

BLACK DIAMOND

NATURALIST PROGRAMS

March 2010

All programs meet at the parking lot at the south end of Somersville Road unless otherwise noted. Programs requiring registration list a course code number after the Naturalist name. Use this number when making reservations by telephone or at www.ebparksonline.org. For more information call (510) 544-2750 or e-mail us at bdvisit@ebparks.org. Accommodations will be made for visitors with disabilities upon request.

Hazel-Atlas Silica Mine Tour

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 are not permitted on the tour. Fee: \$3 per person. Parking \$5
Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS

Sidney Flat Visitor Center

10am-4:30pm, Saturdays & Sundays
Stop by our park headquarters visitor center to view coalfield artifacts and photographs or say hello to our friendly resident snakes. Tickets for first-come, first-served Hazel-Atlas Mine tours at noon and 3pm may be purchased here (March-November). Please arrive at least one hour before tour time to sign-up. Participants must be age 7 or older. Parking \$5

Mine Open House Weekend

12-4:30pm, Saturday and Sunday, March 6 & 7
Interpretive Staff
It's our opening weekend, so now's your chance to explore nearly 1,000 feet of the Hazel-Atlas silica sand mine at your own pace! We'll have self-guided tours for participants age 7 and older at a reduced price, and a special underground room for younger participants. 7+yrs
Fee: \$1. Parking \$5



Thursday Birding: East County

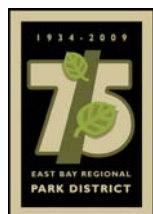
Big Break Regional Shoreline
9-11am, Thursday, March 11
Mike Moran #23677
Spring's feathered magic flits, flies, swims, and soars! Wetland wanderers (shorebirds) and widely traveled waterfowl at Big Break Regional Trail. Disabled accessible.
Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS

Vasco Caves Regional Preserve Hike

Round Valley Regional Preserve
9am-2pm, Saturday, March 13 & 27
9am-2pm, Sunday, March 28
Interpretive Staff #23638, 23639, 23640
Come experience spring's riches among Vasco's spectacular rock outcrops and vernal pools-seasonal home of endangered amphibians and fairy shrimp. This is habitat for eagles and various nesting and migrating raptors hunting bountiful prey in robust restored grasslands. Archaeological sites contain Indian rock art, part of a complex reaching back nearly 10,000 years. This Preserve is accessible through guided tours only, staging from Round Valley Regional Preserves aboard District-provided bus transportation. 10+yrs
Fee: \$32 (non-res. \$36)
Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS

Rose Hill Requiem

10am-12pm, Saturday, March 13
Bob Kanagaki
Visit a quiet hillside cemetery and recall the booming days of the Mount Diablo Coalfield, the men who toiled in its labyrinthine workings, and their settlements in the surrounding valleys. Rain cancels. 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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Marshy Meander

Martinez Regional Shoreline

10am-12pm, Sunday, March 14

Outdoor Ed

Find remnants of a bygone era during an easy walk around this peaceful shoreline park. Rain cancels.

Somersville Rocks!

10am-12pm, Saturday, March 20

Bob Kanagaki #23605

Visit a town that survived on its rocks—the geologic fortune that allowed it to flourish in the nineteenth century. We'll check out rocks and fossils on the surface and underground in the Hazel-Atlas Mine. 7+yrs. Fee: \$3. Parking \$5

Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS

March (to the) Bloomers

10am-12pm, Sunday, March 21

Outdoor Ed

We'll hike up some of Black Diamond's hills to search for rare and common mid-season wildflowers. Parking \$5

Thursday Birding: Raptor Baseline

Marsh Creek Regional Trail

9-11:30am, Thursday, March 25

Mike Moran #23699

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

Marsh Creek only: Disabled accessible.

Reg. Required: 1-888-EBPARKS

Chaparral Blooms

10am-12pm, Saturday, March 27

Bob Kanagaki

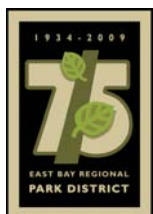
Catch the chaparral in its vernal splendor as we hike Manhattan Canyon and Chaparral Loop.

Parking \$5



Discover these ephemeral, blooming wonders we call wildflowers before the summer heat claims them.

Did you see one on the trail but couldn't identify it? Stop by our park visitor center to ask a Naturalist or one of our knowledgeable Interpretive Student Aides, or pick up a wildflower guide to take with you on your next outing.



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