Happy Trails

City of **Carlsbad**

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Featured Photo: Blooming Cactus at Calavera

WELCOME BACK

Are you someone who enjoys spending time in nature, giving back to your community and getting your hands a little dirty? Our trail volunteer events are back and are a great way to have fun, keep fit and learn about our natural environment, all while making a lasting contribution that benefits the community for generations. If you are interested in becoming a trail volunteer visit www.carlsbadca.gov/volunteers

Upcoming volunteer opportunities

Saturday, Sept. 25   National Public Lands Day at La Costa Glen

Saturday, Oct. 23   Coastal Rail Trail

Saturday, Nov. 20   Lake Calavera Preserve

Wednesday, Dec. 15   Hosp Grove

Mark your calendar for upcoming volunteer opportunities, usually starting at 8:30 a.m., and please remember to wear gloves, closed-toe shoes and sunscreen. Water will be provided. Check the city's website to confirm volunteer event dates and times at www.carlsbadca.gov/trails.

Quarterly Trail Volunteer Meetings

Want to find out more about the City of Carlsbad's trails program? Trail volunteer meetings are held quarterly on Thursday evenings at 5 p.m.

◆ Thursday, Sept. 9
   Pine Avenue Community Center, 3209 Harding Ave.

◆ Thursday, Dec. 9
   Location TBD

Lake Calavera Trail 2021

NEW TRAIL APP
puts hikers on the right path

GOHIKE CARLSBAD

Everything you need to know about our trail network is now in the palm of your hand with our new Trail Hiking App, GoHike. Access the app portal from your smartphone and you have instant access to everything you want to know about Carlsbad's trails in real time, such as:

- Points of interest for each trail
- Trail length
- Surface type of trail
- Degree of difficulty
- Trail connectivity
- Parking locations

The app is interactive and includes maps and navigational tools that can pinpoint a hiker's location along the trail when your smartphone is connected to mobile data service or WIFI. The dot will indicate where you are in real time and provide options with connections to other trails, sidewalks and cross streets.

In addition to its practical applications for hikers, the trail app also supports our sustainability goals by providing an alternative to printed maps.

Once you've had a chance to use the app, we encourage you to share feedback with us. You can provide comments directly on the city website by clicking "Feedback" button at www.carlsbadca.gov/trails We will continue to create, explore and expand tools to help you live a healthy, active lifestyle in our community. Hikers can access the app at **www.carlsbadca.gov/gohike**.

Wildfire Safety
AND TRAIL PROTECTION

Poinsettia fire burn area, 2019

For more tips on preventing fires,
visit our website at: www.carlsbadca.gov.

Wildfire season is here and it more important than ever that we be vigilant about safety. The prolonged drought in California leaves our land extremely vulnerable to fire.

Our community is no stranger to wildfire devastation. Our neighbors, wildlife and land are still recovering from the 2014 Poinsettia Fire, which burned approximately 350 acres of Carlsbad's open space preserve, the majority of which was chaparral habitat, and 240 structures. The result was over $12 million in damages, and more importantly, the immeasurable emotional toll on all affected.

Vegetation communities in Carlsbad can burn naturally, but more often than not, fires are the result of human activity. Frequent fires can impact our natural landscape, allowing nonnative plants to invade recently burned areas. After the Poinsettia Fire, we closed city trails within the impacted areas to allow a natural recovery process. We carefully monitored (and continue to monitor) burned areas and conducted studies to determine if our habitat was on the path of self-sustaining recovery.

Good news: The overall recovery is following course toward healthy habitat reestablishment, with native plant cover increasing each year.

It won't happen overnight. Burnt areas will require decades of care to prevent invasive species from taking over the habitat, and it will likely never be the same as before the fire. Which brings us back to the importance of fire safety. You can support our community in preventing wildfires and protecting our trails by adhering to a few simple guidelines.

- **Use approved lighting fuels in your grills**

- **Clear dry vegetation in your yards and branches extending over structures**

- **No Campfires**

- **Keep motorized vehicles away from trails and dry open space areas**

- **Refrain from smoking on the trails**

- **Pack out your trash on the trails or any other outdoor space**

Poinsettia Fire burn area, 2014

Featured Photo

When a Prickly Pear Cactus blossoms, it is quite a sight! The vibrant flowers vary from yellow, orange, pink, red to magenta. But don't get too close, fine, tiny, barbed spines can detach easily from the pads and are often difficult to see and remove, once lodged in the skin.

Volunteer Trail Captains

Arroyo Vista/Villagio – OPEN
Batiquitos Lagoon North Bluff – OPEN
Carlsbad Oaks North Business Park – Sue Irey
Coastal Rail Trail – Yovanni Maldonado
El Fuerte/Bressi Ranch Trail – OPEN
Harbor Drive – Craig Kirk
Hidden Valley Trail – OPEN
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, Paige DeCino, Jess Paez
Melrose 53-Filoli Circle/ East Ridgeline – Slader Buck
Old Rancho Santa Fe Road – Richard L'Heureux
Rancho Carrillo – Ramesh Sirsi (East) Sally & Will Willis (West)
Ridgeline/La Costa Trail – Don Stapp
Robertson Ranch – George Cornell
The Crossings/ Veterans Memorial Park – Shane Hohnstein
The Ranch/Santa Fe Trails – Alvaro Villamizar
Village H / Hidden Canyon Park – Tim Campbell
Village H South – Gerald Rea & Wanda Stiles

Trail volunteering is a great way to have fun, keep fit and learn about our natural environment, all while making a lasting contribution that benefits the community for generations. If you are interested in becoming a trail volunteer in the future, please call 760-434-4725.

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."

City of Carlsbad
Parks & Recreation

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