



El Cerrito's First Annual Hillside Festival

May 17th 2014
10am-3pm



SPONSORED BY THE CITY OF EL CERRITO ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE, TREE COMMITTEE AND PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION.

Join us for El Cerrito's first ever Hillside Festival!

Enjoy El Cerrito's 90 acre Hillside Natural Area Saturday May 17th 10am-3pm. This event will celebrate this rich and diverse Parkland and the community efforts to expand it, by acquiring the Madera Open Space .

Multiple activities will be located throughout the hillside for you and your family to choose from including:



El Cerrito Trail Trekkers Guided Hikes

Motorcycle Hill Trail to Madera Open Space

12:00-1:00 pm

Motorcycle Hill Trailhead, Blake Street and Navallier



Live Oak Trail to Madera Open Space

2:30-3:30 pm

Schmidt Lane Trailhead, EC Recycling Center



El Cerrito High School Mountain Bike Team's 'Pop-up' Bikepark

10am-3pm

Snowden Reservoir, at the end of Snowden Avenue (EC Hillside North)



Friends of Five Creeks

Invasive Plant Removal and Education

10am-Noon

EC Hillside South



Community Garden Network

Gardening with Native Plants

Main event reception area,

El Cerrito Recycling Center



California Native Plant Society Walk & Talk

10:15 am

Schmidt Lane Trailhead, El Cerrito Recycling Center



Easy Nature Walk

1:30 pm

King Court Trailhead (EC Hillside South)



Historical Hike: The Growth of El Cerrito's Parks

10:30 am

Schmidt Lane Trailhead near the El Cerrito Recycling Center



Golden Gate Audubon Society Bird Walk

8:30-10 am (Special pre-festival event)

FULL



El Cerrito Historical Society Talk

"Early Days of El Cerrito"

12:30 pm

Southernmost trailhead on Regency Court
(EC Hillside South)



Early California Native Life

In the Bay Area

11:00 am

Eucalyptus grove just in from King Court
(EC Hillside South)

Please check Trail Trekkers' event webpage for details.

<http://ectrailtrekkers.org/hillside-festival>

1**Hike Motorcycle Hill Trail to Madera Open Space**

12:00-1:00 pm

Meet at the corner of Blake Street and NavallierJoin **Jenny Hammer** of El Cerrito Trail Trekkers for a **one-hour hike up Motorcycle Hill Trail and into the Madera Open Space**.

Learn some history of Motorcycle Hill, view old photos of Motorcycle hill climb races of the 1920's. Enjoy spectacular views. Take in the aroma of California sage, and ponder why Tepco pottery shards are scattered about the area. See and understand how the Hillside Natural Area North will connect to its southern sister with the addition of the Madera Open Space. Explore a gurgling creek, pass a strangled tree, and generally get a sense of the hillside gem in the midst of our city. This hike is moderately strenuous in parts because of steepness, but most is a gentle incline. We will not be power-walking! Bring water. Sturdy boots are recommended and, if you use poles, bring them.

2**El Cerrito High School Mountain Bike Team's**10am-3pm **'Pop-up' Bikepark****Snowden Reservoir site, at the end of Snowden Avenue near Motorcycle Hill.**Come ride your bike at **El Cerrito High School Mountain Bike Team's BIKEPARK!** Skill features for all ages and abilities include: Pumptrack, freeride features, balance beams, teeter totters and more! ECHS team coach **Gary Hill** will be on hand to offer skills clinics and basic to advance bike riding instruction.**Talk with ECPD Bike Patrol officers.****Free basic bicycle maintenance on site.**We encourage you to ride your bike to the Bikepark. **Free valet Bike Parking** is available if you would like to leave your bike and Hike to other locations and events.**You must sign a liability waiver at the event entrance to use ride the bikepark features. Helmets are required.****3****Open Space Hike-Live Oak Trail to Madera Open Space**

2:30-3:30 pm

Meet at the Schmidt Lane Trailhead near the El Cerrito Recycling Center.Join **Dave Weinstein President of El Cerrito Trail Trekkers** for an hour-long hike through his favorite trails beneath grotesquely formed yet beautiful live oaks and across grassy meadows with superb views.**4****Friends of Five Creeks Invasive Plant Removal and**10am-Noon **Education****Meet at the Douglas Drive entrance to the Hillside Natural Area (between 1524 and 1526 Douglas.)****Broom Pull Activity and Educational Activity.** Join **Friends of Five Creeks**. Help remove invasive, fire-prone French broom while enjoying the Hillside Natural Area's loveliest oak groves and streamlets, and learning about the Hillside's biodiversity. Wear long pants and sleeves, closed-toed shoes with good traction. Water, gloves, snacks provided. Due to poison oak, event is not for very young children.**5****California Native Society Walk & Talk**

10:15 am

Meet at Schmidt Lane Trailhead, El Cerrito Recycling Center

Join Janet Gawthrop of the California Native Plant Society for a beginner level Plant Walk to learn about native plants in the Hillside. Enjoy wildflowers and some hidden wonders!

6**Easy Nature Walk**

1:30 pm

Meet at the King Court entrance to the Hillside Natural Area.Join **Friends of Five Creeks founder Susan Schwartz** for an Easy Nature Walk along the top of the Hillside, focusing on native grasslands and wildflowers and remnants of beautiful, fragrant coastal scrub.**7****Historical Hike: The Growth of El Cerrito's Parks**

10:30-11:30 am

Schmidt Lane Trailhead near the El Cerrito Recycling CenterJoin **Rich Bartke**, president of the **El Cerrito Historical Society**, former mayor, and an El Cerrito Wall of Famer. He will reveal how El Cerrito built a remarkable system of parks, an ongoing effort!**8****El Cerrito Historical Society Talk: "The Early Days of El Cerrito"**

12:30 pm

Meet at the top of the eucalyptus grove just in from King Court.

The El Cerrito Historical Society will Staff an information table just below the west end of King Court, at the top of the eucalyptus grove. Tom Panas, who is quite familiar with the history and development of El Cerrito, will lead a walk that focuses on the early settlers of our area.

9**Early California Native American and California Life in the Bay Area**

11:00 am

Enter at the first, southernmost, trailhead on Regency Court, the one that has a trailhead sign.Berkeley's well known historian and author **Richard Schwartz** will discuss the very early days of El Cerrito. What was life like before the arrival of Spanish colonists? Meet Richard at the "crossroads," where four trails come together, a spot with breathtaking views.**Golden Gate Audubon Society Bird Walk****FULL**

8:30-10 am (Special pre-festival event)

Starting at Schmidt Trail head near Recycling Center.**Golden Gate Audubon Society members Tara Mcintire and Anne Ardillo** lead a strenuous, 90 minute bird walk. Limited to 12 people. The hike will allow participants to experience seeing and hearing the birds in the area and then attend the Hillside Festival activities.**Refer to attached fold-out map for event locations.****PLEASE DONATE TO THE EL CERRITO OPEN SPACE CAMPAIGN!!**To donate, please visit the Environmental Quality Community reception booth at the recycling center or donate online at www.el-cerrito.org/OpenSpaceDonations. You may also send a check payable to "City of El Cerrito" with the memo: "Madera Hillside Acquisition" to Pam Austin, El Cerrito Open Space Campaign Treasurer, 834 Kearney Street, El Cerrito, Ca. 94530*Donations are tax deductible and will receive an acknowledgement letter with the City's Tax ID Number.*For more information or to get involved, visit the Madera Hillside Open Space information webpage at www.ectrailtrekkers.org or contact Gary Hill, EL CERRITO OPEN SPACE Campaign Chairman, @ 510-681-9096 or garyalanhill@comcast.net.