

Relax in a Grove

Kennedy Grove Regional Recreation Area offers a comfortable setting for small or large group picnics (some by reservation) or informal gatherings of friends and families. The grove is situated at the base of San Pablo Dam, and its whispering eucalyptus trees offer a fragrant, calm setting for all kinds of activities, from company picnics to family reunions. The centrally located turf meadow provides additional play space for picnickers, with enough room to toss a frisbee, pass a football, or set up an informal softball game. (Hardball is not permitted.) Volleyball and horseshoes are popular with all ages, and equipment may be rented for a minimal fee.

HISTORY Long before this 218-acre area became a park it was the site of ranchos, wheat fields, and stations for a narrow-gauge railroad that ran from Oakland to Orinda through Richmond and the Sobrante Hills. Kennedy Grove was once a portion of the 17,754-acre Rancho San Pablo. Francisco Castro took possession of the rancho in 1823. Later the grove was the site of the Clancy Ranch. In 1886 the California Nevada Railroad had stops at Frenchman's Curve and Laurel Grove Station. The park's picnic areas are named for some of these historic railroad stops. The eucalyptus trees were planted in 1910.

The park was dedicated on October 22, 1967, to honor the late President John F. Kennedy. The area is owned and operated by the East Bay Regional Park District.

FERN COTTAGE This reservable facility is suitable for meetings, parties, receptions, etc. Located at the north end of the parking lot, it features a kitchen, patio, large room, private enclosed backyard, and a large redwood deck. It accommodates 90 seated, 130 standing. For information call (510) 544-3164. Fern Cottage hosts activities for seniors (age 55 and older) from the west Contra Costa County area. Dues entitle members to attend the following: drop-in open house and bingo (Mondays, 1-4 p.m.); business meeting (first Monday of the month); game day (Thursdays, 1-4 p.m.); and potluck supper (third Thursday of each month). For information, call (510) 223-1284.

PARKLAND RULES

Welcome to your regional parklands. Help protect park resources and ensure an enjoyable visit for everyone by complying with these rules and any posted regulations. The Park District's Ordinance 38, which is summarized below, lists specific rules for use and protection of regional parklands. Violators will be subject to citation or arrest. For further information, ask a Park Ranger, Public Safety Officer, or telephone (510) 881-1833.

PARK GATES ARE OPEN to the public during hours posted at the park entrance. Unless otherwise posted, CURFEW is between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., except for persons possessing a permit to remain on parklands. **MOTOR VEHICLES** are restricted to designated parking areas and paved public roads.

BICYCLES may be ridden on designated bicycle trails, and on fire or service roads, unless otherwise posted. Bicycles are not permitted, either ridden, walked or carried, in areas posted "No Bicycles," or on narrow hiking or narrow equestrian trails. State law requires that all bicyclists under age 18 wear an approved helmet while riding on trails and roadways. Riders should call out or sound a warning when overtaking other trail users.

DOGS must be leashed (six-foot maximum) and under control at any posted area, parking lot, picnic site, lawn or developed area. No dogs or other animals are permitted at any swimming pool, beach, wetland or marsh. Owners must always carry a leash (six-foot maximum). Dogs may be off-leash in open space and undeveloped areas of parklands, provided they are under control at all times. Dangerous animals are not allowed in the parks. Please dispose of your dog's waste by placing it in a garbage can. Persons who walk more than three dogs at a time on Regional Parks trails must obtain a permit; commercial dog walkers are required to obtain a permit regardless of how many dogs they walk at one time (limit of six). Please call (510) 690-6508 for information.

SWIMMING, WADING and other water contact activities are permitted only in designated areas. **DIVING** is permitted only from designated diving boards and swim platforms. **SCUBA** diving is prohibited in any District lake or inland waters.

PLANTS, ANIMALS, GEOLOGIC, ARCHAEOLOGIC OR HISTORIC OBJECTS are protected by law. Please do not disturb or remove any of these features.

HELP PROTECT OUR PARK WILDLIFE by not releasing or feeding ducks, cats or other animals. Do not feed wild park animals; enjoy them from a distance.

FIRES are permitted in barbecue pits or personal cooking equipment in designated picnic areas or irrigated turf areas only, placed at least 30 feet from flammable materials. Please do not place hot coals on the ground or in a garbage can. Dispose of hot coals or other burned fuel in barbecue pits or in designated hot coal disposal receptacles.

FIREWORKS are not permitted in any Regional Park.

CAMPING is not permitted within District parklands without a permit. A state license is required to **FISH** at all regional parks. A District fishing permit is also required when posted.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES are not permitted at pools, swim beaches or within 50 feet of paved roads, parking lots or posted areas. Otherwise, beer and wine are permitted at picnic areas and elsewhere on parklands.

GAMES and ACTIVITIES, including model rockets, model airplanes, hang gliding, golf and other activities with potential risk to property or park visitors are permitted only in designated areas.

ASSEMBLIES, PERFORMANCES, SPECIAL EVENTS or similar gatherings require a permit.

Please be considerate of other park visitors if you use a **RADIO**. A permit is required for **AMPLIFICATION** of voice, music or other sounds.

FIREARMS or BOWS AND ARROWS are not permitted on regional parklands except at established ranges. Crossbows, spears, slingshots, air pistols or rifles, and other dangerous weapons are prohibited anywhere on regional parklands.

PARK VISITORS are responsible for knowing and following park rules.



To Reach Kennedy Grove:

From the Richmond area take I-80 to the San Pablo Dam Road exit. Turn south on San Pablo Dam Road and proceed through El Sobrante to the Kennedy Grove entrance (on the left), about one-quarter mile south of Castro Ranch Road.

From the Oakland/Orinda/Walnut Creek area take Highway 24 to the Orinda exit and turn north on Camino Pablo, which becomes San Pablo Dam Road. Drive past the San Pablo Dam Recreation Area entrance about one mile to the Kennedy Grove park entrance (on the right).

If you would like this information in an alternative format, please contact the EBRPD Public Affairs Department at (510) 544-2200, fax (510) 635-3478, TDD (510) 633-0460, or info@ebparks.org.



East Bay Regional Park District

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Kennedy Grove Regional Recreation Area

East Bay Regional Park District



POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL EMERGENCY9-1-1
EBRPD HEADQUARTERS 1-888-EBPARKS
PICNIC RESERVATIONS 1-888-EBPARKS
..... option 2, then 1
PARK OFFICE 1-888-EBPARKS, option 3, ext. 4534
FERN COTTAGE.....(510) 544-3164
WEB SITE..... www.ebparks.org
TDD(510) 633-0460