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VOLUNTEER DAYS

Volunteer days offer hands on land stewardship experience. We provide a forum for the community to help us take care of the parks and preserves that we all enjoy. Opportunities include habitat restoration, trail improvement, litter pick up, and landscape maintenance. Though the work varies in physical demand, a variety of activities are available for all ages and abilities. We provide water, gloves, tools, and training. Bring snacks or a lunch, sun block, a hat, and a refillable water container. Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothes.

Friday, September 2. 10am to 2pm
Kent Island Restoration

Be a part of the team working to restore the unique ecosystem on Kent Island in Bolinas Lagoon! You'll learn the value of protecting this little oasis, and how to identify and remove the invasive species that threaten it. Participation requires a short rowboat ride to the island. All skill levels are welcome and no previous experience is necessary. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Rubber boots strongly recommended, although not required. Snacks and extra water will be provided, but bring a lunch. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. In the event of cancellation, program will be rescheduled. Space is limited, so RSVP to save a spot! Questions or to RSVP Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at GReza@marincounty.org or (415) 473-3778. Meet at the public dock on Wharf Rd in Bolinas (across from the College of Marin biology lab). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn left onto Hwy 1 9.2 miles, right onto Olema-Bolinas Rd, left to stay on Olema-Bolinas Rd, and straight onto Wharf Rd 2.3 miles.

Saturday, September 3. 9am to 1pm

Aramburu Island Enhancement

Our partners at Richardson Bay Audubon Center have worked tirelessly to convert this 17-acre island from an eroding, unproductive, bay dredge dumpsite into prime shorebird and wildlife habitat. Join us as we team up with our friends at Audubon to help them in the enhancement process. Transportation to the island provided by Richardson Bay Audubon. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. This work is recommended for ages 12 and up; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 10 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Courtney Gutman at (415) 388-2524 ex. 104 or CGutman@audubon.org. Meet at Richardson Bay Audubon Center. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131). Take Tiburon Blvd east for 1 mile. Turn right onto Greenwood Cove Dr. Greenwood Cove becomes Greenwood Beach Rd. Parking is in gravel pullouts on the right side of the road.

Saturday, September 10. 9am to 12pm

Broom Buster Work Day

Old St. Hilary's Open Space Preserve has a friend in the Broom Buster team, a loyal group of volunteers who have worked together to remove French broom on the preserve for nearly 20 years. In that time, incredible progress has been made to suppress the broom regrowth and allow native species to recover and thrive. Come learn about the importance of invasive species removal and lend a hand! Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Snacks and extra water will be provided. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. Questions: Contact Volunteer Coordinator [Greg Reza](mailto:Greg.Reza@audubon.org) at (415) 473-3778. Meet at the gate at the end of Vistazo West St in Tiburon. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131) east 3.5 miles. Turn left onto Lyford Dr, right onto Vistazo West St, and follow to the end (dead end).

Saturday, September 17. 9am to 1pm

California Coastal Cleanup Day at Aramburu Island

Join our county's premier volunteer event focused on the marine environment and its watersheds. Our partners at Richardson Bay Audubon Center have worked tirelessly to convert this 17-acre island from an eroding, unproductive, bay dredge dumpsite into prime shorebird and wildlife habitat. Join us as we team up with our friends at Audubon to help them in the enhancement process. Following the clean-up, a free BBQ lunch will be provided at the Bay Model in Sausalito. All volunteers are welcome to attend the BBQ and enter a raffle for a chance to win many great prizes. Transportation to the island provided by Richardson Bay Audubon. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. This work is recommended for ages 12 and up; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them and a re-usable bucket or container for trash collection. We will provide clean-up supplies. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 10 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Courtney Gutman at (415) 388-2524 ex. 104 or CGutman@audubon.org. Meet at 36 Harbor Cove Way (near the Strawberry Public Dock). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131) east .8 miles. Turn right onto E. Strawberry Dr .4 miles. Turn left onto Harbor Cove Way. 36 Harbor Cove Way is on the right. Please park in the cul-de-sac or across the street.

Saturday, September 17. 9am to 12pm

California Coastal Cleanup Day

Join our county's premier volunteer event focused on the marine environment and its watersheds. Marin County Parks will be picking up litter and recyclables at a variety of locations including the Mill Valley/Sausalito Multiuse Pathway, McInnis Park, McNears Beach Park, Hal Brown Park at Creekside, Kent Island, and Aramburu Island. For a full list of California Coastal Cleanup Day opportunities and details for each site please visit:

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html>. Following the clean-up, a free BBQ lunch will be provided at the Bay Model in Sausalito. All volunteers are welcome to attend the BBQ and enter a raffle for a chance to win many great prizes. All ages are welcome; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves and a re-usable bucket or container for trash collection. We will provide clean-up supplies. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required.

Questions or to RSVP: Contract Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at KSchroeder@marincounty.org or (415) 763-2977.

Saturday, September 17. 10am to 2pm

California Coastal Cleanup Day at Kent Island

Join our county's premier volunteer event focused on the marine environment and its watersheds. Be a part of the team working to restore the unique ecosystem on Kent Island in Bolinas Lagoon! You'll learn the value of protecting this little oasis, and how to identify and remove the invasive species that threaten it. For a full list of California Coastal Cleanup Day opportunities and details for each site please visit:

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html>. Participation requires a short rowboat ride to the island. All skill levels are welcome and no previous experience is necessary. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, bring water and a re-usable bucket or container for trash collection. Rubber boots strongly recommended, although not required. Snacks, lunch, extra water, and clean-up supplies will be provided. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. Space is limited, so RSVP to save a spot!

Questions or to RSVP Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at GReza@marincounty.org or (415) 473-3778. Meet at the public dock on Wharf Rd in Bolinas (across from the College of Marin biology lab).

DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn left onto Hwy 1 9.2 miles, right onto Olema-Bolinas Rd, left to stay on Olema-Bolinas Rd, and straight onto Wharf Rd 2.3 miles.

Saturday, September 24. 9am to 12pm

Creekside Restoration with One Tam

Join Marin County Parks and One Tam staff (a Tamalpais Lands Collaborative initiative) to enrich important habitat areas at Hal Brown Park and Creekside Marsh. Be a part of a community based effort to install a diverse palette of native plants at a site once dominated by nonnative grasses and weeds. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling and hiking on steep and uneven terrain. All ages are welcome; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Snacks will be provided. RSVP's are appreciated but not required.

Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at KSchroeder@marincounty.org or (415) 763-2977. Meet across from Marin General Hospital at Hal Brown Park at Creekside. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Bon Air Rd and follow 0.3 miles. The park is on the right.

Saturday, September 24. 10am to 1pm

Ring Mountain Restoration: Seed Balls!

Join us for our monthly drop in volunteer workday as we focus on restoring the grasslands of Ring Mountain! This preserve is home to numerous rare and endangered plants, but the habitat is threatened by invasive species. This month there may be some opportunities to remove invasive weeds, but our main task will be to get our hands dirty rolling small balls of mud and native seeds to plant later in restoration areas. Educational components are included as we discuss the flowers and plants in the seed mix, as well as projects to restore habitat at Ring Mountain. Drop in any time and stay as long as you want! Drop in days are held on the last Saturday of every month (except November and December). All skill levels are welcome and no previous experience is necessary. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. Snacks and extra water will be provided. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator Sarah Minnick at SMinnick@marincounty.org or (415) 473-5058. Meet at the Phyllis Ellman trailhead on Paradise Dr in Corte Madera. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Corte Madera, take the exit for Tamalpais Dr east. Go straight onto San Clemente, which merges into Paradise Dr after 0.4 miles. Follow Paradise Dr approximately 1 mile (go past Westward Dr). The gate is on the right.

Saturday, October 1. 9am to 12pm

Broom Buster Work Day

Old St. Hilary's Open Space Preserve has a friend in the Broom Buster team, a loyal group of volunteers who have worked together to remove French broom on the preserve for nearly 20 years. In that time, incredible progress has been made to suppress the broom regrowth and allow native species to recover and thrive. Come learn about the importance of invasive species removal and lend a hand! Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Snacks and extra water will be provided. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. Questions: Contact Volunteer Coordinator [Greg Reza](#) at (415) 473-3778. Meet at the Tiburon Peninsula Club parking lot in Tiburon (1600 Mar West St). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131) east 4 miles. Turn left onto Mar West St; the parking lot is on the right.

Saturday, October 1. 10am to 2pm

Yoga in the Park

This fun-filled, dynamic event offers a great way to get active while giving to a wonderful park, and giving to yourself! We'll begin with service projects that will focus on beach clean-up, landscape maintenance, and habitat restoration. At noon we'll switch gears and enjoy a 45 minute yoga class on a flat grassy area beside the bay. The class will be led by professional yoga teacher Daniel Rauck and will be suitable for all ages and ability levels. A free, healthy lunch will be provided at 1pm. All skill levels are welcome and no previous experience is necessary. All ages are welcome; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Snacks, lunch and extra water will be provided. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Questions: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at KSchroeder@marincounty.org or (415) 763-2977. Park entrance fee is waived for participants. Meet at the snack bar in McNears Beach Park in San Rafael (201 Cantera Way).

DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Central San Rafael east. Take 2nd St east, which merges into 3rd St, and then turns into Point San Pedro Rd. Follow Point San Pedro Rd for 3.6 miles, turn right at Cantera Way, and follow to the large parking lot at the end.#96

Friday, October 7. 10am to 2pm

Kent Island Restoration

Be a part of the team working to restore the unique ecosystem on Kent Island in Bolinas Lagoon! You'll learn the value of protecting this little oasis, and how to identify and remove the invasive species that threaten it. Participation requires a short rowboat ride to the island. All skill levels are welcome and no previous experience is necessary. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Rubber boots strongly recommended, although not required. Snacks and extra water will be provided, but bring a lunch. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. In the event of cancellation, program will be rescheduled. Space is limited, so RSVP to save a spot! Questions or to RSVP Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at GReza@marincounty.org or (415) 473-3778. Meet at the public dock on Wharf Rd in Bolinas (across from the College of Marin biology lab). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn left onto Hwy 1 9.2 miles, right onto Olema-Bolinas Rd, left to stay on Olema-Bolinas Rd, and straight onto Wharf Rd 2.3 miles.

Saturday, October 8. 11am to 2pm

Annual Volunteer Recognition Picnic

Marin County Parks wants to thank our dedicated and valuable volunteers. Bring your family to McNears Beach Park for a late summer family fiesta picnic and fun activities. Enjoy music, entertainment, and delicious Mexican food. Feel free to bring a favorite dish to share. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Space is limited, so RSVP to save a spot! Questions or to RSVP Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at GReza@marincounty.org or (415) 473-3778. Park entrance fee is waived for participants. Meet at the South Shore picnic area in McNears Beach Park in San Rafael (201 Cantera Way). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Central San Rafael east. Take 2nd St east, which merges into 3rd St, and then turns into Point San Pedro Rd. Follow Point San Pedro Rd for 3.6 miles, turn right at Cantera Way, and follow to the large parking lot at the end (park in south end of lot).

Saturday, October 15. 9am to 12pm

Creekside Restoration with One Tam

Join Marin County Parks and One Tam staff (a Tamalpais Lands Collaborative initiative) to enrich important habitat areas at Hal Brown Park and Creekside Marsh. Be a part of a community based effort to install a diverse palette of native plants at a site once dominated by nonnative grasses and weeds. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling and hiking on steep and uneven terrain. All ages are welcome; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Snacks will be provided. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at KSchroeder@marincounty.org or (415) 763-2977. Meet across from Marin General Hospital at Hal Brown Park at Creekside. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Bon Air Rd and follow 0.3 miles. The park is on the right.

Saturday, October 15. 10am to 2pm

Kent Island Restoration

Be a part of the team working to restore the unique ecosystem on Kent Island in Bolinas Lagoon! You'll learn the value of protecting this little oasis, and how to identify and remove the invasive species that threaten it. Participation requires a short rowboat ride to the island. All skill levels are welcome and no previous experience is necessary. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes and bring water. Rubber boots strongly recommended, although not required. Snacks, lunch, and extra water will be provided. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-

7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. In the event of cancellation, program will be rescheduled. Space is limited, so RSVP to save a spot! Questions or to RSVP Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at GReza@marincounty.org or (415) 473-3778. Meet at the public dock on Wharf Rd in Bolinas (across from the College of Marin biology lab). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn left onto Hwy 1 9.2 miles, right onto Olema-Bolinas Rd, left to stay on Olema-Bolinas Rd, and straight onto Wharf Rd 2.3 miles.

Sunday, October 16. 9am to 12pm

Workday at Stafford Lake Bike Park

Join Marin County Parks staff and fellow members of the bike community to help maintain various features of Stafford Lake Bike Park. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling and hiking on steep and uneven terrain. All ages are welcome; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. Snacks, lunch and extra water will be provided. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at KSchroeder@marincounty.org or (415) 763-2977. Park entrance fee is waived for participants. Meet at Stafford Lake Park in Novato (3549 Novato Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.9 miles. Turn right onto Novato Blvd and follow for 2.6 miles. The park is on the left. Turn right after the gate house and follow to the last parking lot.

Saturday, October 22. 9am to 1pm

Aramburu Island Enhancement: International Migratory Bird Day

Come celebrate International Migratory Bird Day and make a tangible difference for migrating birds! Our partners at Richardson Bay Audubon Center have worked tirelessly to convert this 17-acre island from an eroding, unproductive, bay dredge dumpsite into prime shorebird and wildlife habitat. Areas like this are vitally important for migrating birds who need to rest and replenish their energy in protected, nutrient-rich habitats as they make their long journeys. Join us as we team up with our friends at Audubon to help them in the enhancement process. Transportation to the island provided by Richardson Bay Audubon. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. This work is recommended for ages 12 and up; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 10 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Courtney Gutman at (415) 388-2524 ex. 104 or CGutman@audubon.org. Meet at Richardson Bay Audubon Center. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131). Take Tiburon Blvd east for 1 mile. Turn right onto Greenwood Cove Dr. Greenwood Cove becomes Greenwood Beach Rd. Parking is in gravel pullouts on the right side of the road.

Saturday, October 29. 9am to 1pm

Aramburu Island Enhancement

Our partners at Richardson Bay Audubon Center have worked tirelessly to convert this 17-acre island from an eroding, unproductive, bay dredge dumpsite into prime shorebird and wildlife habitat. Join us as we team up with our friends at Audubon to help them in the enhancement process. Transportation to the island provided by Richardson Bay Audubon. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. This work is recommended for ages 12 and up; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 10 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Courtney Gutman at (415) 388-2524 ex. 104 or CGutman@audubon.org. Meet at Richardson Bay Audubon Center. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131). Take

Tiburon Blvd east for 1 mile. Turn right onto Greenwood Cove Dr. Greenwood Cove becomes Greenwood Beach Rd. Parking is in gravel pullouts on the right side of the road.

Saturday, October 29. 10am to 1pm

Ring Mountain Restoration: Seed Balls!

Join us for our monthly drop in volunteer workday as we focus on restoring the grasslands of Ring Mountain! This preserve is home to numerous rare and endangered plants, but the habitat is threatened by invasive species. This month there may be some opportunities to remove invasive weeds, but our main task will be to get our hands dirty rolling small balls of mud and native seeds to plant later in restoration areas. Educational components are included as we discuss the flowers and plants in the seed mix, as well as projects to restore habitat at Ring Mountain. Drop in any time and stay as long as you want! Drop in days are held on the last Saturday of every month (except November and December). All skill levels are welcome and no previous experience is necessary. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. Snacks and extra water will be provided. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator Sarah Minnick at SMinnick@marincounty.org or (415) 473-5058. Meet at the Phyllis Ellman trailhead on Paradise Dr in Corte Madera. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Corte Madera, take the exit for Tamalpais Dr east. Go straight onto San Clemente, which merges into Paradise Dr after 0.4 miles. Follow Paradise Dr approximately 1 mile (go past Westward Dr). The gate is on the right.

Saturday, November 5. 9am to 1pm

Aramburu Island Enhancement

Our partners at Richardson Bay Audubon Center have worked tirelessly to convert this 17-acre island from an eroding, unproductive, bay dredge dumpsite into prime shorebird and wildlife habitat. Join us as we team up with our friends at Audubon to help them in the enhancement process. Transportation to the island provided by Richardson Bay Audubon. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. This work is recommended for ages 12 and up; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 10 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Courtney Gutman at (415) 388-2524 ex. 104 or CGutman@audubon.org. Meet at Richardson Bay Audubon Center. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131). Take Tiburon Blvd east for 1 mile. Turn right onto Greenwood Cove Dr. Greenwood Cove becomes Greenwood Beach Rd. Parking is in gravel pullouts on the right side of the road.

Saturday, November 12. 9am to 1pm

Aramburu Island Enhancement

Our partners at Richardson Bay Audubon Center have worked tirelessly to convert this 17-acre island from an eroding, unproductive, bay dredge dumpsite into prime shorebird and wildlife habitat. Join us as we team up with our friends at Audubon to help them in the enhancement process. Transportation to the island provided by Richardson Bay Audubon. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling. This work is recommended for ages 12 and up; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 10 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Courtney Gutman at (415) 388-2524 ex. 104 or CGutman@audubon.org. Meet at Richardson Bay Audubon Center. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131). Take Tiburon Blvd east for 1 mile. Turn right onto Greenwood Cove Dr. Greenwood Cove becomes Greenwood Beach Rd. Parking is in gravel pullouts on the right side of the road.

Saturday, November 12. 9am to 1pm

Pizza Party on Horse Hill

We are hosting a broom-busting pizza party and raffle on Horse Hill with The Alto Bowl Horseowners Association. Over the past 18 years we have pushed back invasive French and Scotch broom on this Open Space preserve. Now we need your help to make a final push into the broom frontier on the western part of the preserve. The work site is located approximately ¼-mile up, toward the top of the hill. We'll pull broom and sow native grass seed. Some members of the association will talk about their horses living on the preserve. Participants will get a chance to meet the horses up close. The work requires considerable strength and stamina. It is possible for volunteers as young as 5 years old to join if teamed with a parent or guardian. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. Snacks, lunch and extra water will be provided. In the event of heavy rain and/or high winds call (415) 473-3778 to find out about event status. In the event of cancellation, program will be rescheduled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at GReza@marincounty.org or (415) 473-3778. Meet at the entrance gate across from address 49 Lomita Dr, near the intersection of Lomita Dr and Greenfield Ct. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the Tiburon Blvd/E Blithedale Ave exit west on E Blithedale Ave, turn right at Tower Dr 0.2 mile, stay right at Meadow Dr 0.1 mile, Continue onto Shell Rd 0.1 mile and turn left at Lomita Dr 0.2 mile. Preserve entrance is on your right.

Saturday, November 19. 9am to 12pm

Creekside Restoration with One Tam

Join Marin County Parks and One Tam staff (a Tamalpais Lands Collaborative initiative) to enrich important habitat areas at Hal Brown Park and Creekside Marsh. Be a part of a community based effort to install a diverse palette of native plants at a site once dominated by nonnative grasses and weeds. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling and hiking on steep and uneven terrain. All ages are welcome; anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a supervising adult. Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Snacks will be provided. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at KSchroeder@marincounty.org or (415) 763-2977. Meet across from Marin General Hospital at Hal Brown Park at Creekside. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 1.2 miles. Turn left onto Bon Air Rd and follow 0.3 miles. The park is on the right.

NATURALIST WALKS

These outings are for participants 15 and up who are interested in the diverse flora and fauna of Marin County. Our walks cover a variety of topics; some are quite specific, others are more general, but we never fail to take a moment to marvel at whatever natural wonders we encounter. Binoculars, a pocket sized magnifying lens, and your favorite field guide(s) are recommended for all walks. Most of the walks are moderately paced and cover less than 5 miles. Walks that are longer or more strenuous are noted in the descriptions. Bring a lunch if you plan to stay all day, and remember to bring plenty of water.

Thursday, September 8. 7pm to 8:30pm

Coexisting with Coyotes: Celebrating the Marin Coyote Coalition

Join us for an evening educational forum about coexisting with coyotes, highlighting the partnership between Project Coyote, The Marin Humane Society, and Marin County Parks. These agencies came together and created the Marin Coyote Coalition to help coordinate the ways in which all of our local agencies respond to concerns about coyotes. One of the most important elements of this coalition has been educating Marin County residents about properly coexisting with coyotes. This lecture is intended for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet in the Auditorium in the Whittell Building at the Marin Humane Society in Novato (171 Bel Marin Keys Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the Ignacio Blvd/Bel Marin Keys Blvd exit. Follow the signs to Bel Marin Keys Blvd, go past the overpass, and turn left at the first stop light into the parking lot.

Sunday, September 11. 10am to 11:30am

Senior Stroll: Santa Margarita Island

This small preserve, which is surrounded by the tidally influenced South Fork of Las Gallinas Creek, is an ideal spot for a relaxed autumn walk. The oak-covered hill which rises in the center of the island is encircled by a short (.3 mile) loop trail that follows the edge of the salt marsh. We'll take advantage of this level, dirt pathway to discuss the plants and animals that can be found in each of these habitats. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the gate at the end of Meadow Dr in San Rafael. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for N San Pedro Rd east 1.1 miles. Turn left onto Meadow Dr (opposite the 7-Eleven store) and drive to the end (dead end).

Tuesday, September 13. 10am to 1pm

Spiders at Lake Lagunitas

This is a great place to see many species of spiders that represent a variety of arachnid lifestyles. We'll discuss the biology of spiders in general and learn how to identify many common species and discuss their life histories. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact Shannon Burke at SBurke@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9520. Meet at the Lake Lagunitas parking area. DIRECTIONS: From

Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 5 miles to Fairfax. Turn left onto Pacheco Ave, immediate right onto Broadway Blvd, left onto Bolinas Rd for 1.8 miles. Turn left onto Sky Oaks Rd. At approximately 0.5 miles, stop and pay \$8 parking fee, then follow signs to Lake Lagunitas (end of Sky Oaks Rd).

Sunday, September 18. 10am to 2pm

Birds of Bolinas Lagoon

This is an excellent time to experience the fall migration of waterfowl, shorebirds and landbirds that visit this important migratory point. We'll make our way around the lagoon via car to seek out these and resident birds in a variety of habitats near this extremely productive ecosystem. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Bob Stewart trailhead on Olema-Bolinas Rd in Bolinas. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn left onto Hwy 1, 9.2 miles, right onto Olema-Bolinas Rd, approximately 1 mile. The access to the Bob Stewart trailhead is on the left at the pullout, just east of the nursery.

Thursday, September 22. 10am to 2pm

Indian Tree

We'll try to make it to the top for lunch, but that will depend on how many things catch our eye along the way. The trek to the summit is long, but worth every step. Distance: 6.5 miles; elevation gain: 1,300 feet. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the trailhead on Vineyard Rd in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.7 miles. San Marin Dr turns into Sutro Ave at Novato Blvd. Follow Sutro Ave 1 mile, turn right at Vineyard Rd and follow 1 mile. Trailhead is on the left where the paved road becomes a dirt road.

Tuesday, September 27. 9am to 12pm

Deer Island

This beautiful little ridge that rises above the surrounding marshland is a great place to enjoy an autumn day. We'll spend the day walking through oak forests, open meadows, and along the edge of a marsh as we discuss the change of seasons and what it means for our local flora and fauna. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the gate on Deer Island Ln in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for Atherton Ave east 1.7 miles. Turn right onto Olive Ave and left onto Deer Island Ln. The gate is on your right.

Sunday, October 2. 10am to 2pm

Birds of Abbotts Lagoon

We'll take advantage of the outer reaches of the county to enjoy the numerous species of birds that are found along the coast this time of year; some are migrating to southern destinations, some will stay for the winter, and some are local residents. This is a great place to see raptors, shorebirds, and waterfowl that aren't as prevalent in other parts of Marin. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at Abbotts Lagoon parking lot. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 20.4 miles to Olema.

Turn right onto Hwy 1 and go 2 miles. Turn left onto Sir Francis Drake Blvd and go 6.4 miles. Turn right at Pierce Point Rd and go 3.4 miles, the trailhead is on the left.

Wednesday, October 5. 10am to 11:30am

Senior Stroll: Hamilton Wetlands

Are you a senior who enjoys observing and learning about our local birds? If so, join us for an easy stroll along the newly restored Hamilton wetland area where we'll look for waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wildlife, and see how the tidal flow is gradually changing the landscape here. We'll go for a slow walk as we discuss identification and life histories of the birds we see. Our walk will follow a section of the San Francisco Bay Trail. This section is a level, well-maintained, dirt road, and is wheelchair accessible but small-wheeled walkers are not recommended. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the parking area near the playfield. DIRECTIONS: From Highway 101 take the Hamilton Field/Nave Drive exit. Stay right onto Nave Drive .5 mi, go right at Main Gate Rd, .4 mi, Main Gate Rd becomes S Palm Dr, .5mi, turn right onto Hangar Ave, the parking lot is on the right.

Sunday, October 9. 10am to 2pm **CANCELLED**

All About Wetlands Restoration at Bahia

The tidal wetlands of the Petaluma River are critical habitat for a variety of species. Wetland Ecologist Jude Stalker will give us a tour of the Marin Audubon restoration site, just east of our Rush Creek Preserve, and explain how the restoration efforts here have been improving the marsh and vital habitat for the plants and animals that depend on it. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact Shannon Burke at SBurke@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9520. Meet at the Bahia trailhead near the end of Bahia Dr in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for Atherton Ave east approximately 1 mile. Turn left onto Bugeia Ln, which turns into Bahia Dr at the "y". Follow Bahia Dr approximately 0.5 miles. Trailhead is on the left before Bahia Dr dead ends.

Tuesday, October 11. 10am to 2pm

Focus on Raptors at Hawk Hill

Every year thousands of raptors move down the Pacific coast as they head to wintering sites as far away as South America. A large percentage of these birds pass through the Marin Headlands where they are annually documented by the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory (GGRO). We'll start the day with a walk in Rodeo Valley learning to identify these birds and discussing their life histories, then we'll head up to Hawk Hill for more raptor viewing and to meet GGRO Hawkwatch Manager Step Wilson who will discuss the work of this amazing volunteer-based organization. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Questions: Contact Shannon Burke at SBurke@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9520. Meet at the east end of Rodeo Lagoon. DIRECTIONS: From highway 101 south, take Alexander Avenue exit. Go left onto Alexander Ave, take first right up hill on Conzelman Rd 1.2 miles. Go right at roundabout onto McCullough Rd 0.9 miles to Bunker Rd. Go left, follow Bunker Rd 1.6 miles, Meet in the dirt parking lot at the first building after Bunker Rd crosses the bridge.

Sunday, October 16. 10am to 2pm

All about Oaks at Mount Burdell

Oaks and their acorns are vitally important to a broad spectrum of animals (including humans). We'll discuss the role of these trees in local ecosystems as we compare five oak species and several interesting hybrids. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets

(except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the gate on San Andreas Dr in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.3 miles. Turn right onto San Andreas Dr and follow approximately 0.5 miles. The gate is on the right (before dead end).

Sunday, October 23. 9am to 2pm

Big Rock Ridge to the Summit

This walk will take us from Lucas Valley to the 1,895 foot summit of Big Rock Ridge, the second highest peak in the county after Mount Tamalpais. This walk involves a 1,200 ft elevation gain, but it doesn't involve any particularly steep sections as it climbs through open grassland, oak woodland, and chaparral. The views along the way are excellent, and the panorama we'll see from the summit is absolutely breathtaking. The total distance is a bit over 7 miles. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Big Rock trailhead in San Rafael. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Lucas Valley Rd west approximately 5.5 miles (look for the big rock). The trailhead is on the north side of Lucas Valley Rd.

Tuesday, October 25. 10am to 12pm

Birds at Bothin Marsh

Along the west shore of Richardson Bay, Bothin Marsh is an example of what the wetlands surrounding San Francisco Bay and San Pablo Bay looked like before they were channeled, diked, and filled. During fall and winter, migratory waterfowl thrive in the open water, and sandpipers and other shorebirds feast on the invertebrates that are found in the mudflats. We'll also look and listen for year-round residents, like clapper rails and common yellowthroats, which inhabit the surrounding cordgrass and pickleweed. This is a level, well-maintained path, and is wheelchair accessible. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Hauke Park parking area in Mill Valley. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the Tiburon Blvd/E Blithedale Ave exit west on E Blithedale Ave west 0.6 mile. Turn left onto Roque Mores Dr (Lomita Dr is on the right) and right onto Hamilton Dr. Parking lot is on the left.

Tuesday, November 1. 10am to 2pm

Cascade Canyon

We visit this gorgeous valley quite often, usually hiking up the creek to see the waterfall, but this time we'll head up one of the slopes where the oaks and maples should be resplendent in their fall colors. There are some steep sections of trail along the way, but we'll take it slowly. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the gate at the end of Cascade Dr. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west to Fairfax 3.4 miles. Turn left onto Pacheco Ave, turn right onto Broadway and make first left onto Bolinas Rd 0.4 miles, slight right onto Cascade Dr (at the stop sign) continue about 1.5 miles to the gate (dead end). Parking is limited.

Sunday, November 6. 4pm to 6:30pm

Owls at Mount Burdell

We'll enjoy a quiet evening walk through this oak-studded preserve. This is a great spot to look and listen for a few different species of owls. We'll discuss the physical adaptations that make these raptors so unique as well

as the advantages of their nocturnal lifestyle. Remember to bring dinner and a flashlight, and binoculars if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the gate on San Andreas Dr in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.3 miles. Turn right onto San Andreas Dr and follow approximately 0.5 miles. The gate is on the right (before dead end).

Wednesday, November 9. 10am to 12pm

Birds at Stafford Lake

This Novato reservoir is a great place to see waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, and more. Some are just passing through; others will be staying for the winter. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at Stafford Lake Park in Novato (3549 Novato Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.9 miles. Turn right onto Novato Blvd and follow for 2.6 miles. The park is on the left. Turn left after the gate house and follow to the parking lot.

Monday, November 14. 10am to 2pm

Birds of Bolinas Lagoon

This is an excellent time to observe resident and overwintering waterfowl, shorebirds, and landbirds that take advantage of this important estuary. We'll make our way around the lagoon via car to seek out birds in a variety of habitats near this extremely productive ecosystem. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Bob Stewart trailhead on Olema-Bolinas Rd in Bolinas. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn left onto Hwy 1, 9.2 miles, right onto Olema-Bolinas Rd, approximately 1 mile. The access to the Bob Stewart trailhead is on the left at the pullout, just east of the nursery.

Thursday, November 17. 10am to 11:30am

Senior Stroll: Las Gallinas

The ponds at the Las Gallinas water treatment facility are a fabulous place to get close looks at a variety of waterfowl, plus there are usually plenty of hawks hunting for rodents and other prey in the surrounding fields. This is a level, well-maintained, gravel road, and is wheelchair accessible but small-wheeled walkers are not recommended. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Las Gallinas Sanitary District water treatment ponds in San Rafael (310 Smith Ranch Road). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Smith Ranch Rd east approximately 0.7 miles. Drive over the railroad tracks and immediately turn left to stay on Smith Ranch Rd. (If you go through the park entrance, you have gone too far). Follow Smith Ranch Rd 0.8 miles to treatment facility. Park on the left.

Tuesday, November 29. 10am to 2pm

Focus on Gulls

Gulls are certainly challenging but with a few tricks and a little patience we'll learn to differentiate between the species we regularly see here in winter. We'll discuss identification, plumages, and life-histories as we attempt

to demystify these beautiful birds. We'll carpool to several different locations in Pt. Reyes searching for the various gulls that frequent these areas. Remember to bring binoculars, if you have them. This walk is for ages 15 and up. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact Shannon Burke at SBurke@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9520. Meet at White House Pool nature area on Sir Francis Drake Blvd (just south of Inverness Park). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the Sir Francis Drake exit 20.4 miles to Olema. Turn right onto Hwy 1 and go 2 miles. Before the green bridge, turn left (continuing on Sir Francis Drake Blvd) and follow 0.7 miles. Look for the White House Pool sign on the right.

FAMILY WALKS

Our family walks are intended for families that want to explore nature together. Bring your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, neighbors, or any other inquisitive youngsters in your life who would appreciate a deeper connection to nature. This is not a “drop off” program, we want you to stay and enjoy the experience too. We set out to search for natural wonders and share what we find with one another. The most important take home message is that animals and the habitats in which they live are fascinating and delicate things that should be treated gently. Bring a lunch, we usually stop to eat at about 11:30am, and remember to bring plenty of water.

Tuesday, September 6. 10am to 1pm

Nature for Kids: Spiders at Lake Lagunitas

Spiders are everywhere, and this is the perfect time of year to see spiders of every shape, size, and color. We'll learn how they hunt, how they make their webs, and how to identify many common species. Parking fee is \$8. Remember to bring lunch. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact Shannon Burke at SBurke@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9520. Meet at the Lake Lagunitas parking area. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 5 miles to Fairfax. Turn left onto Pacheco Ave, immediate right onto Broadway Blvd, left onto Bolinas Rd for 1.8 miles. Turn left onto Sky Oaks Rd. At approximately 0.5 miles, stop and pay \$8 parking fee, then follow signs to Lake Lagunitas (end of Sky Oaks Rd).

Sunday, September 25. 5:30pm to 8pm

Nature for Kids: Evening at Roy's Redwoods

We'll enjoy a quiet walk as the light fades and the day cools, ending the evening in the large meadow at the edge of the redwoods. This is a perfect spot to look and listen for a few different species of owls. We'll look for owl pellets and discuss what makes these nocturnal raptors so unique. Remember to bring a flashlight and dinner. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Roy's Redwoods Loop trailhead on Nicasio Valley Rd in San Geronimo. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 8.6 miles, turn right onto Nicasio Valley Rd. Gate is approximately 0.5 miles up on the right.

Wednesday, October 19. 10am to 1pm

Nature for Kids: Bahia

This is a great place for an autumn adventure. We'll have a beautiful oak forest on one side and a marsh on the other, which can be filled with ducks and other interesting birds at this time of the year. Remember to bring lunch. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Bahia trailhead near the end of Bahia Dr in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for Atherton Ave east approximately 1 mile. Turn left onto Bugeia Ln, which turns into Bahia Dr at the “y”. Follow Bahia Dr approximately 0.5 miles. Trailhead is on the left before Bahia Dr dead ends.

Sunday, November 20. 10am to 12pm

Nature for Kids: Birds at Las Gallinas

We'll join up with WildCare Family Adventures for a day of nature exploration and education. We will be joined by Marco Berger who is a fantastic teacher and naturalist who will share his expertise in both English and Spanish. This is a fantastic place for new birders to get great looks at a variety of birds. The water treatment ponds here are a magnet for ducks in colorful breeding plumage, hawks soar over the surrounding fields, and songbirds flit about the bushes along the levees. We'll have spotting scopes, but bring binoculars if you have them! We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the Las Gallinas Sanitary District water treatment ponds in San Rafael (310 Smith Ranch Road). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Smith Ranch Rd east approximately 0.7 miles. Drive over the railroad tracks and immediately turn left to stay on Smith Ranch Rd. (If you go through the park entrance, you have gone too far). Follow Smith Ranch Rd 0.8 miles to treatment facility. Park on the left.

Domingo, 20 de noviembre. 10 a.m. a 12 p.m.

Naturaleza para los niños: Aves en Las Gallinas

Nos uniremos con WildCare Family Adventures para tener un día de aprendizaje y exploración de la naturaleza. Nos acompañará el gran maestro y amante de la naturaleza Marco Berger, quien compartirá su experiencia tanto en inglés como en español. Este es un lugar fantástico para que los nuevos observadores logren tener excelentes avistamientos de una gran variedad de aves. Los estanques de tratamiento de aguas aquí son un imán para los patos que lucen el colorido plumaje de la temporada de reproducción, se ven halcones que se elevan sobre los campos y sembradíos circundantes, y los pájaros cantores revolotean en los arbustos a lo largo de los diques. Contaremos con telescopios terrestres, ¡pero traiga binoculares si los tiene! Pedimos que no asistan mascotas (a excepción de animales de servicio). Se podría cancelar el evento por la lluvia. Si el clima parece cuestionable llame al (415) 893-9527 después de las 8 a.m. del día del evento para escuchar un mensaje grabado si se cancela. Preguntas: Comuníquese con David Herlocker en DHerlocker@marincounty.org o al (415) 893-9508. Nos reuniremos en los estanques de tratamiento de agua del Distrito Sanitario Las Gallinas en San Rafael (310 Smith Ranch Road). INDICACIONES: Del Hwy 101 en San Rafael, tome la salida hacia Smith Ranch Rd con rumbo al este aproximadamente por 0.7 millas. Pase las vías de ferrocarril e inmediatamente dé vuelta a la izquierda para permanecer sobre Smith Ranch Rd. (Si pasa por la entrada al parque, quiere decir que ya se pasó). Avance por Smith Ranch Rd 0.8 millas hacia las instalaciones de tratamiento. Estacionese a la izquierda.

Tuesday, November 22. 10am to 1pm

Nature for Kids: Cascade Canyon

This beautiful canyon is a great place to enjoy the changing of the seasons and the colors of fall. We'll look for insects and other animals that prefer the cool, moist days this time of year. If it has rained we might find some early season salamanders! When the creek is full, we have to use a trail that is cut into a stone bank above the water; this narrow section can be slippery and challenging. Strollers are not recommended. Remember to bring lunch. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Rain may cancel. If questionable weather, call (415) 893-9527 after 8am on the morning of the event to hear a recorded message if cancelled. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at DHerlocker@marincounty.org or (415) 893-9508. Meet at the gate at the end of Cascade Dr. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west to Fairfax 3.4 miles. Turn left onto Pacheco Ave, turn right onto Broadway and make first left onto Bolinas Rd 0.4 miles, slight right onto Cascade Dr (at the stop sign) continue about 1.5 miles to the gate (dead end). Parking is limited.

RANGER ACTIVITIES

Rangers host a variety of family friendly events for all ages and interests. We offer barbeques, bike rides, campfires, fishing derbies, interpretive hikes, outdoor safety and skills seminars, skateboard contests, stargazing, and more! Bring snacks, water, and sun block.

Friday, September 16. 7pm to 9pm

Full Moon Hike at White Hill

Come see nature's fireworks - clear skies, bright stars, and a magnificent full moon. Join rangers for a nature walk to experience this unique preserve after dark. We'll discuss nocturnal animals and things that go bump in the night! This event is ideal for all ages. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring a flashlight. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. Questions: Contact Ranger Lindsay Contreras at LContreras@marincounty.org or (415) 473-2816. Meet at the roadside parking area near the top of White Hill Grade on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 6 miles. Park in the big gravel pullout on the right side, below the crest of the hill.

Sunday, September 18. 9am to 11am

Learn to Ride

Learn to ride pump tracks and rollers with a ranger at the Stafford Lake Bike Park. This event is ideal for all ages. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. Wear comfortable athletic clothing and sturdy shoes. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Adam Craig at aCraig@marincounty.org. Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at Stafford Lake Park in Novato (3549 Novato Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.9 miles. Turn right onto Novato Blvd and follow for 2.6 miles. The park is on the left. Turn right after the gate house and follow to the last parking lot.

Sunday, September 18. 11am to 3pm

Learn to Make Friendship Bracelets

Remember friendship bracelets? Well, whether you are a beginner or pro, our friendship bracelet-making workshop is a great way to exercise your creative side and create a nice gift at the same time! Ranger staff will help instruct participants in bracelet-making techniques; whether simple or complex, there is an approach suitable for any crafting level. This event is ideal for all ages. Degree of difficulty: Easy. We will provide supplies, smocks, and healthy snacks. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Ranger Maggie Guiott at MGuiott@marincounty.org. Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at the fishing pier in Paradise Beach Park in Tiburon (3450 Paradise Dr). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131) east 1.8 miles. Turn left onto Trestle Glen Blvd, right onto Paradise Dr, and follow for 1.5 miles. The park is on the left.

Thursday, September 22. 5pm to 6:30pm

Dog Appreciation Day and Coyote Talk

Bring your pooch out to McInnis Park and feast on a hot dog BBQ with other snacks and have a chance to win in our raffle give away. Talk with community members and the McInnis Park Rangers. After the festivities with our canine friends, Chief Park Ranger Rob Ruiz will discuss the habits and identifying characteristics of our wild canines, coyotes and foxes. Don't leave without taking a photo with your favorite pooch. This event is ideal for all ages. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Audrea Bocchi at ABocchi@marincounty.org. Park entrance is free. Meet at the Hillside picnic area in McInnis Park in San Rafael (310 Smith Ranch Rd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Smith Ranch

Rd east approximately 0.7 miles. Drive over the railroad tracks and immediately turn left to stay on Smith Ranch Rd. (If you go through the park entrance, you have gone too far). Look for the sign for Hillside picnic area and turn right; Hillside is immediately on the right.

Thursday, October 26. 7pm to 8:30pm – Date Change

Wild Canines of Marin

Stay warm and cozy inside Fairfax Library and learn about the wild canines of Marin. Chief Park Ranger Rob Ruiz will discuss the habits and identifying characteristics of our canine neighbors: the foxes and coyotes. This event is ideal for all ages. We will provide water and healthy snacks. Questions: Contact Chief Park Ranger Rob Ruiz at (415) 473-4045 or RRuiz@marincounty.org. Meet at the Fairfax Library in Fairfax (2097 Sir Francis Drake Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 5.5 miles. Library is on the left.

Saturday, October 15. 10am to 12pm

Learn How to Pier Fish

Join rangers, and a few of our experienced local anglers, to learn the secrets and tricks of the trade when fishing from a pier. A limited amount of poles will be available on a first come, first-served basis. A valid California fishing license is required when fishing from the shore, not from the pier. This event is ideal for all ages. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring a fishing pole. We will provide bait and a limited amount of fishing poles, thanks to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Mike Maraccini at MMaraccini@marincounty.org. Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at the fishing pier in Paradise Beach Park in Tiburon (3450 Paradise Dr). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131) east 1.8 miles. Turn left onto Trestle Glen Blvd, right onto Paradise Dr, and follow for 1.5 miles. The park is on the left.

Sunday, October 16. 10am to 12pm

Backpacking Basics

Meet an Open Space ranger at Mount Burdell for an informative workshop on the preparation, gear, and skills needed to enjoy a safe and memorable backpacking trip. Following the talk, we'll hike some of the moderate trails of Mount Burdell. This event is ideal for all ages. Degree of difficulty moderate. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring water, lunch and a backpack if you have one. Note: Please do not bring other camping equipment. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. High fire danger cancels: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. Questions: Contact Ranger Lindsay Contreras at LContreras@marincounty.org or (415) 473-2816. Meet at the gate on San Andreas Dr in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.3 miles. Turn right onto San Andreas Dr and follow approximately 0.5 miles. The gate is on the right (before dead end).

Saturday, October 22. 6pm to 7:30pm

Not Afraid of the Dark Hike

Come enjoy Roy's Redwoods at night! Join rangers for an evening hike through the preserve. Dress in layers, wear sturdy shoes, and bring a flashlight or headlamp. High fire danger may cancel: Call (415) 473-7191 to get an update on fire danger status and land closures. If a "Red Flag" warning is in effect, all walks and events on Open Space District preserves are cancelled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ranger Mike Warner at MWarner@marincounty.org or (415) 473-2816. Meet at the Roy's Redwoods Loop trailhead on Nicasio Valley Rd in San Geronimo. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 8.6 miles, turn right onto Nicasio Valley Rd. Gate is approximately 0.5 miles up on the right.

Saturday, October 29. 11am to 1pm

Jeepers Jack-O-Lanterns

Join ranger staff at McNears Beach Park in carving your own spooky Jack-O-Lantern for Halloween! A limited amount of pumpkins will be available on a first come, first served basis (or, you're welcome to bring your own). This event is ideal for all ages. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. We will provide supplies, smocks, and healthy snacks. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain does not cancel the event. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ranger Kevin O'Donoghue at KODonoghue@marincounty.org. Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at the snack bar in McNears Beach Park in San Rafael (201 Cantera Way). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Central San Rafael east. Take 2nd St east, which merges into 3rd St, and then turns into Point San Pedro Rd. Follow Point San Pedro Rd for 3.6 miles, turn right at Cantera Way, and follow to the large parking lot

Saturday, October 29. 7pm to 8:30pm

Graveyard Stroll

Join rangers for a head start on Halloween! Experience our one-of-a kind program that uncovers one of Marin's most interesting, but little known cemeteries. All treats (and tricks) are free. This event is ideal for all ages. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring a flashlight, and treat bag. We will provide hot chocolate and snacks. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. Heavy rain will cancel the event. Questions: Contact Chief Ranger Craig Solin at CSolin@marincounty.org or (415) 473-2055. Meet at the Marin County Parks Lucas Valley Field Office in San Rafael (18 Jeannette Prandi Way). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Lucas Valley Rd west 1.9 miles. Turn right onto Mt Lassen Dr, right onto Jeannette Prandi Way, and follow to end (dead end).

Friday, November 11. 9am to 11am

Learn to Ride

Learn to ride pump tracks and rollers with a ranger at the Stafford Lake Bike Park. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. Wear comfortable athletic clothing and sturdy shoes. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Adam Craig at aCraig@marincounty.org. Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at Stafford Lake Park in Novato (3549 Novato Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.9 miles. Turn right onto Novato Blvd and follow for 2.6 miles. The park is on the left. Turn right after the gate house and follow to the last parking lot.

Sunday, November 13. 5pm to 7pm

Full Moon Hike

See the full moon rise in the east as we follow a relatively flat path around the lake for a 2-mile hike, then we'll finish the evening with s'mores and discussions about the moon and how we interact with it here on earth. This event is ideal for all ages. Degree of difficulty: Easy. Don't forget to bring a flashlight. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Adam Craig at ACraig@marincounty.org. Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at Stafford Lake Park in Novato (3549 Novato Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.9 miles. Turn right onto Novato Blvd and follow for 2.6 miles. The park is on the left. Turn right after the gate house and follow to the last parking lot.

Thursday, November 24. 10am to 12pm

Thanksgiving Day Hunger Hike

Get your hearts pumping while hiking the Terwilliger Trail with a park ranger and build up an appetite for your Thanksgiving Day feast! This event is ideal for all ages. Degree of difficulty: Moderate. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. We will provide water and healthy snacks. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Adam Craig at ACraig@marincounty.org. Park

entrance is waived participants. Meet at Stafford Lake Park in Novato (3549 Novato Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for San Marin Dr west 2.9 miles. Turn right onto Novato Blvd and follow for 2.6 miles. The park is on the left. Turn right after the gate house and follow to the last parking lot.

Sunday, November 27. 12pm to 2pm

Learn to Skate – Free Clinic

Join us at the McInnis skatepark where rangers will offer tips and techniques for beginners as well as ways to attack features that build confidence and skill. This event is geared towards the newbie skateboarder and those looking to cross over from other board sports, but aren't quite sure how to start. This event is ideal for all ages. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. Wear comfortable athletic clothing and sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring your board, helmet, and pads. We will provide water and healthy snacks. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contract Supervising Ranger Adam Craig at ACraig@marincounty.org. Park entrance is free. Meet at the skatepark in McInnis Park in San Rafael (310 Smith Ranch Rd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Smith Ranch Rd east approximately 0.7 miles. Drive over the railroad tracks and immediately turn left to stay on Smith Ranch Rd. (If you go through the park entrance, you have gone too far). Look for the sign for the skatepark, turn right, and follow the road to the skatepark parking lot.