

Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District

LET'S GO OUTDOORS!

Your adventure activities guide for all ages

**FREE
ACTIVITIES
INSIDE**



Preserving and Protecting Parks and Open Space since 1972

Welcome

Let's Go Outdoors! Spring-Summer 2025

Dear Friends,

Winter has passed and was filled with wonderful programs that expanded our imagination from stargazing to mushroom discoveries. At Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD), we are excited to welcome you into our parks to enjoy the longer and warmer days ahead. Whether you're a seasoned park explorer, or this is the first time you've picked up a *Let's Go Outdoors!* catalog, you will find that MPRPD strives to achieve our vision to provide nurturing outdoor experiences for your mind, body, and soul while also protecting our environment.

To enhance the protection of our parks and open spaces, MPRPD conducts biological surveys to inform our land management practices, patrols our parks, uses public funds responsibly, educates our community, and restores native habitat to improve ecosystem health and stability for future generations. From Marina Dunes Preserve to Palo Corona Regional Park, you can visit active restoration sites and enjoy the natural surroundings that are being revived through community and partner efforts. This summer, Palo Corona Regional Park will be a sight to see during the groundbreaking of the Rancho Cañada Floodplain Restoration Project that will reconnect a one-mile stretch of the Carmel River to its historic floodplain. You can discover more about these exciting endeavors by checking out the "Parks Protect" section of this guide or visiting our website: mprpd.org.

To engage your mind, body, and soul, MPRPD offers opportunities to move and hike through your parks and open spaces, journal in nature, practice mindfulness, identify plants and animals, learn about important habitats, and spend much-needed time outdoors while in a group setting.

Use your senses to celebrate the parade of wildflowers making their way through the Monterey region from spring through summer with the Annual Summer Wildflower Show. It is a great time to go out and explore MPRPD's parks and discover the new life that surrounds us.

MPRPD thanks you for supporting the preservation efforts of natural spaces with which we are so deeply connected and on which we rely. We hope to see you out there, sparking wonder and reveling in awe.

Thank you,

Shuran Parker,
Interim General Manager - MPRPD








Cover photo: americanoceans.org

What's Inside

- 2 WELCOME MESSAGE
- 3 REGISTRATION/INFORMATION
- 4 PARKS PROTECT
- 6 GET TO KNOW YOUR MPRPD PARKS
- 8 GET OUT, GET HEALTHY
- 10 FAMILY DISCOVERIES
- 12 WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, & EXPLORATIONS
- 14 PAID CAMPS, PROGRAMS, & EVENTS
- 16 COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS
- 18 MPRPD PARK MAP
- 19 ADVENTURE PLANNER
- BACK COVER STARGAZING

ICON KEY

 Physical Activity	 Seated Activity	 Flashlight Advised
 Binoculars Advised	 Pack Additional Materials	

Registration required for all programs

Scan here to register



ALL PROGRAMS FREE

How to Register

Online | Go to our website at mprpd.org or scan the **MPRPD QR code**.

Walk-in | Available Fridays and weekends from 10 am to 4 pm at Palo Corona Discovery Center or Garland Park Visitor Center.

Phone | Call 831-372-3196, extension 102.

Email | lgo@mprpd.org

Registration | Opens 1 calendar month prior to the activity and closes at 4 pm the day before the activity. **Important: You must register for all programs unless otherwise stated.** An email confirmation receipt is sent upon successful online registration. Contact staff if you do not receive a receipt.

Waitlist | Waitlisting does not guarantee admittance. If a spot becomes available, you will be contacted by either email or phone and have 24 hours to respond. Generally, this occurs within 1-5 days of the program start.

Cancellations | MPRPD may cancel programs due to low registration, weather conditions, or unforeseen circumstances. Cancellation notices will be sent by email. If you must cancel your registration, please let MPRPD staff know by email or telephone at least one calendar day prior to the class. **Registration cannot be canceled online; contact us directly to cancel.**

Reminders | Email reminders will be sent approximately 3-5 days prior to the start of class.

Policies | Only service dogs are allowed at activities unless otherwise indicated. All policies are available online.



WALK-INS WELCOME

Nature Booths | Kid Zone

Food for Purchase | Nature Walk & Talks

April 6 | 11 am to 3 pm

Palo Corona Regional Park, Carmel Valley

FREE event, all are welcome

cawildlifeday.net



Conservation. Restoration. Education. Recreation.

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District (MPRPD) aims to protect and preserve parks and open spaces through resource management that considers public benefit and conservation of the natural environment.



Check out these programs to learn more about the resources parks protect and how we manage the land:

PAGE 6
 Nature Walks
 Wildlife on the Dunes
 Preparing for Wildfire

PAGE 7
 Garland's Best Wildflowers
 Rancho Cañada Floodplain
 Restoration Project
 Palo Corona Backcountry
 – San Jose Creek

PAGE 10
 Coffee with Cows

PAGE 12
 Tree ID

PAGE 13
 ParkIT!
 Steelhead Trout in the Carmel River

Find the sensitive species that live in our parks in the image below:

- Smith's blue butterfly
- California red-legged frog
- Steelhead trout
- Western snowy plover



ANSWERS

- Ⓓ Western snowy plover
- Ⓐ Steelhead trout
- Ⓒ California red-legged frog
- Ⓑ Smith's blue butterfly

MPRPD Transportation Grant

Grants are available to help with travel to MPRPD parks.

Non-profit clubs, groups, and schools apply today at: cfmco.org



Call for Volunteers

Do you have a passion for sharing your knowledge of natural history and the trails with others? Join our volunteer team to help preserve, protect, educate, and inspire!

CONTACT US TODAY!
VISIT: <https://www.mprpd.org/volunteer>
EMAIL: wyatt@mprpd.org
CALL: 831-372-3196 x113



Registration Required

Scan here to register



Get to Know Your MPRPD Parks

Children **MUST** be registered and be accompanied by a registered adult.

Preparing for Wildfire

What are the strategies to make our communities and natural areas more resilient to wildfires? Learn how MPRPD's fuel management and wildfire preparedness efforts improve safety and prepare our parks for wildfire. Take a walk through the non-native eucalyptus grove at Garland Ranch. Instructor: MPRPD Staff.

Ages 12-Adult
Saturday | 10:30 am-12:30 pm
Jul. 12
Garland Park Visitor Center, Carmel Valley
Elevation change: Approx. 50 ft.
Distance: Approx. 2 miles.



Nature Walks

Take in spring and summer views for those who enjoy the outdoors at a slower pace. Explore lower-elevation trails that avoid steep hills. We'll make brief stops to point out any interesting plants or wildlife that we encounter along the Carmel River and various trails at Garland Ranch and Palo Corona Parks. Instructors: Mary Dainton and Cath Farrant, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalists.

Ages 12-Adult
Sunday | 9:30 am-12 pm
Apr. 13; Jul. 13
Garland Park Visitor Center, Carmel Valley
Jun. 22; Aug. 31
Palo Corona Park Plaza Entry, Carmel
Elevation change: 20-80 ft.
Distance: 3-4 miles.



Wildlife on the Dunes

Coastal dunes are always shifting, and this habitat is essential for many unique plants and animals. Learn about some of the sensitive species for which we manage the lands at Marina Dunes Preserve and what makes the Monterey Bay Dunes Complex such a unique habitat. Instructor: MPRPD Staff.

Ages 12-Adult
1st Saturdays | 10:30 am-12 pm
Jun. 7; Jul. 5; Aug. 2; Sep. 6
Marina Dunes Preserve Trailhead, Marina
Elevation change: Approx. 70 ft.
Distance: Approx. 1 mile.



Steep Spring Discovery

Discover the diverse animals and plants in the steep mountains and canyons of the eastern portion of Garland Ranch Park. Each guided hike will be strenuous, with moments to take in the seasonal wildlife that call these habitats home. Instructors: Stanley Dudek and Andrea Eisler, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalists.

Ages 12-Adult
9 am-3 pm
Thursday, May 8 | Vasquez Knob
Wednesday, Jun. 18 |
Veeder to Redwood Canyon
Garland Park East Garzas Trailhead, Carmel Valley
Elevation change: 1600-2300 ft.
Distance: 6-7 miles. Hiking poles strongly recommended.



San Jose Creek Loop

Explore San Jose Creek by hiking out and back from San Jose Creek Trailhead. Only accessible through LGO! A shuttle will take you to and from your destination to meander through fields of flowers, lush redwood groves, and dry chaparral and then climb uphill to spectacular views. Instructors: Mary Dainton and Cath Farrant, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalists.

Ages 12-Adult
Friday | 9:30 am-1 pm
May 16; Aug. 8
Palo Corona Park Plaza Entry, Carmel
Elevation change: Approx. 600 ft.
Distance: 4-5 miles.



Discover Kahn Ranch

Enjoy a strenuous hike with breathtaking views. Located on the southeastern end of Garland Ranch Regional Park, Kahn Ranch boasts spectacular vistas and an enchanting waterfall. Enjoy the beautiful scenery as you hike up a steep, one-mile ascent on Hitchcock loop, down to Manzanita, and up to Fern Falls. Instructor: Sharon Osgood, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalist.

Ages 12-Adult
10 am-2 pm
Sunday | 9 am-12 pm
May 4; Jun. 29; Sep. 21
Kahn Ranch, Carmel Valley
Elevation change: Approx. 1,100 ft.
Distance: Approx. 4 miles.



Registration Required

Scan here to register



Medicinal Plant Tour

There's plant medicine all around us! Come meet some of our plant allies while taking a leisurely stroll through a lovely nature preserve. We'll meet several non-native plants and a few native ones too. Some are medicine, some are food... some are both! Learn to identify these plants and understand their uses. Instructor: Lianne Neptune, Herbalist.

Ages 8-Adult

Saturday | 10:30 am-12 pm

Jul. 12

Frog Pond Wetland Preserve,

Del Rey Oaks

*Elevation change: Approx. 10 ft.
Distance: Approx. 1.5 miles.*



Garland's Best Wildflowers

To see the best wildflowers Garland Ranch Park has to offer, you'll have to scale steep ridges on this strenuous hike. The pace will be leisurely to enjoy the beautiful blooms. Instructors: Stanley Dudek and Andrea Eisler, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalists.

Ages 12-Adult

Sunday | 9 am-2 pm

Apr. 13

**Garland Park, East Garzas
Trailhead-West, Carmel Valley**

*Elevation change: Approx. 1500 ft.
Distance: 4 miles.
Hiking poles strongly recommended.*



Palo Corona Backcountry – San Jose Creek

Only accessible through MPRPD, this all-day, strenuous nature hike will lead you to a small hunting cabin and nearby orchard that still stand as remnants of the former ranch's agricultural past. This route starts with a shuttle to San Jose Creek. Instructors: Stanley Dudek and Andrea Eisler, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalists.

Ages 18+

Saturday | 9 am-5 pm

May 3; Jul. 12

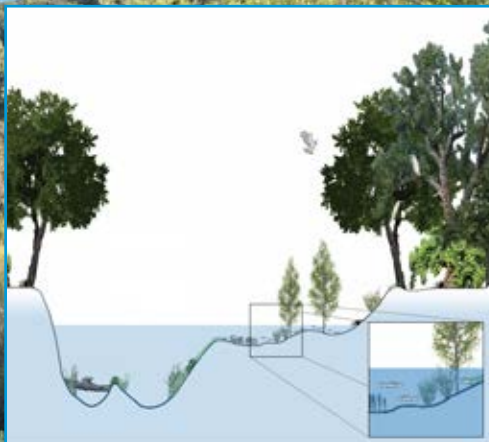
**Palo Corona Park Plaza Entry,
Carmel**

*Elevation change: Approx. 2100 ft.
Distance: Approx. 14 miles.
Hiking poles strongly recommended.*



COMING
SOON

Rancho Cañada FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION PROJECT



It's happening at Palo Corona Regional Park!

**Scan here or visit the webpage
for updates, tours, and information.**



<https://bit.ly/RCFRProject>

Get Out, Get Healthy

Vista Lobos Ocean Views

Get your heart rate up by enjoying a brisk, quick-paced hike to the Vista Lobos Trail in Palo Corona Park. This activity is best suited for those that want to get outdoors and get some exercise while enjoying spectacular views of Point Lobos and the Pacific Ocean. This portion of the Vista Lobos Trail is only accessible via LGO! Instructor: Steve Ibrahim, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalist.

Ages 12-Adult
Saturday | 10 am-12:30 pm
May 24; Aug. 30; Sep. 13
Palo Corona Park Plaza Entry, Carmel

*Elevation change: Approx. 300 ft.
 Distance: Approx. 5 miles.*



Donate to make a difference.

Our **LET'S GO OUTDOORS!** fund is an easy way to help support maintenance, environmental protection, and better access to the outdoors.



Registration Required

Scan here to register



Snively's Ridge from Holt Road

"Holt-on" to your hat to experience awe-inspiring views from the mountaintops of the Santa Lucias to the Carmel Valley below. This strenuous hike meets at the Visitor Center, takes a shuttle ride to Holt Road, and is a one-way hike back to the Visitor Center that includes steep inclines and long distances. Instructor: Sharon Osgood, MPRPD Volunteer Naturalist.

Ages 12-Adult
Thursday | 9:30 am-2:30 pm
Apr. 17
Saturday | 8:30 am-1:30 pm
Jun. 7; Jul. 19

Garland Park Visitor Center, Carmel Valley

*Elevation change: Approx. 1500 ft.
 Distance: Approx. 7 miles.
 Shuttle to Holt Rd. trailhead provided.*



Steinbeck Views

Follow in the footsteps of the famous author, John Steinbeck. Tap into your natural need to be outdoors. Learn basic trail etiquette, safe practices, and the simple joys of being outdoors while looking out over the beautiful Salinas Valley. Instructor: Sharon Osgood, MPRPD Volunteer.

Ages 12-Adult
Sunday | 9 am-12 pm
Apr. 27; Aug. 24
Thursday | 9 am-12 pm
Jun. 5

Creekside Terrace Trailhead Ft. Ord National Monument, Salinas

*Elevation: 600-800 ft.
 Distance: Approx. 4 miles.*



Tai Chi for Energy

Tai Chi for Energy combines the oldest style of tai chi, Chen, with the newest style, Sun, to improve energy, balance, awareness, and relaxation and increase strength and flexibility. Tai chi principles will be introduced with each session. Tai chi and its principles provide tools to assist with daily activities. Instructor: Liana Olson, Senior Trainer & Board-Certified Tai Chi for Health Institute.

Ages 10-Adult
Saturdays | 1 pm-2 pm
Jun. 14, Jun. 21, Jun. 28; Jul. 12, Jul. 19, Jul. 26
Marina Library-MLK statue, Marina



Hot on the Trail: Summertime Trail Running

Explore Palo Corona Park with a local running group! Each event in this trail-running series will showcase different parts of the Palo Corona property: Inspiration Point, San Jose Creek, and Oak Knoll. Prior running experience strongly recommended. Instructor: Wednesday Night Laundry Runners Representative.

Ages 16-Adult

Saturday | 8:30 am

Jun. 28; Aug. 9; Sep. 20

**Palo Corona Park Plaza Entry,
Carmel**

Elevation change: 180-1800 ft.

Distance: 3-9 miles.

See online listing for more detail.




Get Outdoors. Connect with Nature. Feel Better.

ParkRx Monterey County
is here to help! Explore local parks,
find fun events, and enjoy all the health
benefits of spending time outside.

**Grab your shoes and join us –
a park is waiting for you!**

VISIT: www.parkrxmontereycounty.org




ParkRx
Monterey County



Call for Instructors

Do you have a passion for the outdoors?
Do you enjoy sharing your knowledge and
skills about nature with others?
Join MPRPD as an LGO! Instructor to
become an outdoor educator.



CONTACT US TODAY!
VISIT: mprpd.org/let-s-go-outdoors
EMAIL: pena@mprpd.org
CALL: 831-372-3196 x114



Family Discoveries

Art in Nature

Encourage your children to unplug, slow down, and connect with nature through art and play. Children will hike through the park, play, and create temporary nature art with the materials Mother Nature provides. Instructor: Becky Breeze.

Ages 5-10

Saturday

May 24 | 10 am- 12 pm

Palo Corona Plaza Entry, Carmel

Aug. 30 | 2 pm-4 pm

De Dampierre Ballpark,

Carmel Valley

Elevation change: 40-80 ft.

Distance: Approx. 2 miles.



Rumsen Storytelling

The Ohlone sisters will highlight their culture from the past and current revitalization efforts. Share songs, stories, regalia, and Rumsen language with an interactive land-acknowledgement and short question-and-answer session. Instructors: Carla Marie & Desiree Muñoz, tribal members of the Costanoan-Rumsen Carmel Tribe

All Ages

Saturday | Time TBA

May 24

Palo Corona Multi-purpose Pad,

Carmel



Coffee with Cows

Do you ever wonder why there are so many cows at Palo Corona Park? Grazing is a widely used tool for grassland management in coastal California. Grab your cup and join experienced ranchers for coffee in the pastures and discuss grazing strategies, cattle husbandry, and other cow-related topics. Instructor: Emily & Luke Gardner.

Ages 6-Adult

Saturday | 9 am-11 am

Sep. 6

Palo Corona Barn, Carmel

Elevation: 50-200 ft.

Distance: 1-3 miles.

Walking elevation and distance dependent on cow location.



Moon Movement & Mysteries

Enjoy family-oriented activities with a local astronomer that bring light to how we see and understand the moon. Explore the moon and its motion across the sky through stories, drawings, and movement. See the daytime moon through a telescope. Instructor: MIRA Astronomer.

All Ages

Sunday | 2 pm-3:30 pm

May 4; Jun. 1

Garland Park Visitor Center,

Carmel Valley



iNaturalist Tidepooling

Join naturalists at the Pacific Grove (PG) Museum of Natural History for a guided, iNaturalist-based tidepooling adventure. Find and document any shore wildlife you discover and learn more about local animals and habitats. This is a family-friendly activity with scavenger hunts for young visitors. Instructor: PG Museum Representative.

All Ages

Sunday | 9:30 am-11:30 am

Jun. 1

Great Tidepool at Point Pinos, Pacific Grove

Activity held on slippery, wet, uneven surfaces.



Solar System Stroll

Start with a simple paper model of the Solar System and then scale it up as we walk out the space between planets along the trails at Palo Corona Park. Get some astronomical perspective and learn about the different bodies in our Solar System. Instructor: MIRA Astronomer.

All Ages Sunday | 2 pm-3:30 pm

Jul. 13; Aug. 10; Sep. 7

Palo Corona Park Plaza Entry, Carmel

Elevation change: 20-30 ft.

Distance: Approx. 1.5 miles.



Children **MUST** be registered and be accompanied by a registered adult.



Discover San Jose Creek: Ishxenta State Park

Crisscross this vibrant coastal stream over a series of wooden bridges on this out-and-back interpretive adventure. Immerse yourself in diverse plant life, including iconic coast redwoods; wonder at the curious clues of animal life; experience the remarkable natural and cultural significance of this truly unique California ecosystem. Instructor: CA State Parks Staff.

Ages 12-Adult
Saturday | 9:30 am-12:30 pm
Apr. 19; Jun. 21; Jul. 19; Aug. 23;
Sep. 20
Friday, May 9
Palo Corona Plaza Entry, Carmel
Elevation change: Approx. 80 ft.
Distance: Approx. 3 miles.

Cold-Blooded Friends

Interact with snakes, frogs, salamanders, and other cold-blooded reptiles and amphibians from your local area. Be sure to hold and see these animals up close and learn about their homes and importance. *Paint your animal friend on a rock and add it to the garden. Instructor: Bruce Delgado, Naturalist.

All Ages
Sunday | 2 pm-4 pm
Jul.20
Marina Library, Marina
**Optional rock painting activity after program.*

Farm Discovery: Family Farm Field Trip

Come explore Live Earth’s 150-acre organic farm! Learn farming and gardening skills, play with farm animals, and taste some of our seasonal harvests. With each tour, we cultivate relationships between nature and our food system and incorporate environmental stewardship and nutrition. Instructor: Farm Discovery Staff.

All Ages
Saturday | 10 am-12 pm
Apr. 5 | Spring Harvests
May 3 | All About Strawberries
Aug. 2 | Summer Harvests
Farm Discovery at Live Earth,
Watsonville
Optional picnic lunch opportunity,
12 pm-1 pm.

Beginning Birding at Laguna Grande

Curious about a bird you saw? Learn how to use binoculars (provided) and other resources to learn more about birds, and go on a bird-watching trip around this special urban park, home to 263 different species of birds! No prior experience necessary. Instructor: Monterey Audubon Representative.

Ages 12-Adult
4th Saturdays | 9 am-11 am
Apr. 26; May 24; Jul. 26; Aug. 23;
Sep. 27
Sunday | 2 pm-4 pm
Jun. 29
Laguna Grande Park, Monterey
Elevation change: Approx. 10 ft.
Distance: Approx. 1 mile.

Exploring Nature with Children

Join an experienced outdoor educator and learn new ways to engage children in the outdoors. We’ll cover fun, educational, and reflective activities to help all ages engage meaningfully with nature. Instructor: Ventana Wildlife Society Educator.

All Ages
Saturday | 3 pm-4 pm
May 3; Aug. 23
Palo Corona Park Plaza Entry, Carmel

Paws & Claws: Father’s Day Wildlife Tracking Walk

Celebrate Father’s Day with an unforgettable adventure at the Fort Ord Natural Reserve! This is a family-friendly wildlife tracking event designed for dads and their little explorers. Together, you’ll learn how to identify animal tracks, spot signs of wildlife, and uncover the secrets of nature’s fascinating creatures. Instructor: Bart Kowalski, Conservationist and Wildlife Tracker.

Ages 4-Adult
Sunday | 9 am-11 am
Jun. 15
Ft. Ord Natural Reserve, Marina
Elevation: Approx. 20 ft.
Distance: Approx. 2 miles.

**Registration
Required**

Scan here
to register

Workshops, Seminars, & Explorations

Wildflower Wonder: Nature Journaling

Practice how to find the unseen wonder in nature through the process of nature journaling, a perfect medium to explore and get to know wildflowers. Come learn to sketch and describe them with more ease in a "sensory scrapbook." Open to all levels. Instructor: Melinda Nakagawa, MSc., Naturalist and Nature Journal Mentor.

Ages 13-Adult
Saturday | 10 am-12 pm
Apr. 19

**Garland Park Visitor Center,
Carmel Valley**

Elevation change: 20-80 ft.

Distance 1-2 miles.

Please bring a sketchbook, pen, and your preferred color medium (colored pencils, paint, markers).



Leaves & Lines: Meeting and Sketching Trees

Walk amongst and journal the diversity of trees at Laguna Grande Regional Park. We'll practice how to sketch them simply, notice more details about leaf and bark, and record them in a nature journal. As we meet the trees, we'll tune into the unseen wonder and capture our nature conversations on paper. Open to all levels. Instructor: Melinda Nakagawa, MS, Naturalist and Nature Journal Mentor.

Ages 13-Adult
Monday | 10 am-12 pm
Jun. 23

Laguna Grande Park, Monterey

Elevation change: 5-10 ft.

Distance: 1-2 miles.

Please bring a sketchbook, pen, and your preferred color medium (colored pencils, paint, markers).



**Registration
Required**

Scan here
to register



Photo by Patrick Furtado

Tree ID

Hike and identify the common native trees of Garland Ranch Regional Park. Take a look at the tree's leaves, bark, and fruit to help identify the species and become familiar with the Coast Live Oak, Black Cottonwood, and California Buckeye. Instructor: Patrick Furtado, Wildlife Biologist and MPRPD Volunteer Naturalist.

Ages 13-Adult
Saturday | 10 am-2:30 pm
Jun. 1

**Garland Park Visitor Center,
Carmel Valley**

Elevation change: Approx. 200 ft.

Distance: 1-2 miles.



Field Naturalist Training

These mini-workshops will provide an introduction to plant identification and birding basics with both in-class and in-field training. The Central Coast is a "biodiversity hotspot," and becoming familiar with some of the hundreds of plant and bird species found here is a surefire way to enrich your life. Loaner binoculars available. Instructor: Patrick Furtado, Wildlife Biologist and MPRPD Volunteer Naturalist.

Ages 13-Adult
Saturday | 10 am-2:30 pm
Apr. 19 - Plants
May 10 - Birds

**Palo Corona Discovery Center,
Carmel**

Elevation change: 50-80 ft.

Distance: 1-2 miles.

30-minute lunch break included in program time.



Watershed Educational Tour

Carmel River Watershed Conservancy (CRWC) invites you on a driving tour of key sites within the Carmel River Watershed, such as the Los Padres Reservoir and the Sleepy Hollow steelhead rescue facility, while explaining the rich history and ecology of the area. Instructor: CRWC Representatives.

Ages 8-Adult
Thursday | 9 am-2 pm
May 8

**De Dampierre Ballpark,
Carmel Valley**



Making Cordage from Native Plants

The oldest evidence of handmade string dates to about 50,000 years ago in a Neanderthal cave. This hands-on program will allow you to make rope and string from local native plants. Be prepared to get your clothes a little damp and dirty. Instructor: Blake Bufford, MPRPD Volunteer.

Ages 12-Adult
Saturday | 2 pm-3:30 pm
May 17; Jun 14

**Garland Park Visitor Center,
Carmel Valley**



Children **MUST** be registered and be accompanied by a registered adult.

Steelhead Trout in the Carmel River

What threatened fish calls the Carmel River home? Learn about steelhead trout, their history in the valley, and what efforts are occurring to protect this sensitive species. This presentation is part lecture, part guided walk. Instructor: Steve Park, Carmel Valley Steelhead Association.

Ages 13-Adult

Saturday | 10 am-12 pm

Jun. 28

**Palo Corona Discovery Center,
Carmel**

*Elevation change: 30-60 ft.
Distance: Approx. 2 miles.*



ParkIT! Point Lobos Shuttle Demo

Discover the answer to Highway 1 congestion at Point Lobos State Natural Reserve with a guided tour on the proposed shuttle route. Learn about ParkIT!, the flexible, recommended reservation system, and how it enhances public safety, visitor experience, and Reserve conservation. Instructors: Point Lobos Foundation Staff, and Steve Dennis, Organizational Consultant.

Ages 18+

Saturday | Sep. 13

9 am-10:45 am & 3 pm-4:45 pm

Palo Corona Plaza Entry, Carmel



Walk with Poems

Many poets are inspired by nature, so let's bring poems with us as we walk through Garland Ranch Park. Enjoy a short walk with frequent stops to look and listen as we recite poems aloud. Come with a poem if you have one, or poem cards will be shared. Instructor: Laura Hooper.

Ages 18+

Friday | 10 am-11:30 am

Aug. 8; Sep. 12

**Garland Park Visitor Center,
Carmel Valley**

*Elevation change: 80-100 ft.
Distance: 1.5 miles.*



FREE!!!

“Celebrate our Planet and our City by Working together on fun environmental service projects.”
—Grover The Plover

19TH ANNUAL

**EARTH DAY MARINA
LOCKE-PADDON PARK**

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH 2025 - 10 AM TO 2 PM

At 190 Seaside Circle near the Marina Library




Paid Camps, Programs, & Events



VENTANA WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Summer Programs

Meaningful experiences in nature inspire passion for stewardship of the planet. Whether it's journaling in the shade of a giant redwood, exploring tide pools, or having a condor soar so close overhead the rustle of its feathers can be heard, Ventana Wildlife Society programs generate memories that will last a lifetime.

Cost: \$40-\$365/child.
Scholarships available.

Wee Ones in the Woods

Ages 4-7
Weekdays | 8:30 am-11:30 am;
12:30 pm-3:30 pm
Jun. 16-20; Jun. 30-Jul. 3;
Jul. 14-18

Natural Science Discovery Camp

Ages 8-12
Weekdays | 8 am-4 pm*
Jun. 16-20; Jul. 14-18
*Thursday overnight campout, pick up Friday 12pm

Single Day Adventures

Ages 8-12
Weekdays | 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Jun. 30; Jul. 1, Jul. 2, Jul. 3

Outdoor Leadership Training

Ages 13-16
Weekdays | 8 am-4 pm*
Jun. 16-20; Jun. 30-Jul. 3;
Jul. 14-18
*Thursday overnight campout, pick up Friday 12 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION
VISIT: ventanaws.org/education
EMAIL: marilym@ventanaws.org
CALL: 831-215-6010

PACIFIC GROVE
MUSEUM
of **NATURAL HISTORY**

Summer Camps 2025

Play, Create, Explore!

ACORN CAMPS: Grades K-2
Be A Scientist: 6/9-13
Forest Communities: 6/16-20
Space Exploration: 6/23-27
Discover Dinos: 7/7-11
Ocean Exploration: 7/14-18
Backyard Buddies: 7/21-25



PINECONE CAMPS: Grades 3-5
All the Ologies: 6/9-13
Nocturnal Ecology: 6/16-20
Engineering for Earth: 6/23-27
Field Science: 6/30-7/2



Family Members & Up: \$365, General: \$400

Prices are Per Week
Register at:
PGMuseum.org/summer_camps_2025
Contact:
Education@PGMuseum.org



Cooking EcoExplorer Summer Camp

JUNE 16th - AUGUST 1st



WEEKDAYS 9AM-3PM

CAMP
REGISTRATION
\$475

SAVE \$50 WITH OUR
EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION
MARCH 1-MAY 1

10% SIBLING
DISCOUNT

PARTIAL
SCHOLARSHIPS
AVAILABLE

Discover the world of nature & sustainability at MEarth's Summer Camps, where kids explore, create, and grow through hands-on activities in the great outdoors.



(831) 624-1032
info@meearthcarmel.org



Registration Required
Scan here to learn more
and to register.

Paid Camps, Programs, & Events

For the Lands You Love

Big Sur Land Trust is a nonprofit organization with a mission to inspire love of land across generations, conservation of our unique Monterey County landscapes, and access to outdoor experiences for all.



Since 1978, our generous donors and partners have conserved over 45,000 acres throughout Monterey County!



Please visit bigsurlandtrust.org or scan this QR code to learn more!



BIG SUR LAND TRUST | MAY 10, 2025 RACE FOR OPEN SPACE

Choose your own adventure in the conserved backcountry of Palo Corona Regional Park!

Join us on **May 10** to support Big Sur Land Trust's Race for Open Space.

- 5k Front-Ranch Lollipop
- 12k Whisler Wilson Out-and-Back
- 25k Williams Canyon Out-and-Back
- 35k+ Lunch Bench Lollipop
- and a 1-mile Fun Run for all ages!



Please visit bit.ly/ROS_2025 or scan this QR code to learn more, register, and check out our event sponsors!

THE CITY OF MONTEREY

BEST SUMMER EVER! 2025



CAMP QUIEN SABE OVERNIGHT CAMP

WHISPERING PINES DAY CAMP

TINY TOTS SUMMER CAMP

SUMMER FUN PLAYGROUND PROGRAM

SPORTS CAMPS SPECIALTY CAMPS LEGO, GYMNASTICS

AND SO MUCH MORE!



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!



SCAN ME!
to register on Amilia

FOR MORE INFO + REGISTRATION
MONTEREY.GOV/REC
(831) 646-3866



Community Happenings

ANNUAL & SPECIAL EVENTS

BLUE ZONES PROJECT MONTEREY COUNTY

Blue Zones Project® is a community-led, well-being improvement initiative designed to make healthy choices easier. We work to create healthier environments by offering free resources and volunteer opportunities, as well as educational and fun activities!

VISIT: montereycounty.bluezonesproject.com

MONTEREY RECREATION FUN! in the Park

Join us at Montecito Park for FUN! in the Park. Come and participate in free, fun games and hands on S.T.E.A.M. activities with Monterey Recreation. For updates follow Monterey Recreation on Instagram. Saturday | Time 11 am-1pm
May 10; Sep. 13

VISIT: monterey.gov/rec
EMAIL: montereyrecreation@monterey.gov

COASTANOAN RUMSEN CARMEL TRIBE

**Rumsen Ohlone Dance:
Dancing Our Ancestors Home**
All ages
Sunday | 11 am-1 pm
Jul. 20
Garland Ranch Regional Park,
Carmel Valley

VISIT: costanoanrumsen.org
FOLLOW: [@coastanoanrumsencarmeltribe](https://www.instagram.com/coastanoanrumsencarmeltribe)

SPARK IN NATURE Nature Journaling with Melinda Nakagawa

Each month, Melinda guides you to “see the unseen” in nature by simplifying the process, drawing to see, deepening your personal connection to nature, and recognizing your inner nature. Sponsored by The Friends of the Marina Library.

First Saturday of each month
March, April, and May
10:30 am-12 pm

REGISTER: SparkinNature.com/events
CALL: 831-883-7507 (Marina Library)

UC MASTER GARDENERS OF MONTEREY & SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES

Native Plant Gardening

Learn how gardening with native plants can provide habitat and improve the environment. This introductory class will empower you to increase the biodiversity and beauty surrounding your home.

May 31
Pacific Grove Museum
of Natural History

VISIT: <https://mbmg.ucanr.edu>
EMAIL: corrierothman@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

Natural Resources Volunteer Program

Join us at one of our twelve monthly volunteer projects spread out among eight local state parks! Activities include planting native plants, removing weeds, picking up trash, and more. All volunteer events are from 9 am to 12 pm.

VISIT: parks.ca.gov/mdnrvp
Email: volunteer.monterey@parks.ca.gov

CITIZENS FOR SUSTAINABLE MARINA

Oak Woodland and Community Garden

Saturdays | 9 am-1 pm

EMAIL: bdelgado62@gmail.com

Community Clean-up

Second Sunday of each month
10 am-12:30 pm

Hilltop Park Native Planting

Dates vary

VISIT: csmc.eco/marina-home

Broom Bash

Bi-monthly | Times vary

EMAIL: sustainableeastgarrison@gmail.com

FARM DISCOVERY AT LIVE EARTH

We host a variety of volunteer opportunities, like assisting with field trips, caring for the garden or animals, and working on the farm. We cultivate relationships with nature and food systems while incorporating environmental stewardship and nutrition.

VISIT: farmdiscovery.org
EMAIL: education@farmdiscovery.org
CALL: 831-728-2032

TOURS & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

FRIENDS OF SEASIDE PARKS

Join us each Saturday from 10 am-12 pm as we beautify and create habitat in Seaside parks! All ages can help plant native species, remove weeds, prune, and water while learning about how drought-resistant and pollinator-friendly gardening benefits all.

VISIT: fospa.org
EMAIL: pkennedy1950@gmail.com

HABITAT STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

Stewardship Events

The Habitat Stewardship Project invites the public to community service events! Stewards plant native plants and clean-up degraded sites in Salinas, Carmel, Marina, and other locations.

VISIT: csumb.edu/hspmb
EMAIL: azwiley@csumb.edu

SANTA LUCIA CONSERVANCY

Community Group Service Day

Contact us if your club, group, class, or organization would like to volunteer a few hours for conservationist-led invasive plant removal on rolling grassland or creekside in the Carmel River watershed, and we'll make it a date! Bring your water bottle and lunch. We'll provide the tools and inspiring coastal views.

Ages 10+
Thursday | 9 am-1 pm

RSVP: outreach@slconservancy.org

SAVE OUR SHORES

Get involved in coastal conservation! Join a beach, river, or inland cleanup to participate in community action and community science data collection. Cleanup events are hosted year-round at a variety of locations. All are welcome!

VISIT: saveourshores.org/events/
Email: volunteer@saveourshores.org

BIG SUR LAND TRUST

Join Big Sur Land Trust on the lands you love! Choose from guided hikes, project tours, special events, and more.

San Jose Creek Wildflower Walk

Apr. 5 | 9am

Earth Day Guided Hike:

Lunch Bench/Corona Cabin Loop

Apr. 22 | 8 am

Race for Open Space

May 10 | Times vary

Carmel River FREE Tours

Sep. 19 | 9am and 10am

REGISTRATION: bigsurlandtrust.org/event/
EMAIL: info@bigsurlandtrust.org

ELKHORN SLOUGH RESERVE

Visit the Reserve to hike and explore the habitats around Elkhorn Slough! Open Wed-Sun, 9 am-5 pm, for self-guided hikes on trails and Visitor Center exploration. Family-friendly activities, guided hikes every weekend, and special events are on our online calendar.

VISIT: elkhornslough.org/visit/calendar
CALL: 831-728-2822

PACIFIC GROVE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Adventures, discoveries, and fun at family days, science talks, camps, and more! Themes: sustainability, dinosaurs, community science, and native plants!

Science Saturdays

Last Saturday of each month
10 am-3 pm

Exploration Station

Open during Museum hours

VISIT: pgmuseum.org
EMAIL: education@pgmuseum.org
CALL: 831-648-5716

VENTANA WILDLIFE SOCIETY

Discovery Center

Open Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, 10 am-4 pm
Memorial Day to Labor Day weekend

Condor Zoom Chats

Tune in for real-time answers to your burning condor questions as Senior Wildlife Biologist Joe Burnett and the Ventana Wildlife Society Condor Crew take you through the latest updates on the central California condor flock.

All Ages
Last Thursday of each month | 4 pm
Online

VISIT: ventanaws.org and
www.ventanaws.org/thecondorchat



MPRPD Park Map

Parks and properties owned and managed by the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WARD 1 Jeffery Markham
jmarkham@mprpd.org
Marina, northern Ft. Ord

WARD 2 Shane Anderson
shanea@mprpd.org
Seaside, northern Sand City, southern Ft. Ord

WARD 3 Kevin Raskoff (President)
kraskoff@mprpd.org
Monterey, southwest Seaside, southern Sand City, Del Rey Oaks

WARD 4 Kathleen Lee
klee@mprpd.org
Pacific Grove, New Monterey, northern Pebble Beach

WARD 5 Monta Potter
mpotter@mprpd.org
Carmel, Carmel Valley, Big Sur, southern Pebble Beach

Board meetings are typically held the first Wednesday of each month. Check mprpd.org for more information.

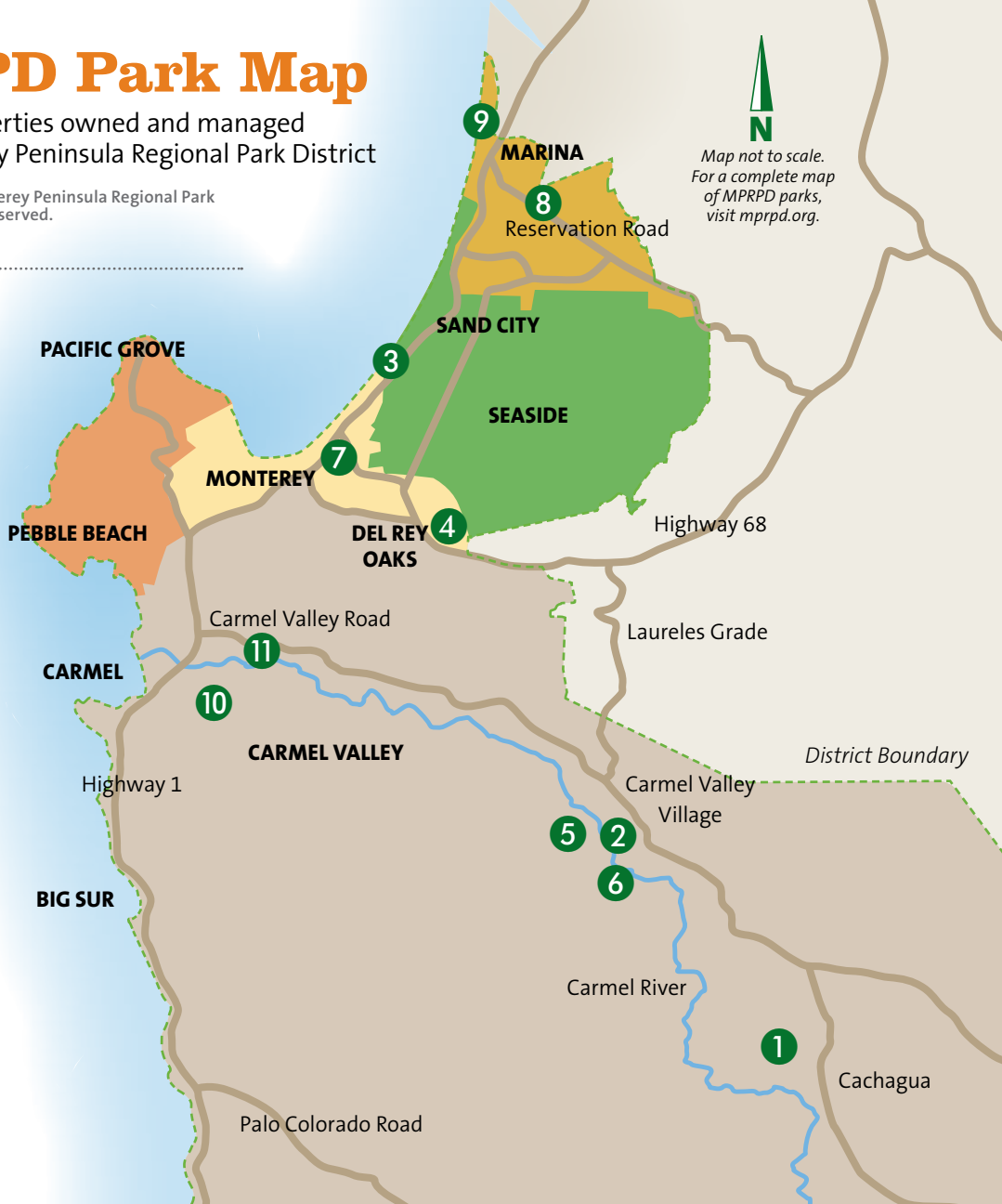
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH (EECO) TEAM

- Shuran Parker | Interim General Manager
- Jackie Nelson | Supervisor
- Debbie Wyatt | Coordinator-Volunteers
- Savannah Peña | Coordinator-Programs
- Claire Ackland | Specialist
- Jocelyn Mendoza | Specialist
- Jonathan David, PhD | Specialist
- Megan Mach, PhD | Specialist
- Nicole Bonello | Specialist

lgo@mprpd.org

A special thanks to the MPRPD Volunteers.

Map not to scale. For a complete map of MPRPD parks, visit mprpd.org.



* Management Partnership ** Access Permit Required		Hiking Trails	Equestrian Trails	Bicycle Trails	Coastal Access	Sports Fields	Children's Play Areas	Volunteer-led Activities	Picnic Areas	Dogs Allowed	Restrooms	Scenic/Env. Resources	Historic Resources	Visitor Center	Meeting Room	Accessibility Trail Info
1	Cachagua Community Park*					✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
2	de Dampierre Park (unit of Garland Park)*	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
3	Eolian Dunes Preserve	✓			✓							✓	✓			
4	Frog Pond Wetland Preserve	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
5	Garland Ranch Regional Park (Garland Park)	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
6	Kahn Ranch (unit of Garland Park)**	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
7	Laguna Grande Regional Park*	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
8	Locke-Paddon Wetland Community Park*	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
9	Marina Dunes Preserve	✓			✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓			
10	Palo Corona Regional Park (Front Ranch)	✓						✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
11	Rancho Cañada (unit of Palo Corona Regional Park)	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Adventure Planner

APRIL			PAGE
5	Sat	Farm Discovery: Family Farm Field Trip	11
6	Sun	California Wildlife Day	3
12	Sat	Marina Earth Day	13
13	Sun	Garland's Best Wildflowers	7
13	Sun	Nature Walks - Garland	6
17	Thu	Snively's Ridge from Holt Road	8
19	Sat	Discover San Jose Creek, Ishxenta State Park	11
19	Sat	Field Naturalist Training - Plants	12
19	Sat	Wildflower Wonder: Nature Journaling	12
26	Sat	Beginning Birding at Laguna Grande	11
27	Sun	Steinbeck Views	8
MAY			
3	Sat	Exploring Nature with Children	11
3	Sat	Farm Discovery: Family Farm Field Trip	11
3	Sat	Palo Corona Backcountry - San Jose Creek	7
4	Sun	Discover Kahn Ranch	6
4	Sun	Moon Movement & Mysteries	10
8	Thu	Steep Spring Discovery	6
8	Thu	Watershed Educational Tour	12
9	Fri	Discover San Jose Creek, Ishxenta State Park	11
10	Sat	Field Naturalist Training - Birds	12
16	Fri	San Jose Creek Loop	6
17	Sat	Making Cordage from Native Plants	12
17	Sat	Star Party	BACK COVER
24	Sat	Art in Nature	10
24	Sat	Beginning Birding at Laguna Grande	11
24	Sat	Rumsen Storytelling	10
24	Sat	Vista Lobos Ocean Views	8
JUNE			
1	Sun	iNaturalist Tidepooling	10
1	Sun	Moon Movement & Mysteries	10
1	Sun	Tree ID	12
5	Thu	Steinbeck Views	8
7	Sat	Snively's Ridge from Holt Road	8
7	Sat	Wildlife on the Dunes	6
14	Sat	Making Cordage from Native Plants	12
14 -15	Sat-Sun	26th Summer Wildflower Show	BACK COVER
14	Sat	Tai Chi For Energy	8
15	Sun	Paws & Claws: Father's Day Wildlife Tracking	11
18	Wed	Steep Spring Discovery	6
21	Sat	Discover San Jose Creek, Ishxenta State Park	11
21	Sat	Star Party	BACK COVER
21	Sat	Tai Chi For Energy	8
22	Sun	Nature Walks - Palo Corona	6
23	Mon	Leaves & Lines: Meeting and Sketching Trees	12
28	Sat	Hot on the Trail: Summertime Trail Running	9

28	Sat	Steelhead Trout in the Carmel River	13
28	Sat	Tai Chi For Energy	8
29	Sun	Beginning Birding at Laguna Grande	11
29	Sun	Discover Kahn Ranch	6
JULY			PAGE
5	Sat	Wildlife on the Dunes	6
12	Sat	Preparing for Wildfire	6
12	Sat	Medicinal Plant Tour	7
12	Sat	Palo Corona Backcountry - San Jose Creek	7
12	Sat	Tai Chi For Energy	8
13	Sun	Nature Walks - Garland	6
13	Sun	Solar System Stroll	10
19	Sat	Snively's Ridge from Holt Road	8
19	Sat	Discover San Jose Creek, Ishxenta State Park	11
19	Sat	Tai Chi For Energy	8
20	Sun	Cold-Blooded Friends	11
26	Sat	Beginning Birding at Laguna Grande	11
26	Sat	Tai Chi For Energy	8
AUGUST			
2	Sat	Farm Discovery: Family Farm Field Trip	11
2	Sat	Wildlife on the Dunes	6
8	Fri	San Jose Creek Loop	6
8	Fri	Walk with Poems	13
9	Sat	Hot on the Trail: Summertime Trail Running	9
10	Sun	Solar System Stroll	10
23	Sat	Beginning Birding at Laguna Grande	11
23	Sat	Discover San Jose Creek, Ishxenta State Park	11
23	Sat	Exploring Nature with Children	11
24	Sun	Steinbeck Views	8
30	Sat	Art in Nature	10
30	Sat	Vista Lobos Ocean Views	8
31	Sun	Nature Walks - Palo Corona	6
SEPTEMBER			
6	Sat	Coffee with Cows	10
6	Sat	Wildlife on the Dunes	6
7	Sun	Solar System Stroll	10
12	Fri	Star Party	BACK COVER
12	Fri	Walk with Poems	13
13	Sat	ParkIT! Point Lobos Shuttle Demo	13
13	Sat	Vista Lobos Ocean Views	8
20	Sat	Discover San Jose Creek, Ishxenta State Park	11
20	Sat	Hot on the Trail: Summertime Trail Running	9
21	Sun	Discover Kahn Ranch	6
27	Sat	Beginning Birding at Laguna Grande	11

Registration required for programs. Events with bold font indicate special events where walk-ins are welcome.



Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District
 4860 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923
 Post Office Box 223340, Carmel, CA 93922
 Tel: 831-372-3196

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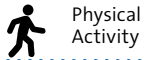


www.mprpd.org

ECRWSS

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

ICON KEY



Physical Activity



Seated Activity



Binoculars Advised



Flashlight Advised



Pack Additional Materials

The MPRPD MISSION:

To acquire and maintain open space in the District for preservation and use, working with partners and the community, for public benefit, enjoyment and environmental protection.

Out of this World! Stargazing

Programs presented in cooperation with the Santa Cruz Astronomy Club and the Monterey Institute for Research in Astronomy (MIRA) Club.

Star Party

Look up at the night sky and revel in its vast and seemingly endless mysteries. Come and join us as amateur astronomers share their knowledge of the cosmos. Observe details on the moon and faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters during this two-hour program.

- Portable chair, warm clothing, and hot drinks encouraged.
- Rain, fog, or cloud cover cancels event.
- For up to date weather conditions, call 831-659-6065 within an hour of program.
- Bring a red light flashlight.
- Minors must be accompanied by an adult.
- Only service dogs permitted.

All Ages

Start at sunset, 2-hour run time

May 17 | 8:15 pm - Spring Stars

Jun. 21 | 8:30 pm - Summer Solstice

Sep. 12 | 7:15 pm - Early Fall Sky

Garland Park Visitor Center,

Carmel Valley

Registration helps us plan, but walk-ins are welcome.

WALK-INS WELCOME



Please recycle, be green! A paper version is sent to district residents via bulk mail, and listings of our classes are available online.

26TH ANNUAL



Summer Wildflower Show

Saturday & Sunday

June 14-15

10 am-4 pm

Garland Ranch Park Visitor Center,
 Carmel Valley

FREE admission | mprpd.org