

6th Annual El Cerrito Hillside Fest 2019

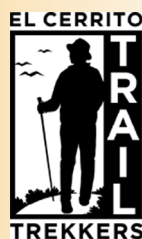
Friday May 3 -
Sunday May 5
Various Times

Locations throughout the
Hillside Natural Area.

FREE



Presented by El Cerrito Trail Trekkers and
El Cerrito's Environmental Quality Committee



Explore El Cerrito's Hillside Natural Area.
Hike, play, learn about nature, history, geology,
dogs, more. Activities for young and old.
Questions? davidsweinstein@yahoo.com

Donations: The festival is free but maintaining and improving the Hillside is not. Please make a tax deductible donation with a check to "ECCF," with "Hillside Improvement" in the message line. ECCF is the El Cerrito Community Foundation. Send to Pam Austin, 834 Kearney St., El Cerrito, CA 94530. Or donate online, www.ectrailtrekkers.org.

Friday, May 3

5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Hillside Natural Area, its history and natural history. Dave Weinstein leads this often steep hike throughout the hillside. Co-sponsored by the El Cerrito Historical Society. Meet at **Location One, Motorcycle Hill trailhead**.

Saturday, May 4

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Young Persons' Nature Hike led by Madera Elementary School PTA and Foundation members. Join Madera parents and students on an enjoyable walk through the Madera Open Space and Hillside. Meet at **Location Two, Madera Elementary School**.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dog Scouts of America – Merit Badges, Community Service and Therapy Work. Co-sponsored by Dog Scouts of America. Meet a Therapy Dog. And learn scent work. It's a slam-dunk for most dogs, but training is required. Dogs, come and try your sniffing skills. This drop-in event takes place at **Location Two, Madera Elementary School**.

Noon to 2 p.m. Geology Walk. Co-sponsored by the Northern California Geological Society, leaders Mark Petrofsky and Bill Motzer. Learn about the geological setting of El Cerrito, the rocks in our city, and faults and landslides. This moderate to strenuous walk will have steep sections. Meet at **Location Six, Schmidt Lane trailhead**.

2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Boy Scouts Nature Hike and Habitat Preservation. Take a short hike with the Boy Scouts and leader Phil Maynard to learn about the Hillside's native plants and the species that have invaded our Hillside. Meet at **Location Four, Regency Gateway**.

4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Beginner-general level Plant Walk. Janet Gawthrop of the California Native Plant Society leads this moderate walk, focusing on native plant restoration. Janet hopes to find Oakland star tulips in bloom. Meet at **Location Three, Madera Circle Entry**, between 1540 and 1560 Madera Circle.

6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Family-friendly Evening Ramble. Alina Constantinescu leads a steep but relaxing 90-minute to two hour stroll through the Hillside. The hike is about 2.5 miles on trails

and sidewalks. inclines are generally mild, with a couple of steep uphill sections. We'll take breaks as needed to enjoy views and conversation. Meet at **Location Five, King Court trailhead**.

Sunday, May 5

8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Early Morning Bird Walk led by Golden Gate Audubon Society member Tara McIntire. Explore the Hillside Natural Area with its magnificent views and grasslands covered with beautiful, native, tangled oak forests, creeks and BIRDS! The terrain can be steep and difficult. Wear sturdy shoes and bring binoculars if you can. Meet at **Location Six, Schmidt Lane Trailhead**.

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Family Friendly Geology Stroll. Geologist Gary Prost offers an easygoing walk introducing young people to the wonders of rocks and the earth beneath their feet. People of any age are welcome too! Meet at **Location Six, Schmidt Lane Trailhead**.

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Preventing wild land fires walk. The Hillside Natural Area is a place of beauty and value for people, wildlife and native plants. But it also presents fire danger. How do the city and volunteers work together to reduce this danger? What more can be done? How can you help? The city's fire marshal Dave Gibson leads. Meet at **Location Five, King Court trailhead**.

Noon to 3 p.m. Nature Scavenger Hunt. Learn about the plants, birds, animals, rocks, and creeks in the Hillside Natural Area. Parents enjoy helping their children in this fun event. Find the things on your list (no actual collecting please), take photos, and then return to talk with others about what you found. Meet at **Location Six, Schmidt Lane trailhead**.

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Insect hike. Eddie Dunbar, founder and president of the Insect Sciences Museum of California, will lead a family-friendly yet erudite hike revealing secrets of the Hillside's tiniest animals. Meet at **Location Four, Regency Gateway**.

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Easy Wildflower Walk. Join Susan Schwartz from Friends of Five Creeks to enjoy wildflowers and more in this hike aimed both at young people and the general public. Meet at **Location Five, King Court**.

3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Hidden Poetry/Geocaching Hike. Join Jenny Hammer for a 90-minute family-friendly hike in search of HIDDEN geocaches, both officially-registered and ones containing poems. Coordinates of the caches will be supplied. Bring a GPS device if you have one. Meet at **Location Six, Schmidt Lane Trailhead**.

5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Enjoy the view, snacks, and good company. Join an informal gathering with members of Trekkers and some of our hike leaders and volunteers. This open-to-all event takes place where the view is great, a few hundred yards from **Location Five, King Court trailhead**. Follow signs.

7 p.m. As the day winds to a close, join Nicole Becker from Ojas Yoga Center for **Meditation in Nature**, high in the hills by a rock outcrop with stupendous views. Relaxing. Enter at **Location Five, King**



CITY OF EL CERRITO AREA MAP

Hillside Natural Area



LEGEND



RESTROOMS



TRAILS

0 0.25 miles
0 100 Feet