



Discover County Parks

Wild places & friendly spaces

Our Parks Are Showing Off their Spring Colors

Spring is here! Flowers are already blooming along the trails and spreading a colorful carpet across many of our Parks. You can find spring flowers in every San Mateo County Park, but wildflower displays are prevalent in Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve, San Pedro Valley County Park, San Bruno Mountain State and County Park, and Huddart Park.

Edgewood Park, known for its spring flowers, is best seen and appreciated when guided by volunteer docents with the Friends of Edgewood. You can join one of these hikes every Saturday and Sunday, at 10 a.m. now through June 9. For hike information, visit www.friendsofedgeswood.org.

If you want to hike on your own, consider these recommendations by park rangers. Before you head out download at www.SMCoParks.org or pick up a park map at kiosks at the entrance of all parks.

Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve, Redwood City: Begin your visit by stopping by the Bill and Jean Lane Education Center to check out the "What's Blooming" sign and purchase a wildflower brochure. The Center is open every Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To appreciate the variety of wildflowers in Edgewood Park Ranger John Trewin suggests you access the park

Continue reading...



Sticky Monkey Flower

Upcoming Events

Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve Celebrates 20 Years

Check out the series of events planned by the Friends of Edgewood to recognize the 20th anniversary of the designation of Edgewood County Park as a Natural Preserve and the formation of the Friends of Edgewood.

A birthday party on Saturday, May 11, begins at 1p.m. and features family

Upcoming Events, cont.

Discover San Mateo County Parks

Spring Colors, Continued . . .

To appreciate the variety of wildflowers in Edgewood Park Ranger John Trewin suggests you access the park through the Sunset gate (off Sunset Way in Redwood City), hike the Serpentine Loop to the West Kiosk, turn right on Franciscan Trail, turn right on Ridgeview. You can also reach these trails beginning at the main park entrance and following the map to Franciscan Trail You may catch sight of the Buttercups and Iris.

How Donations Help

You may have seen a donation box the last time you were at Sawyer Camp Trail or visiting another San Mateo County Park and wondered how these donations help Parks. Donations, small and large, have become vital as the budget for San Mateo County Parks has shrunk over the years. Donations are most often directed towards improving park services, including the restoration of trails and facilities.

In the last two years, park supporters contributed to improving 1.5 miles of the Bear Gulch Trail in Wunderlich Park, supported habitat restoration work at Edgewood Park, and made the installation of four new restrooms on Sawyer Camp Trail possible. At Coyote Point Recreation Area donations were used to renovate the popular Eucalyptus picnic and playground area and will provide one-third of the funding for improvements on the West Promenade along the bay side of the park.

Our Commemorative Park Bench Donation Program is another way to show your appreciation of parks while honoring the memory of someone special. Consider this donation option when you want to memorialize a loved one or acknowledge a community member. Each 8-foot-long redwood bench has a brass plaque on the backrest. Donors work with Park staff to develop plaque wording and to select a location for the bench. A minimum donation of \$3,500 is requested for each commemorative bench.

Ways to donate: Drop cash and checks in Park donation kiosks in select parks, go to www.SMCoParks.org to download a donation form, or purchase an Annual Park Pass and use the donation option when completing the form.

To learn more about the Commemorative Park Bench Programs, contact Cecily Harris at charris@smcgov.org or visit www.SMCoParks.org on the website: www.SMCoParks.org

Upcoming Events, Cont.

activities, including hands-on crafts, a puppet show, and birthday cake.

Take A Hike Begins a New

Season: Join Take A Hike on Saturday, June 8, 9 a.m. at Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve in Redwood City. Take A Hike is championed by San Mateo County Supervisor Carole Groom and fellow board members who encourage residents to discover



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Mateo County Parks as resources for exercise and environment awareness. All hikes are held on the first Saturday of each month now through October. Hikes are led by Park rangers and volunteers. See the entire schedule at

www.smcoparks.org/takeahike

Discover San Mateo County Parks

Make Reservations Now

Don't wait for the warm weather to arrive before you start making your summer picnic or camping reservations. Planning ahead – reservations can be made up to one year in advance – gives park visitors a good chance to secure favorite sites. Before making a reservation:

- Take into account the number of participants you will have and what you want to do in the park. If you plan to hike, consider picnic sites that are near the trails you want to visit. Or, if you're planning a birthday party, you may want sites to be close to play structures.
- Visit [Reservable Facilities](#) at San Mateo County Parks website to read about each picnic and camp site and to familiarize yourself with what can be brought to the park. This feature allows you to view the site before you make your reservations, to see how many people can be accommodated, and lists nearby facilities, including restrooms, horseshoe pits and volleyball courts.
- Be aware that only select park sites can accommodate party jumpers (Coyote Point Park, Flood Park, Junipero Serra Park (except Buckeye area), and San Pedro Valley Park). Please call our reservations staff before you secure the jumper.

Why not try making a reservation using the online reservation system -- a quick and an easy way to make reservations any day and any time. To make reservations on the phone, call (650) 363-4021, Monday through Thursday, 8am-5pm. The office is closed on Fridays and holidays.

Upcoming Events, Cont.

Speaker Series at San Pedro Valley County Park:

Jim Steele, bird expert and San Francisco State lecturer, will lead a song bird walk on Saturday, May 18. The hike begins at 8 a.m. and leaves from the Park's Visitor Center.

Paul Donahue will talk about Pacifica's shorebirds on Saturday, June 1, at 6 p.m. in the Park's Visitor Center. Donahue is a naturalist, environmentalist, and bird expert whose work has taken place in the rainforests of the western Amazon Basin in South America.

Please call (650) 355-8289 for more information. For more on events, visit www.smcoparks.org/events