

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
STAFF REPORT**

BOARD MEETING: October 9, 2019

SUBJECT: Environmental Education and Community Outreach Update

PRESENTER: Jackie Nelson, Environmental Education Supervisor

REPORT: **Education**

Over a three-day period, MPRPD staff and volunteers hosted 210 Carmel Middle School seventh graders during the annual Monterey Bay Outdoor Education (MBOE) watershed education program. This next generation of decision makers explored the watershed from the headwaters to the sea as they visited three sites along the Carmel River: Carmel River State Beach, Palo Corona Regional Park (PCRP) and Hastings Reserve. Hiking to Inspiration Point and Animas Pond, the students learned about the habitats, history and conservation efforts of the area. Exhilaration was seen on the students' faces as each one saw a red-legged frog and at least one garter snake.

Staff led twenty California State University Monterey Bay "Environmental Interpretation and Outreach (ENSTU 349S) students on an interpretive methods tour at Frog Pond Wetland Preserve.

Outreach

The Fall 2019/Winter 2020 *Let's Go Outdoors! (LGO!)* guide features 91 activities and 13 new programs. This season MPRPD worked with the Monterey County Weekly (Weekly) for the printing and distribution of the guide. In addition to the 65,400 copies mailed, the guide will be inserted into approximately 37,000 Weekly newsletters reaching nearly 91,000 readers at over 900 locations throughout Monterey County. Plus, there will be two weeks of print and online ads, and an online digital flip book for use on the MPRPD website.

The following Special Use Permits (SUP) were or are in the process of being issued during this reporting period:

1. Aerial Imaging (drone flight) of PCRP for the Rancho Canada Unit restoration and reuse plans,
2. Aerial Imaging (drone flight) of Marina Dunes Preserve for restoration planning,
3. Monterey Peninsula College "Valley Invitational Cross Country" run, a women's 5k and men's 4-mile cross

country race hosted by MPC's men's and women's cross-country teams.

Volunteers

MPPRPD volunteers participated in a 4-hour California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (CJPIA) "Dealing Successfully with Customers" training workshop. Initially offered as a staff training, Debbie Wyatt's coordinated efforts brought the program directly to the volunteers benefitting our visitors, staff and volunteers.

Volunteer and ranger staff updated the irrigation system at the Garland Ranch Regional Park arboretum and native plant garden. The rainwater catchment system was prepped for the winter rains.

FISCAL IMPACT:	Not Applicable
FUNDING SOURCE:	Not Applicable
FUNDING BALANCE:	Not Applicable
RECOMMENDATION:	Informational Only