

Happy Trails

FALL 2018/WINTER 2019

City of
Carlsbad



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Quarterly Trail Volunteer Meetings

Want to find out more about the City of Carlsbad's trails program? Come to a trail volunteer meeting at the Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave. All meetings begin at 5 p.m.

- **Thursday, March 7, 2019**
- **Thursday, June 6, 2019**

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Trail volunteers are critical in maintaining and preserving our trails. Volunteering is also a great way to have fun, keep fit and learn about our natural environment, all while making a lasting contribution that benefits our community for generations.

- **Dec. 8** Old Rancho Santa Fe Road Trail
- **Jan. 5** La Costa Glen Trail
- **Feb. 2** Coastal Rail Trail

Check the city's website to confirm volunteer event dates, times and other details at www.carlsbadca.gov/trails.



Recent Trail Work

Sept. 29 - National Public Lands Day at Lake Calavera Preserve

City staff along with about 30 volunteers spent the morning doing erosion repair, installing interpretive signs, boardwalk sweeping and vegetation trimming at various points along the trails at the Lake Calavera Preserve. Volunteers also installed new fencing at the view point by the lake and a new dog waste station in the southeast part of the preserve. Volunteers dedicated 99 hours while maintaining Carlsbad's public lands. Thanks to all the volunteers that spent their Saturday morning with us giving back to their community.



Great Egret

Migrating Winter Birds and the Pacific Flyway: *Where to See Them*

The Pacific flyway is a grand route of avian migration that spans from Alaska to South America, with many species stopping here in San Diego to make their winter homes here in our warm climate. With almost 500 species of birds in San Diego County, it's no secret that we live in a birder's paradise. Even with a 95% loss of wetlands, California still supports the largest concentrations of wintering waterfowl and shorebirds found anywhere in the world.

Take a stroll through Agua Hedionda Lagoon trails to view some of the beautiful migrating fowl visiting us this year. If you're lucky you'll be

able to spot the Great Egret wading at the shores or feeding on small fish. Other species you can spot include the Marbled Godwit or the endangered Western Snowy Plover. At Lake Calavera Preserve you can see the American Avocet, Great Blue Heron and the infamous Roadrunner. But please just observe, and keep an appropriate distance while remaining on marked trails. Also, remember to turn off cell phones and speak quietly so as not to scare birds away, or drown out bird songs that may help identify bird species in the area. If you spot a rare species, enjoy the moment!



American Avocet

Trail Counters at *Calavera Preserve*

Lake Calavera Preserve is the largest of 13 city-owned, dedicated and managed nature preserves in Carlsbad, and boasts a rich diversity of plants and wildlife. It is home to four sensitive plant species, and 12 sensitive animal species. It is also a mecca for outdoor recreation. The overlap of large numbers of trail users and important wildlife habitat create some management challenges; how to best manage both people and wildlife in this popular, ecologically sensitive area.

In May 2018, the City of Carlsbad installed trail counters in eight entrance locations to Lake Calavera Preserve, to better monitor

the number of visitors that this local gem attracts. Trail counters count people — walkers, hikers, joggers, cyclists, etc. — at the trailheads by sensing and detecting the infrared wavelength that people emit. According to the data received, trail usage remains consistent from month to month with the majority of trail users entering the Preserve by way of the Tamarack Avenue (by the dam) trail head. The second most popular egress is the Oak Riparian Park trail head. We will continue to monitor the trail counters this fall and winter, so that we can better maintain and operate a safe and environmentally friendly approach to habitat management.



Call for *Volunteer Trail Captains!*

Are you someone who enjoys being out in the open space, giving back to your community, and doesn't mind getting your hands dirty? We currently have openings for Trail Captains at Batiquitos Lagoon North Bluff, The Crossings/Veterans Park and The Ranch/Santa Fe Trails. If you are interested in becoming a Trail Captain please call 760-434-2826.

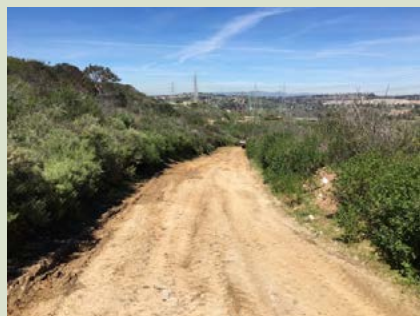
What Does a Trail Captain Do?

A Trail Captain assists in maintaining the Citywide Trail System by providing monthly reports to staff regarding potential maintenance needs for items such as: trail erosion, amenities maintenance, vandalism, and potential vegetation pruning/removal on a designated trail.

Trail Captain Vacancies



Batiquitos Lagoon Trail is a 3.1 mile trail that meanders along the lagoon and features beautiful wild flowers and birds. The trail is gentle and wide, making it very family-friendly and great for all skill levels.



The Crossings/Veterans Park, located within and near The Crossings Golf Course offers a diverse and unique trail experience. The trail offers a rustic golf cart bridge and path at the bottom of the canyon as well as primitive trails that can be hiked to high vistas with breathtaking views of the Agua Hedionda Lagoon and the Pacific Ocean.



The Ranch/Santa Fe Trail is one of the least difficult trails in the Villages of La Costa, it affords linkages between the older neighborhoods of La Costa and the newly developed communities of the Village of La Costa. The north end of the trail ends at Fire Station 6 which also offers a great view out to Batiquitos Lagoon and the Pacific Ocean.

Featured Photo

California Quail

California Quail are plump, short-necked game birds with a small head and bill. They fly on short, broad wings and have a comma-shaped plume of feathers on the forehead. California Quail spend most of their time on the ground, walking and foraging for food beneath shrubs or on open ground close to cover. You'll find California Quail in sage scrub, chaparral, open woodland, and sometimes even in city parks and alongside of roads.

Volunteer *Trail Captains*

Arroyo Vista – Tia Lanzetta
Carlsbad Oaks North Business Park – Sue Irey
Coastal Rail Trail – Terese and Joe Sardina
El Fuerte/Bressi Ranch Trail – Patricia Linton
Harbor Drive – Lin Ball
Hidden Valley Trail – Joe Ferris
Hosp Grove – Gary Nessim and John Rodenhausen
La Costa Glen – Ed and Tricia Cerda
La Costa Southern Preserve – April Frieda
La Costa Valley – Debbie Phipps
Lake Calavera – Diane Nygaard and Paige DeCino
Melrose 55-Fioli Circle/East Ridgeline – Alvaro Villamizar
Old Rancho Santa Fe Road – Richard L'Heureux
Rancho Carrillo – Ramesh Sirsi (East) Sally & Will Willis (West)
Ridgeline/La Costa Trail – Don Stapp
Village H – Calavera Hills/Hidden Canyon Park – Tim Campbell
Villagio – John F. Gillis
Waters End – Jamie Hartnett

Citywide Trails Program *Mission Statement*

“Provide a trails system that ensures the recreational and leisure needs of Carlsbad residents while supporting the protection and preservation of open space in accordance with the City of Carlsbad General Plan.”

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**City of
Carlsbad**
Parks & Recreation

760-434-2826
www.carlsbadca.gov/trails