab Cove
510-544-3187, ccove@ebparks.org

Del Valle Regional Park, Livermore
510-544-3146, dvvisit@ebparks.org

Garin/Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Parks, Hayward
510-544-3220, chvisit@ebparks.org
Visitor Center open summer Sundays

Sunol-Ohlone Wilderness Regional Preserve, Sunol
510-544-3249, svisit@ebparks.org

Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley
Regional Parks Botanic Garden
510-544-3169, bgarden@ebparks.org

Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley
Tilden Nature Area/Environmental Education Center
510-544-2233, tnarea@ebparks.org