

BLACK DIAMOND

NATURALIST PROGRAMS

September 2010

Black Diamond Naturalists offer a variety of natural and cultural history programs throughout central and eastern Contra Costa County. Programs at Black Diamond Mines meet at the parking lot at the south end of Somersville Road unless otherwise noted. Other meeting sites are listed with each program. Those requiring registration list a course code number after the Naturalist name. Accommodations will be made for visitors with disabilities upon request.

Sidney Flat Visitor Center: Open Saturdays and Sundays, 10am-4:30pm

Hazel-Atlas Silica Mine Tour

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
Saturdays & Sundays, March-November
Explore the underground through a guided tour; learn its history, geology, and technology. Ninety minute advanced registration tours are offered at 11am, 1pm, and 2pm. Call number below or go to www.ebparksonline.org. A 10am tour is available to groups of ten or more on weekends (not available for online registration). First-come, first-served tours are offered at noon and 3pm. Purchase tickets at the visitor center. Must be at least 7 years old, parent participation required. Dogs not permitted on the tour. Fee: \$3.

Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS

First Friday Fires!

Bay Point Regional Shoreline
6:30-8:30pm, Fridays, July 2, Aug 6, Sept 3
Interpretive Staff

Grab a lawn chair, cozy up next to the campfire, and enjoy the cool evening breezes on the first Friday of each summer month at Bay Point Regional Shoreline. Through storytelling, activities, and exploration we will discover East Bay's natural and cultural history.

7/2 – California's Amazing Delta

8/6 – California Indians

9/3 – Natural Nightlife!



East County Trails Horizontal Tasting

Marsh Creek Regional Trail
9-11:30am, Saturday, September 4

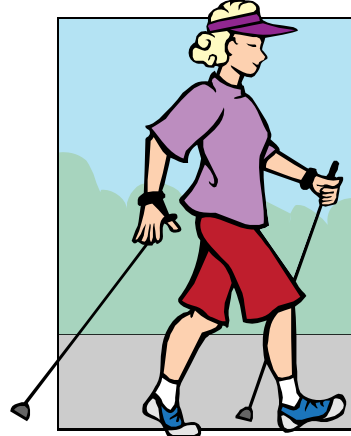
Big Break Regional Trail
9-11:30am, Saturday, September 18

Mike Moran #25108, 25115

Nothing vertical about these delightfully flat paved promenades! Explore the line between wild and rural, backyard and backwater, wetland and farmland, on these easy going strolls along the creekside forest of Marsh Creek (9/4), and Delta wetlands (9/18 & 10/2), including the brand new section of Big Break Regional Trail.

Disabled accessible

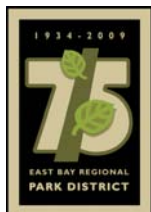
Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS



Chat with a Nat

Contra Loma Regional Park
11am-1pm, Sunday, September 5
Eddie Willis

A park naturalist will be wandering the lagoon and picnic areas to answer your Regional Park questions, talk about upcoming events, and introduce you to Contra Loma's "wild" side. Disabled accessible. Parking \$5.



EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
5175 Somersville Road, Antioch, CA 94509

website: www.ebparks.org
telephone: 510-544-2750
e-mail: bdvisit@ebparks.org

registration website: www.ebparksonline.org

calendar of events

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Labor Day Mine Tours

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
Noon-4:30pm, Monday, September 6
Interpretive Staff

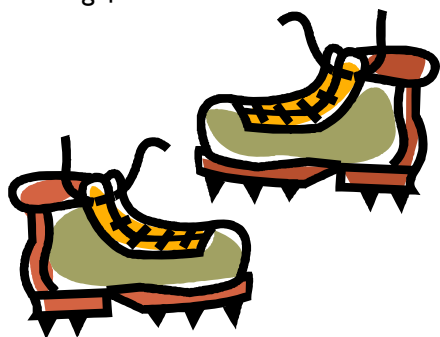
Today, tours through the Hazel-Atlas silica sand mine will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis at noon, 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm. Purchase tickets at the Sidney Flat Visitor Center located at park headquarters. Participants must be age seven or older; parent participation required. 7+yrs
Fee: \$3; Parking \$5

Two Wheel Trekin'

Round Valley Regional Preserve
8am-Noon, Saturday, September 18
Kevin Damstra #25147
Join a Naturalist as we peddle the multi-use Miwok Trail to discover the nature and serenity of this secluded valley. This six-mile trail gains approximately 160 feet in elevation before dropping into the valley. Helmets are required for participants under 18. 12+yrs
Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS

Long Hike West

Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve
8:30am-1pm, Sunday, September 19
Eddie Willis
Travel six rugged miles through the historic western reaches of the preserve where we'll visit Rose Hill Cemetery, stop by Jim's Place, and view an impressive stand of Coulter pines. 8+yrs
Parking \$5



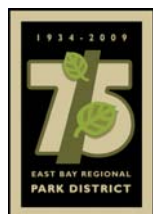
Harvest & Hunters Moons at Vasco Caves

Round Valley Regional Preserve
5:30-10pm, Thursday, September 23
Kevin Damstra #25150
3:30-8pm, Saturday, October 23
Mike Moran #25151
The sun's last rays and rising Harvest (9/23) and Hunter's (10/23) moons will illuminate the many natural and cultural wonders found at this fascinating Preserve. We will hike 2-3 moderate miles. Vasco Caves is accessible through guided tours by District provided bus transportation only. 10+yrs
Fee: \$30 (non-res. \$34)
Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS



Thursday Birding: Raptor Baseline

Round Valley Regional Preserve
9-11:30am, Thursday, September 30
Mike Moran #25152
The morning (eastern) side of Mount Diablo hosts a magnificent array of birds of prey: hawks, falcons, and eagles. Help us document their variety and numbers in this fun, social citizen research project. No experience necessary—we'll teach you how to identify these birds. We'll meet at a different park on the last Thursday of each month. Join in for one or all. 10+yrs
Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS



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