Solano County OUTDOORS!

Guide to Parks and Open Space Areas

where will YOU go?

SOLANO Resource Conservation District

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS SINCE 1864 ®

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City of Dixon

City of Fairfield

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Solano Land Trust

Solano County Parks

California State Parks

Solano County Water Agency

Greater Vallejo Recreation District

Solano County Office of Education

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What's Inside?

Welcome to Solano County OUTDOORS! 3

Join the Solano Outdoor Explorer Quest 4

Xplore Solano — Discover Adventure Close to Home 5

Solano County Park Locations... so many treasures to explore! 6

Acknowledging This Land 7

Caring for the Land and for Yourself 8

Get Ready 9

After Your Time Outside 10

Where Does Our Drinking Water Come From? 11

Lake Solano County Park 12-13

Sandy Beach County Park 14-15

Blue Rock Springs Park & Corridor 16-17

Rockville Hills Regional Park 18-19

Lagoon Valley & Peña Adobe Regional Parks 20-21

Valley Glen Drainage Pond 22-23

Rush Ranch Open Space 24-25

Glen Cove Waterfront Park 26-27

Lynch Canyon Open Space 28-29

Benicia State Recreation Area 30-31

Observation Quest Notes 32-33

Outdoors Word Search 34

Parks Mad Libs 35

My Nature Journal 36-37

Connect with Solano RCD 38

Welcome to Solano County *OUTDOORS!*

Solano County is home to many parks and open spaces where you can explore, learn, and play. Outdoor spaces make our lives better by giving us safe places to get some fresh air, exercise, connect with ourselves and with nature, and explore trails with friends and family.

Mallard ducks at Lake Solano (SRCD photo)

The Sacramento River at Sandy Beach County Park (SRCD photo)

The Solano County *OUTDOORS!* Guide describes ten great Solano County parks and open spaces for you to explore. Each of these parks are unique with many different things to experience. How you explore each park is up to you, but this guide has everything you need to help you plan your next adventure.

Map Key Icons

Use this Map Key to better understand all that Solano County Parks and Open Spaces have to offer. Each symbol represents a recreational actvity or special feature that can be found at the location. Look for the symbols on the Park and Open Space Maps throughout the Outdoor Guide.

QuestCache	Horseback Riding
Bathrooms	Interpretive Center
Bird Watching	Land Acknowledgement
Boat Launch	Mountain Biking
Camping	Parking
Day Use Only	Pets Allowed
Docent-led Hikes	Pets Not Allowed
Entrance Fee	Picnic Area
Hiking	Water Fountain

Join the Solano Outdoor Explorer Quest

The Solano Outdoor Explorer Quest is a wildlife discovery program offering explorers and families the adventure of finding Quest signs with QR codes linking to short videos about native plants or animals living near that area. The Solano Outdoor Explorer Quest is a great opportunity to do some exploring, get some exercise, learn new things and connect with nature and the outdoors.

Find the Quest Signs

View the Explorer Quest courses located in local parks and open spaces at www.solanocoe.net/quest. Travel to the areas marked on the map to find signs featuring local plants and animals.

Scan the Questcode (QR) to Reveal a Quest Video

Open the camera on a smart phone or tablet with cellular service and place it over the QR code. The Questcodes along the Explorer Quest courses will take you to short videos about native plants or animals that can commonly be seen near that location.

Share Your Explorer Quest

With parent permission, explorers can submit pictures and stories to **PIO@Solanocoe.net** to be shared publicly on social media and SCOE news updates.

Explorers can also share to their own social media pages with these hashtags:
#SolanoExplorerQuest #XploreSolano

What are you waiting for? Go outdoors and find a park!

Xplore Solano...
Discover Adventure Close to Home

Xplore SOLANO
www.xploresolano.com

ONE APP FOR EVERYTHING!

Xplore Solano is adventure at your fingertips with an app filled with local events, activities, trails, parks and open space destinations.

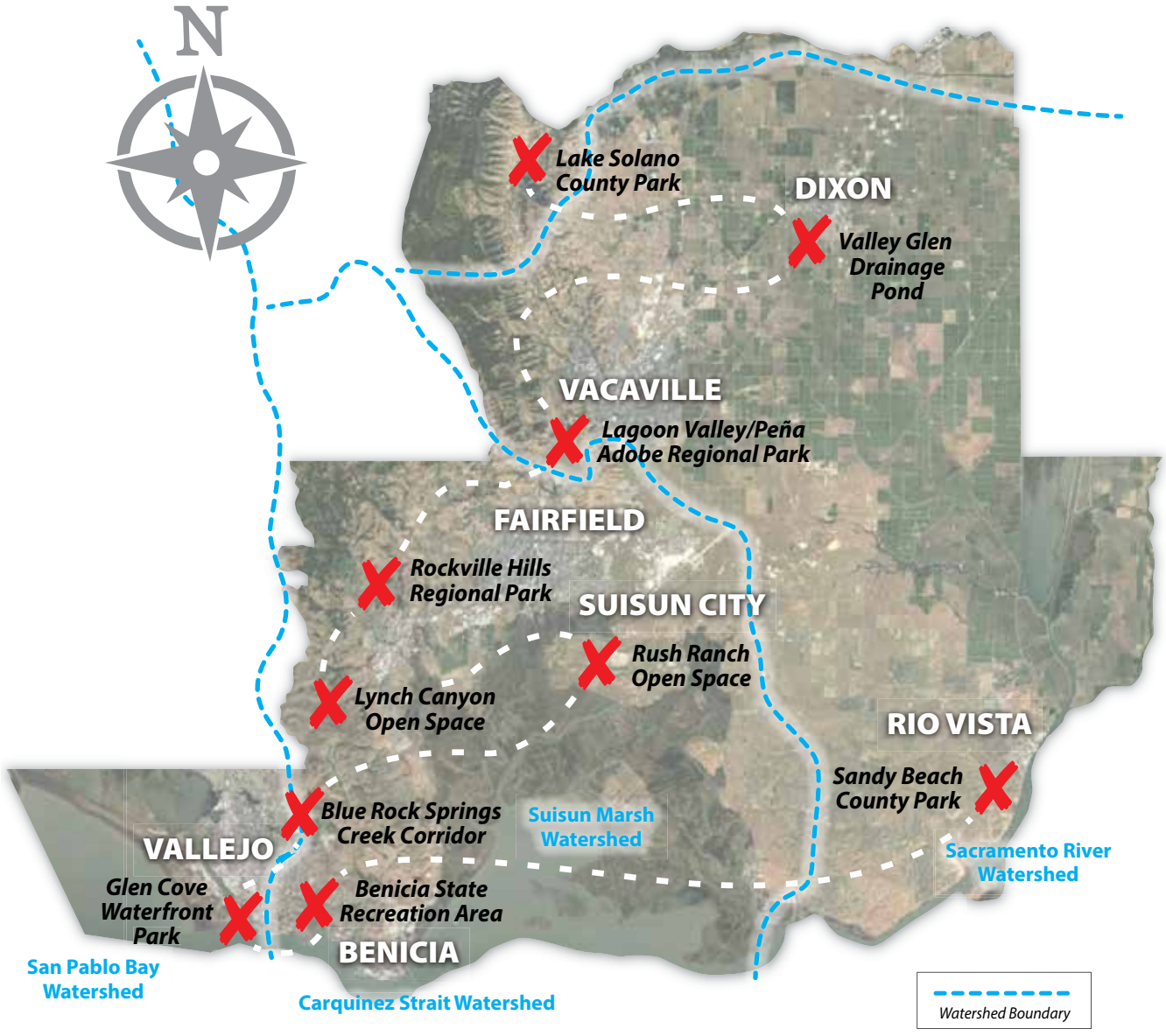
Xciting events, activities, trails, parks and destinations in one convenient place.

Download the app today and start your adventure!

Xplore Solano content is published by City of Fairfield, the Greater Vallejo Recreation District (GVRD), Solano County Office of Education, Solano County Parks, Solano Land Trust, Solano Transportation Authority and City of Vacaville.

...so many **treasures** to explore...

Solano County *OUTDOORS! Guide*



where will **YOU** go?

Acknowledging This Land

You can help take care of this land by learning more about it.

The parks and open spaces in what is now known as Solano County are on the traditional lands of the Patwin, Muwekma Ohlone, Lisjan Ohlone, and Bay Miwok people. These indigenous communities have lived on this land for thousands of years, building relationships with the plants and animals that also occur here. The colonization of Spanish and European settlers in the 1700s and 1800s resulted in a loss of many of these tribal communities and changed much of how the land has been used and valued.

Patwin territories map from Native Land Digital Native-Land.ca | Our home on native land

Today, the Patwin people and other tribal groups have remained committed to the care of this land, cherishing and protecting it as elders have instructed the young through generations.

As you explore many of Solano County's parks and open spaces and make your own relationship with the natural world, may it inspire you to also care for the plants, animals, water, and people in honor of its past, present, and future.

Marshall McKay, Tribal Council Chairman of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation from Restore/Restory: A People's History of the Cache Creek Nature Preserve | Restore/Restory (restorerestory.org)

Caring for the Land and for Yourself

Spending time outside can be new and exciting. Here are some guidelines to help you have fun, stay safe, and honor the world around you.

Tread Lightly

Each park has a unique habitat with a diversity of plants and animals that depend on the place you are visiting. Be mindful to stay on the path and keep your distance from wild animals.

Lupine (SRCD photo)

Leave No Trace

It is important to leave stones, flowers, and animals in their natural habitat. Protect the natural ecosystem by packing out what you packed in, especially trash. You can also take lots of pictures.

Newt larvae in Mason Pond at Rockville Park (SRCD photo)

Be Prepared

Check the weather and dress accordingly. Pack a backpack with items that will make your time outside fun and comfortable, including a water bottle, sunscreen, a sun hat and a first aid kit, just in case. Use the *Get Ready* list on page 9 to help you.

Respect All Living Things

The plants and animals that live in the place you are visiting depend on a healthy watershed ecosystem to survive. Be a steward of our parks and open spaces by protecting them from pollution.

Putah Creek (SRCD photo)

Get Ready!

You do not need fancy equipment or to be a nature expert to enjoy the outdoors.
Let your curiosity guide you and bring just a few essentials with you.

- ❑ Dress in layers and wear long pants
- ❑ Wear sturdy, comfortable shoes
- ❑ Bring or wear a hat
- ❑ Bring a light backpack to store things
- ❑ Pack a lunch and snacks
- ❑ Bring plenty of water
- ❑ Bring any allergy or asthma medicine
- ❑ Pack binoculars if you have them
- ❑ Pack some first aid supplies
- ❑ Print maps or write down trail information
- ❑ Bring field guides to help study nature

Rainbow over Lagoon Valley (https://www.ci.vacaville.ca.us/government/parks-and-recreation/parks-fields/lagoon-valley-park)

Peacock in Blue Rock Springs Park (https://mapio.net/pic/p-88162535/)

After Your Time Outside

When you return from being outside, it's important to check that you didn't bring anything unwanted with you, such as invasive plants and ticks. When we travel with invasive plant seeds in our clothes, we risk spreading them to other places, affecting the plants and animals that live there. Even though ticks, weeds, and other plants like poison oak can be bothersome, they are an important part of nature.

Be Tick Free

Ticks are insect-like creatures and some of them carry unhealthy germs. Here's how you can stay tick free:

- ✔ Cover up with long-sleeved shirts and pants
- ✔ Avoid long grasses or bushes
- ✔ Check yourself and your clothes for ticks
- ✔ Take a shower and wash your clothes
- ✔ Remove ticks quickly with tweezers and save in a bag to take to the doctor, if needed

Poison Oak

Poison oak is a shrub with groups of three, shiny leaves that can cause bad itching and rashes when touched. Here's how you can protect yourself from poison oak:

- ✔ Cover up with long-sleeved shirts and pants
- ✔ Stay on the trail
- ✔ Learn to identify poison oak in all four seasons
- ✔ Wash clothes with warm water and soap
- ✔ If exposed, use over-the-counter products to clean your skin

Where Does Your Drinking Water Come From?

Solano County residents receive their fresh water from a variety of sources depending on their location and the time of year.

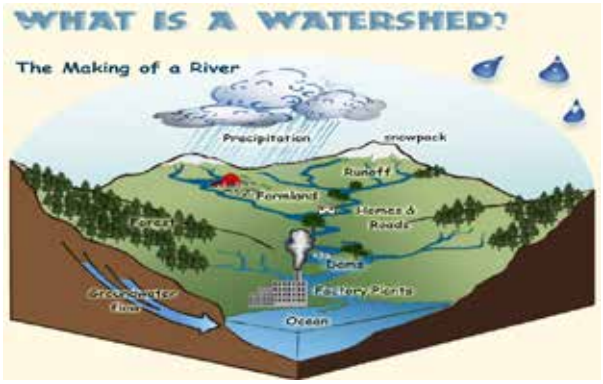
Lake Berryessa (SRCD photo)

Lake Berryessa serves up drinking water for...

Fairfield
Vacaville
Suisun City
Vallejo
Benicia

Ground water also supplies drinkable well water for...

Vacaville
Dixon
Rio Vista



Source: A. Vicente, U.S. Forest Service

Sacramento River (SRCD photo)

The Sacramento River also provides fresh water to:

Vacaville
Fairfield
Benicia
Vallejo

Learn more about our local watersheds and how we can help conserve and care for them.

Scan the QR codes to watch short educational videos about Solano County's watersheds and how your drinking water makes its way to your glass!

Drinking Water Video

Ground Water Video

Winters — Lake Solano County Park

Where: 8685 Pleasants Valley Road, Winters, CA
Phone: 530-795-2990
Hours & Fees: PEAK SEASON (April 1st - September 30th) — Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8am - 5pm; Wednesday 8am - 4pm; Saturday & Sunday, 8am - 7pm. OFF-PEAK SEASON (October 1st - March 31st) — Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday 8am - 5pm; Wednesday 8am - 4pm.

Lake Solano County Park sits at the base of the coastal foothills west of the town of Winters. Lake Solano helps control the amount of water flowing from Lake Berryessa into Putah Creek and is important for many different animals, including birds, black-tailed deer, ground squirrels, and California quail. The cold water in the creek and lake is famous for fly fishing.

Great for: Fishing, non-motorized boating, camping, swimming, sunbathing and picnicking. Visitors can hike, ride bikes, bird watch and photograph wildlife, and participate in volunteer docent-led hikes and events.

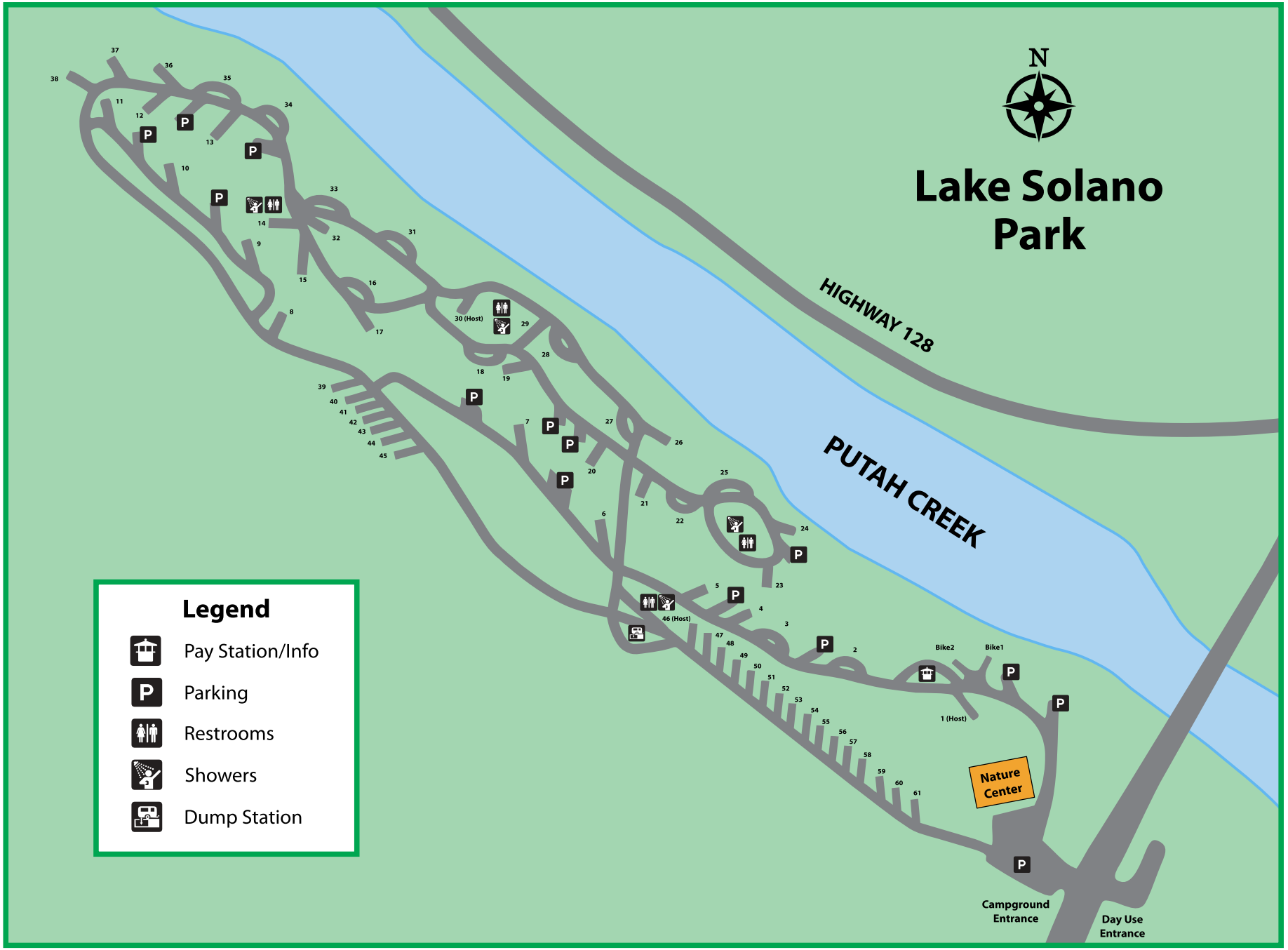
Camping & Day Use: Solano County operates a campground with 58 campsites, many of which have water and electric hookups. There are restrooms with flush toilets, sinks, and hot showers. The day use area has picnic sites, group picnic facilities, parking, restrooms and a public telephone. The day use fee includes boat launch access for non-powered vessels. The picnic area is located directly east of the campground.

Kayaking at Lake Solano (https://visityolo.com/listing/lake-solano-loop/)

View of Lake Solano (http://www.californiasbestcamping.com/sonoma/lake_solano.html)

Did You Know? Lake Solano is considered one of the best fly fishing spots in the Sacramento Valley, especially for brown and rainbow trout.

Learn More: Visit **solanocounty.com/parks** for current information, including hours, maps, and directions as well as to reserve a campsite. Watch wildlife at Lake Solano at **cawatchablewildlife.org**.


Lake Solano Park
N
HIGHWAY 128
PUTAH CREEK
Legend
Pay Station/Info
Parking
Restrooms
Showers
Dump Station
Nature Center
Campground Entrance
Day Use Entrance
Bike2
Bike1
1 (Host)
30 (Host)
46 (Host)

Rio Vista — Sandy Beach County Park

Where: 2333 Beach Drive, Rio Vista, CA 94571
Phone: 707-374-2097
Hours & Fees: Day use hours are 8am - 6pm. Parking fee applies.

Sandy Beach County Park is located on the Sacramento River near the town of Rio Vista.

Great for: Camping, picnicking, boating, fishing, jet-skiing and beach play.

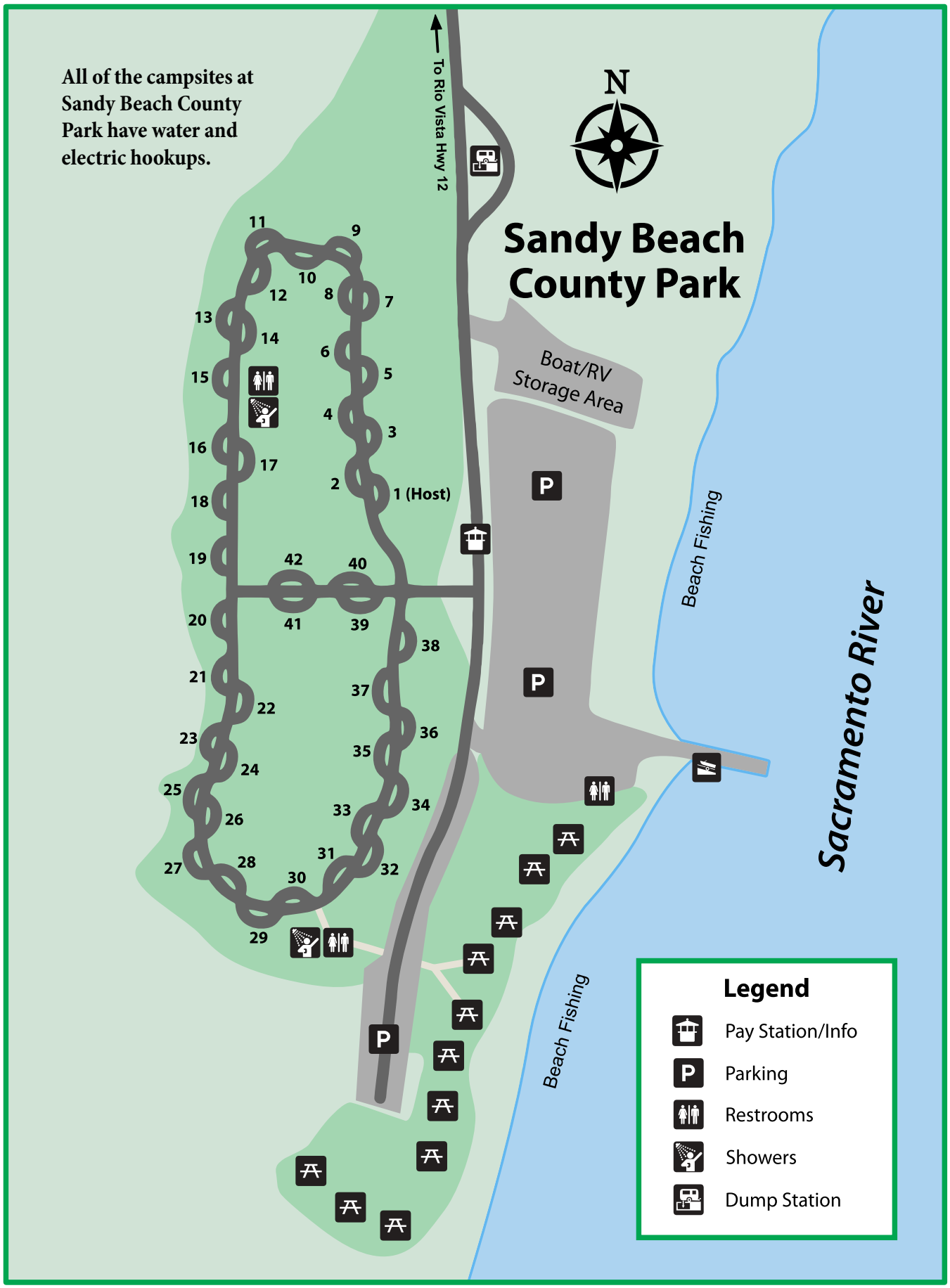
Camping & Day Use: Solano County operates a campground with 42 campsites, many of which have water and electric hookups. There are restrooms with flush toilets, sinks, campfire rings, hot showers and firewood for purchase. The day use area has picnic sites, parking, and restrooms. There is a 24-hour boat launch and a sandy beach stretching over a half-mile at low tide. Swimming is not allowed due to strong currents and no lifeguard is on duty.

SRCD 3rd grade Watershed Explorers field trip at Sandy Beach County Park (SRCD photo)

Did You Know? Either from the shoreline or off the side of a boat, fishing for catfish, sturgeon or striped bass is very popular at Sandy Beach. Rio Vista is also home to the very popular annual Bass Derby Festival held every October, and Sandy Beach is just over a mile away from the event.

Learn More: Visit solanocounty.com/parks for current information, including hours, maps, and directions as well as to reserve a campsite.

Sacramento River at Sandy Beach County Park (SRCD photo)


All of the campsites at Sandy Beach County Park have water and electric hookups.
To Rio Vista Hwy 12
N
Sandy Beach County Park
Boat/RV Storage Area
Beach Fishing
Beach Fishing
Sacramento River
1 (Host)
Legend
Pay Station/Info
Parking
Restrooms
Showers
Dump Station

Vallejo — Blue Rock Springs Park & Corridor

Where: 650 Columbus Parkway, Vallejo CA
Phone: 707-648-4600
Hours & Fees: The park is open 8am to sunset on weekends and holidays between April and October. Parking and reserved picnic area fees apply.

GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT

Blue Rock Springs Park is a 29-acre historical site with large picnic areas, playgrounds, and a hiking trail to Sulphur Springs Mountain with spectacular views of Vallejo and the Napa River. Blue Rock Springs Park and Blue Rocks Springs Corridor are managed by the Greater Vallejo Recreation District.

Great for: Hiking, picnics, family gatherings, viewing wildlife, and seeing how restoration projects can return a park to a more natural state.

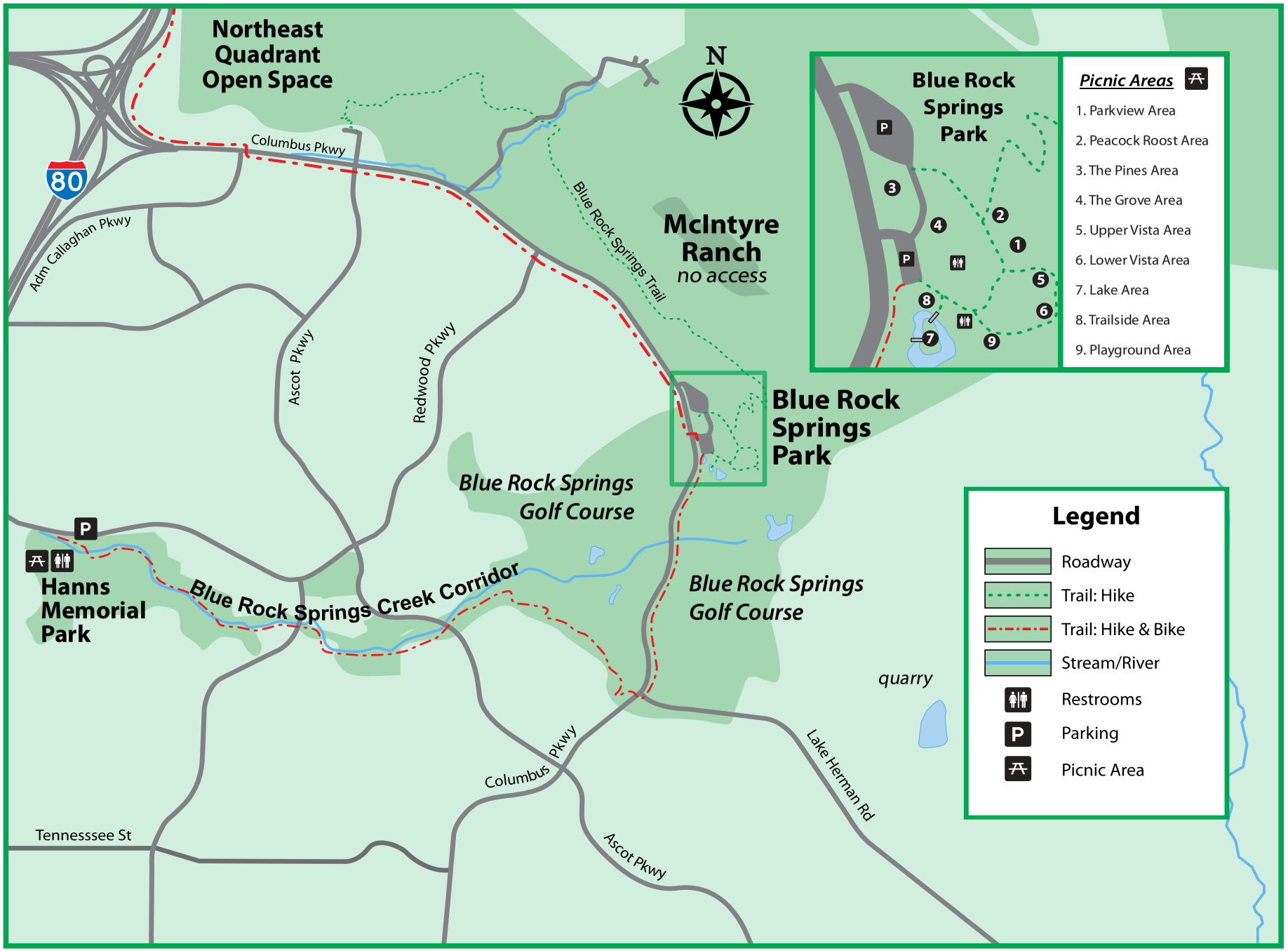
Blue Rock Springs Corridor (SRCD Photo)

Camping & Day Use: While there is no camping at Blue Rock Springs Park, there are plenty of picnic areas with grills as well as larger, reservable picnic areas. There are also open turf play areas, children's play equipment, a small lake and island with ducks and peacocks, parking, and restrooms. No dogs are allowed.

Did You Know? The Blue Rock Springs Corridor is part of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, a collection of more than 400 miles of trails which will eventually expand to 550 miles and connect over 75 parks and open spaces around the entire San Francisco Bay, creating a protected greenbelt corridor for hiking, habitat and wildlife.

Learn More: Visit **gvrd.com/gvrd-parks** for current information, including hours, maps, and directions as well as to reserve a picnic area. Visit **ridgetrail.org** to explore the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Blue Rock Springs Park (SRCD photo)


Northeast Quadrant Open Space
N
Columbus Pkwy
80
Adm Callaghan Pkwy
Blue Rock Springs Trail
McIntyre Ranch
no access
Ascot Pkwy
Redwood Pkwy
Blue Rock Springs Park
Blue Rock Springs Golf Course
Blue Rock Springs Park
Picnic Areas
1. Parkview Area
2. Peacock Roost Area
3. The Pines Area
4. The Grove Area
5. Upper Vista Area
6. Lower Vista Area
7. Lake Area
8. Trailside Area
9. Playground Area
Legend
Roadway
Trail: Hike
Trail: Hike & Bike
Stream/River
Restrooms
Parking
Picnic Area
Hanns Memorial Park
Blue Rock Springs Creek Corridor
Blue Rock Springs Golf Course
quarry
Columbus Pkwy
Lake Herman Rd
Tennesssee St
Ascot Pkwy

Fairfield — Rockville Hills Regional

Where: 2149 Rockville Road, Fairfield, CA
Phone: 707-428-7614
Hours & Fees: The park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. There is a $3 entrance fee.

Rockville Hills Regional Park has 633 acres of grasslands and oak woodlands, with a dense mixed broadleaf forest. A thin layer of topsoil covers volcanic rock visible throughout the park in large rock formations and shallow caves. Bare sections of rock have emerged, making some trail segments slick-rock. Rockville Hills Regional Park is maintained by the City of Fairfield.

Great for: Hill hiking, mountain biking, great views, wildlife and wildflower viewing, and ranger-led events.

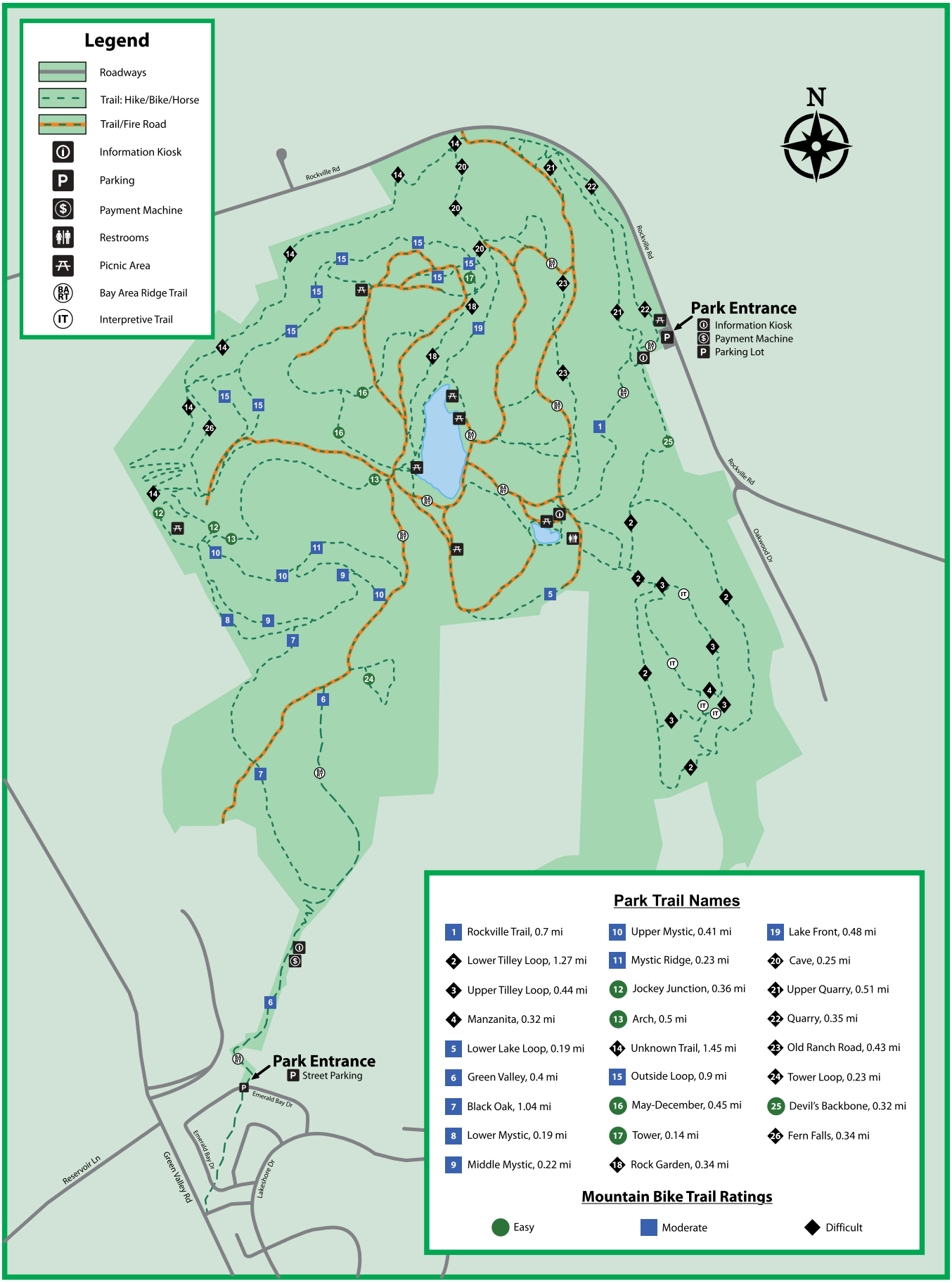
View of Suisun Marsh Watershed from Rockville Hills Regional Park (SRCD photo)

Day Use & Camping: There are picnic areas located near the parking lot and at the top of hill. Bathrooms are also available further into the park. Leashed dogs are welcome. There are cattle and sheep on the property at different times of the year. Dogs are prohibited in areas where sheep are present. Camping is only allowed for educational groups at the designated group camp area. Contact park officials for more information and requirements.

Did You Know? Rockville Hills Regional Park hosts a segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail that is not yet connected to the larger loop trail.

Rockville Hills Regional Park (SRCD photo)

Learn More: Visit **fairfield.ca.gov** and search for "Rockville Hills" for current information, including hours, closures, and maps. Visit **suisunwildlife.org/rockrule** to learn more of the parks natural history and **bellavistaranch.net** to learn more about the history of who has lived in this area.


Legend
Roadways
Trail: Hike/Bike/Horse
Trail/Fire Road
Information Kiosk
Parking
Payment Machine
Restrooms
Picnic Area
Bay Area Ridge Trail
Interpretive Trail
N
Park Entrance
Information Kiosk
Payment Machine
Parking Lot
Park Entrance
Street Parking
Rockville Rd
Oakwood Dr
Emerald Bay Dr
Lakeshore Dr
Green Valley Rd
Reservoir Ln
Park Trail Names
1 Rockville Trail, 0.7 mi
2 Lower Tilley Loop, 1.27 mi
3 Upper Tilley Loop, 0.44 mi
4 Manzanita, 0.32 mi
5 Lower Lake Loop, 0.19 mi
6 Green Valley, 0.4 mi
7 Black Oak, 1.04 mi
8 Lower Mystic, 0.19 mi
9 Middle Mystic, 0.22 mi
10 Upper Mystic, 0.41 mi
11 Mystic Ridge, 0.23 mi
12 Jockey Junction, 0.36 mi
13 Arch, 0.5 mi
14 Unknown Trail, 1.45 mi
15 Outside Loop, 0.9 mi
16 May-December, 0.45 mi
17 Tower, 0.14 mi
18 Rock Garden, 0.34 mi
19 Lake Front, 0.48 mi
20 Cave, 0.25 mi
21 Upper Quarry, 0.51 mi
22 Quarry, 0.35 mi
23 Old Ranch Road, 0.43 mi
24 Tower Loop, 0.23 mi
25 Devil's Backbone, 0.32 mi
26 Fern Falls, 0.34 mi
Mountain Bike Trail Ratings
Easy
Moderate
Difficult

Vacaville — Lagoon Valley & Peña Adobe Regional Parks

Where: 1 Peña Adobe Road, Vacaville, CA
Phone: 707-449-5658
Hours & Fees: The park is open daily from 7:30am to sunset. There is a $5 daily parking fee.

Lagoon Valley and Peña Adobe Parks combine to create 470 acres of parkland.

Great for: Hiking, non-motorized boating, horseback riding, picnics, bicycling, dog play, and family gatherings.

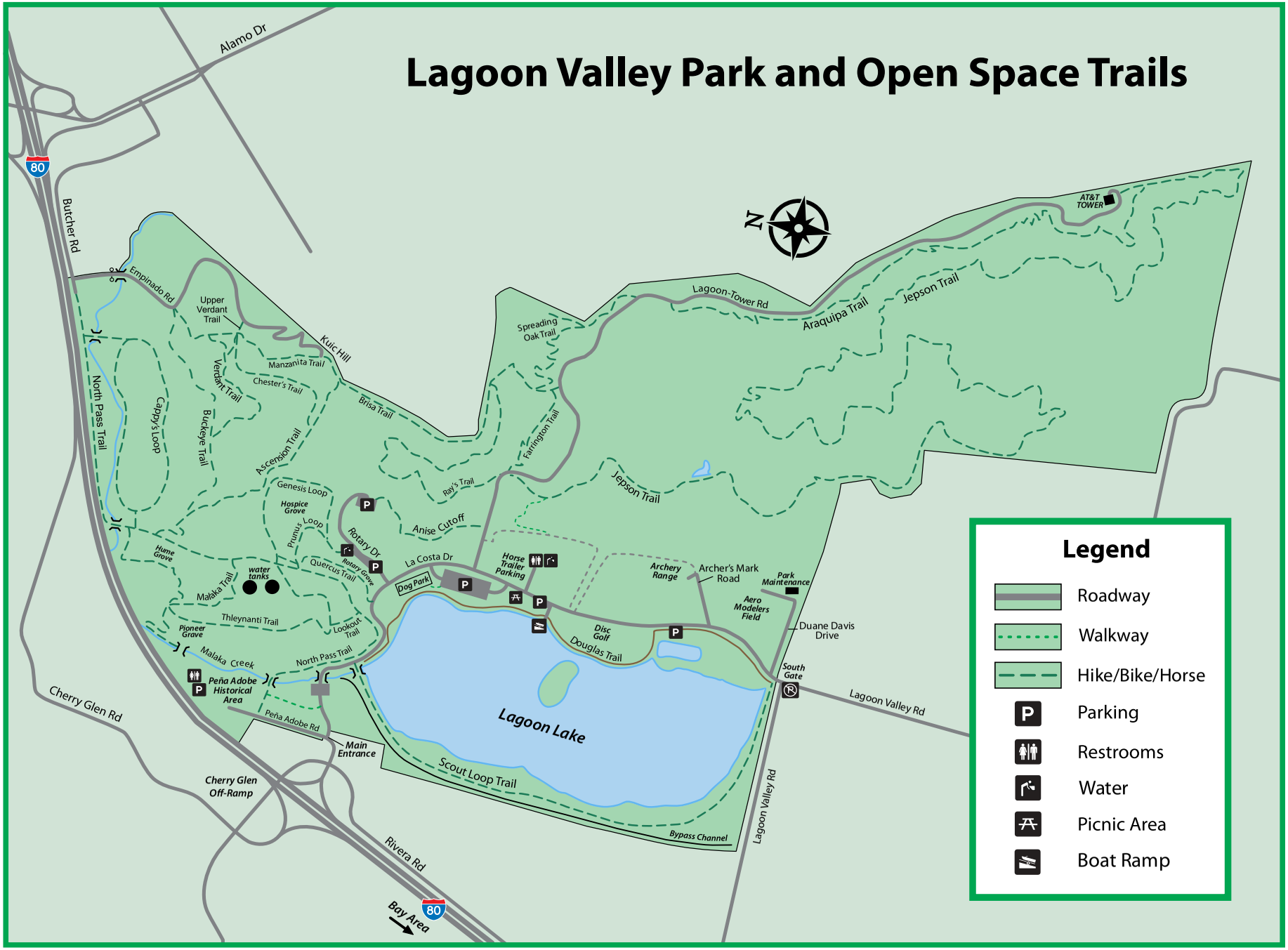
Camping & Day Use: There are barbecue areas, a horseshoe pit, a frisbee golf course, a multi-purpose field, bike trails, a small pond, and excellent hiking. The 160-acre lagoon offers fishing and non-motorized boating. There is also a 30,000-square-foot, fenced-in dog park complete with trees, water, and trash receptacles. Both the Peña Adobe and the adjacent Goheen-Mowers Museum are open to the public.

SRCD 3rd grade Watershed Explorers field trip at Lagoon Valley Regional Park (SRCD photo)

Did You Know? The historic Peña Adobe in Peña Adobe Park was built in the 1840s. Volunteers offer demonstrations of early pioneer and Native American life the first Saturday of every month in conjunction with the Rush Ranch Education Council.

Lagoon Valley (https://www.visitvacaville.com/blog/vacavilles-lagoon-valley-park/)

Learn More: Visit ci.vacaville.ca.us and search for "Lagoon Valley" or "Peña Adobe" for current information, including hours, parking fee information, and maps. Visit **visitvacaville.com** or **solanoopenspace.org** to learn more about the parks' natural and cultural history.


Lagoon Valley Park and Open Space Trails
Alamo Dr
Butcher Rd
Empinado Rd
Upper Verdant Trail
Kuic Hill
Manzanita Trail
Chester's Trail
Verdant Trail
Buckeye Trail
Cappy's Loop
North Pass Trail
Ascension Trail
Brisa Trail
Genesis Loop
Hospice Grove
Prunus Loop
Hume Grove
Malaka Trail
water tanks
Quercus Trail
Rotary Dr
Rotary Grove
Anise Cutoff
Ray's Trail
Spreading Oak Trail
Farrington Trail
Jepson Trail
Lagoon-Tower Rd
Araquipa Trail
Jepson Trail
AT&T TOWER
N
La Costa Dr
Dog Park
Horse Trailer Parking
Archery Range
Archer's Mark Road
Park Maintenance
Aero Modelers Field
Duane Davis Drive
Disc Golf
Douglas Trail
Thleynanti Trail
Lookout Trail
Pioneer Grave
Malaka Creek
North Pass Trail
Peña Adobe Historical Area
Peña Adobe Rd
Main Entrance
Lagoon Lake
South Gate
Lagoon Valley Rd
Scout Loop Trail
Bypass Channel
Cherry Glen Rd
Cherry Glen Off-Ramp
Rivera Rd
Bay Area
80
Legend
Roadway
Walkway
Hike/Bike/Horse
Parking
Restrooms
Water
Picnic Area
Boat Ramp

Dixon — Valley Glen Drainage Pond

Where: 1755 Parkway Boulevard, Dixon, CA
Phone: 707-678-7030
Hours & Fees: The park is open daily from sunrise to sunset. There is street parking.

Valley Glen Drainage Pond is a 2.1-mile loop in Dixon that is great for trail running and birding. Filled by stormwater runoff from the City of Dixon, the pond provides important habitat for waterfowl, kestrels, kites, burrowing owls, and meadowlarks.

Great for: Flat trail walking, jogging, nature viewing, and birding.

Camping & Day Use: There is no camping at the Valley Glen Drainage Pond. A limited number of picnic tables and benches are available throughout the site.

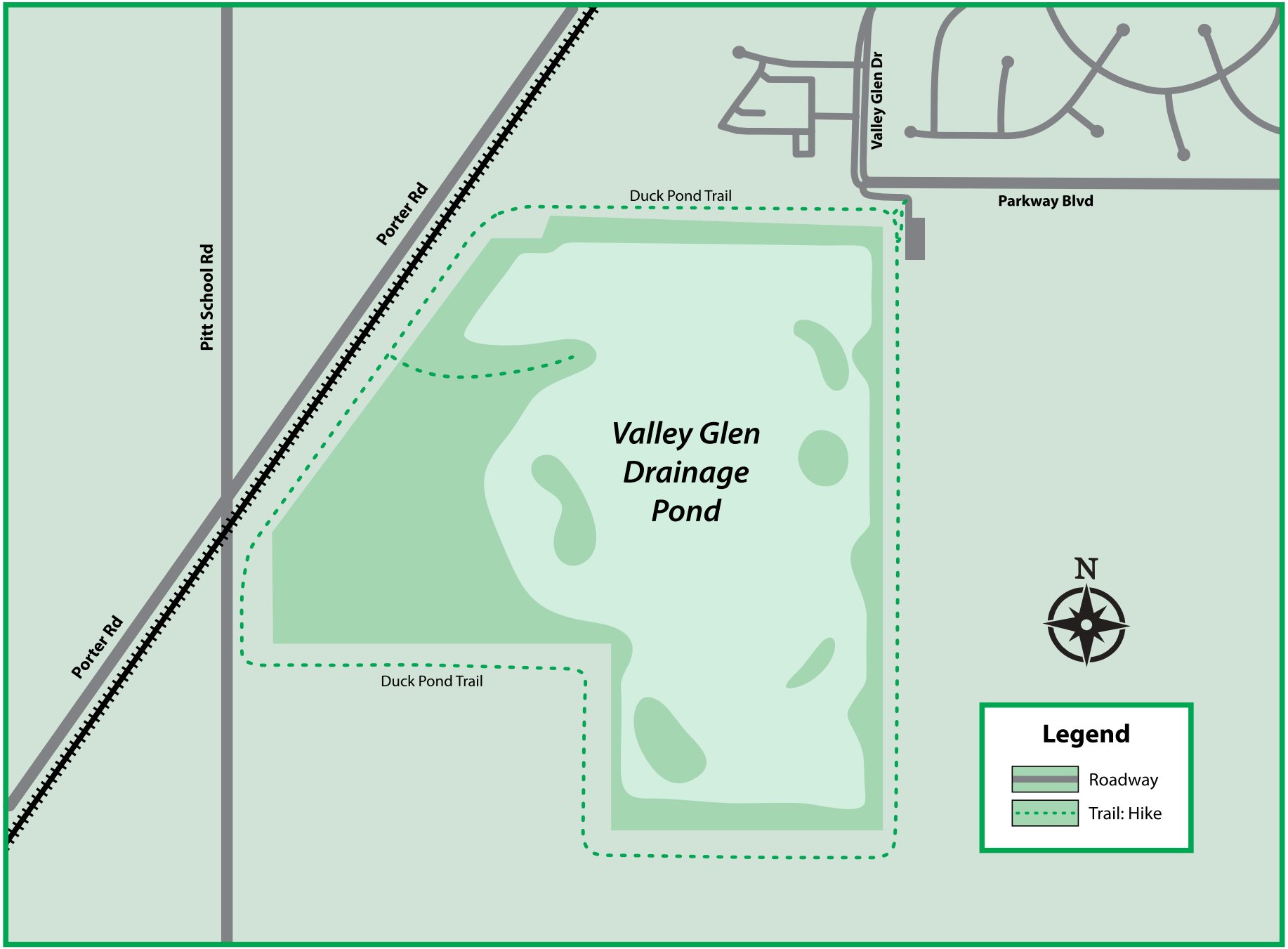
Did You Know? This basin is designed so that stormwater flows through the basin before being discharged into drainage channels. By slowing down stormwater as it moves through the basin, Valley Glen Drainage Pond allows sediment and other pollutants to drop out of the water column, greatly improving water quality.

3rd graders bird watching on SRCD Watershed Explorers field trip (SRCD photo)

Learn More: Check out the map on **AllTrails.com** with a free account.

Mallards (SRCD photo)

Anna's Hummingbird (SRCD photo)


Valley Glen Dr
Parkway Blvd
Duck Pond Trail
Porter Rd
Pitt School Rd
Valley Glen Drainage Pond
Porter Rd
Duck Pond Trail
N
Legend
Roadway
Trail: Hike

Suisun City — Rush Ranch Open Space

Where: 3521 Grizzly Island Road, Suisun City, CA
Phone: 707-432-0150
Hours & Fees: Open March - October from 8am - 7pm; November - February from 8am - 5pm

Rush Ranch is a 2,071-acre preserve with vast open spaces. There is a restored barn, working blacksmith shop, a tule hut, a nature center, and a 1930s Sears Catalog kit-built house, which is now a small interpretive museum with displays on the history of Rush Ranch. Rush Ranch is an excellent place to bird watch and enjoy the diversity of native plants found in brackish tidal marshes such as saltgrass and pickleweed.

Great For: Hiking, birding, wide-open spaces, learning about natural history, picnics.

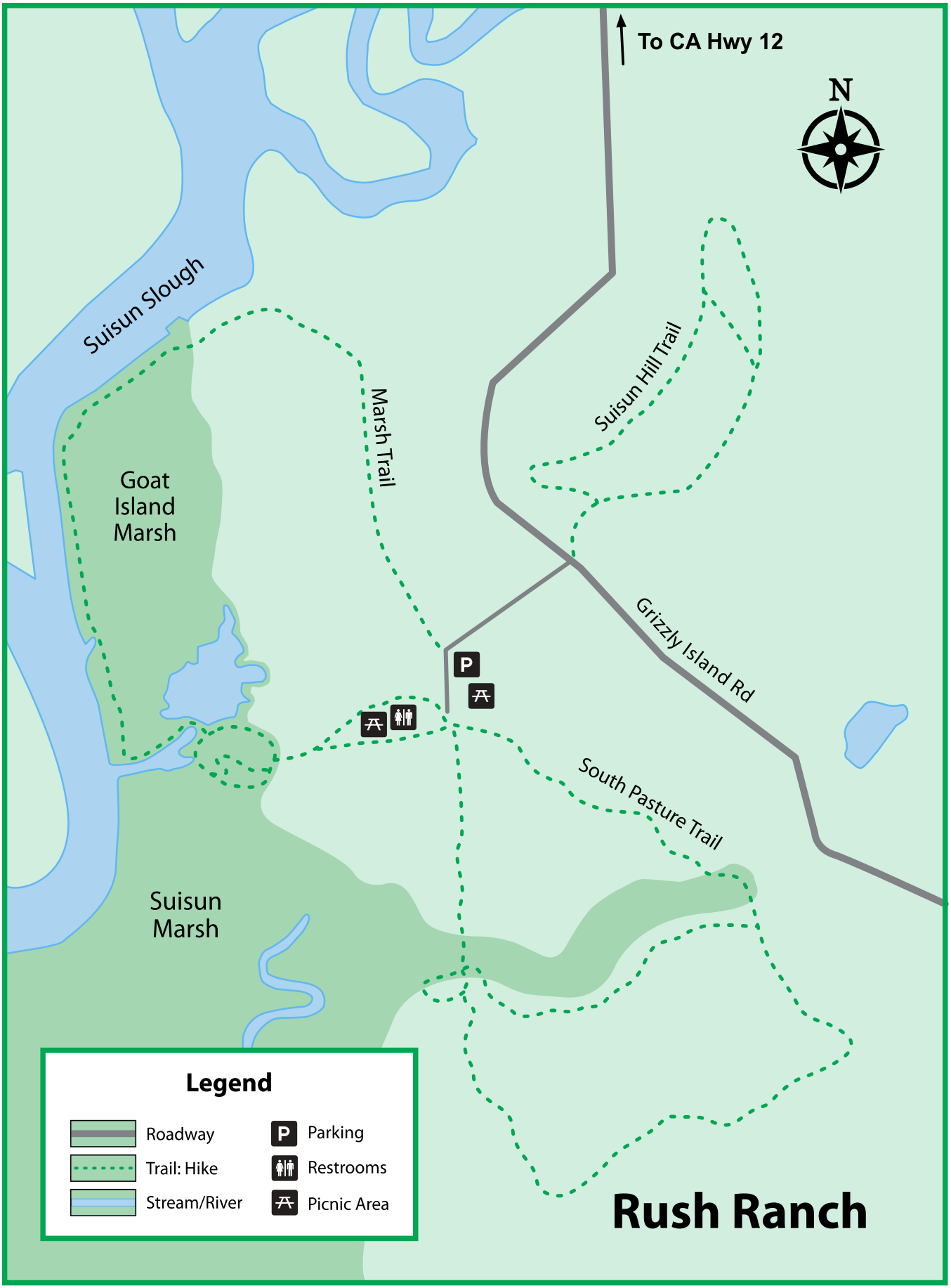
Camping & Day Use: There is no camping at Rush Ranch Open Space. There is a picnic area and BBQ, plus interactive educational exhibits with hand-painted murals that explain the ranch and interpretive signage on trails.

SRCD program coordinator with students on 6th grade Suisun Marsh field trip (SRCD photo)

View from Rush Ranch Nature Center (SRCD photo)

Did You Know? Rush Ranch is a working cattle ranch. There are self-guided trails leading through grasslands, providing spectacular views and taking visitors along the edges of the Suisun Marsh, one of the best remaining examples of a brackish tidal marsh habitat in the United States.

Learn More: Visit **solanolandtrust.org** and search "Rush Ranch" for current information, including hours, parking fee information, and maps. Visit the Rush Ranch Educational Council (RREC) on Facebook for information about education and outreach programs year-round.


To CA Hwy 12
N
Suisun Slough
Marsh Trail
Suisun Hill Trail
Goat
Island
Marsh
Grizzly Island Rd
P
South Pasture Trail
Suisun
Marsh
Legend
Roadway
Trail: Hike
Stream/River
P
Parking
Restrooms
Picnic Area
Rush Ranch

Vallejo — Glen Cove Waterfront Park

Where: Glen Cove Nature Area, Whitesides Drive, Vallejo, CA
Hours & Fees: Sunrise to sunset. No park fees.

GREATER VALLEJO RECREATION DISTRICT

Located next to Benicia State Recreation Area, Glen Cove Waterfront Park has a walking trail that connects to the San Francisco Bay Trail, native plants and shrubs, and a beautiful view of one of Vallejo's watersheds, the Carquinez Strait.

Great for: Easy hiking, bird watching, and fishing.

Camping & Day Use: There is no camping at the Glen Cove Waterfront Park. A limited number of benches are available throughout the site.

Did You Know? Glen Cove Waterfront Park has picnic tables to enjoy and an abundance of habitat for native wildlife.

More info: Visit **gvrd.com/gvrd-parks** for current information, including hours, maps, and directions as well as to reserve a picnic area. Visit **ridgetrail.org** to explore the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

3rd graders hiking at Glen Cove Waterfront Park during SRCD Watershed Explorers Program (SRCD photo)

Cooper's Hawk (SRCD photo)

3rd graders along the Carquinez Strait at Glen Cove Waterfront Park (SRCD photo)

Legend
Roadway
Trail: Hike & Bike
P
Parking
Shoal Dr W
Whitesides Dr
S Regatta Dr
Bay Area Ridge Trail
Bay Area Ridge Trail
Bay Area Ridge Trail
Bay Area Ridge Trail
Glen Cove
Waterfront
Park
Glen Cove
N

Fairfield — Lynch Canyon Open Space

Where: 3100 Lynch Road, Fairfield, CA
Phone: 707-784-6765
Hours & Fees: 9am - 5pm Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday. A parking fee is required. Annual parking passes are available.

Lynch Canyon Open Space is 1,039 acres of steeply rolling hills covered in grasslands with groves of buckeyes and live oaks. The enclosed watershed drains to the Suisun Marsh via Lynch Creek.

Great for: Hill hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, amazing views, evidence of Native American presence, nature viewing, photography.

Camping & Day Use: There is no camping at Lynch Canyon Open Space. The park provides restrooms and picnic tables in the parking area, and picnic tables at scenic spots along trails. There is NO drinking water. Dogs are not allowed.

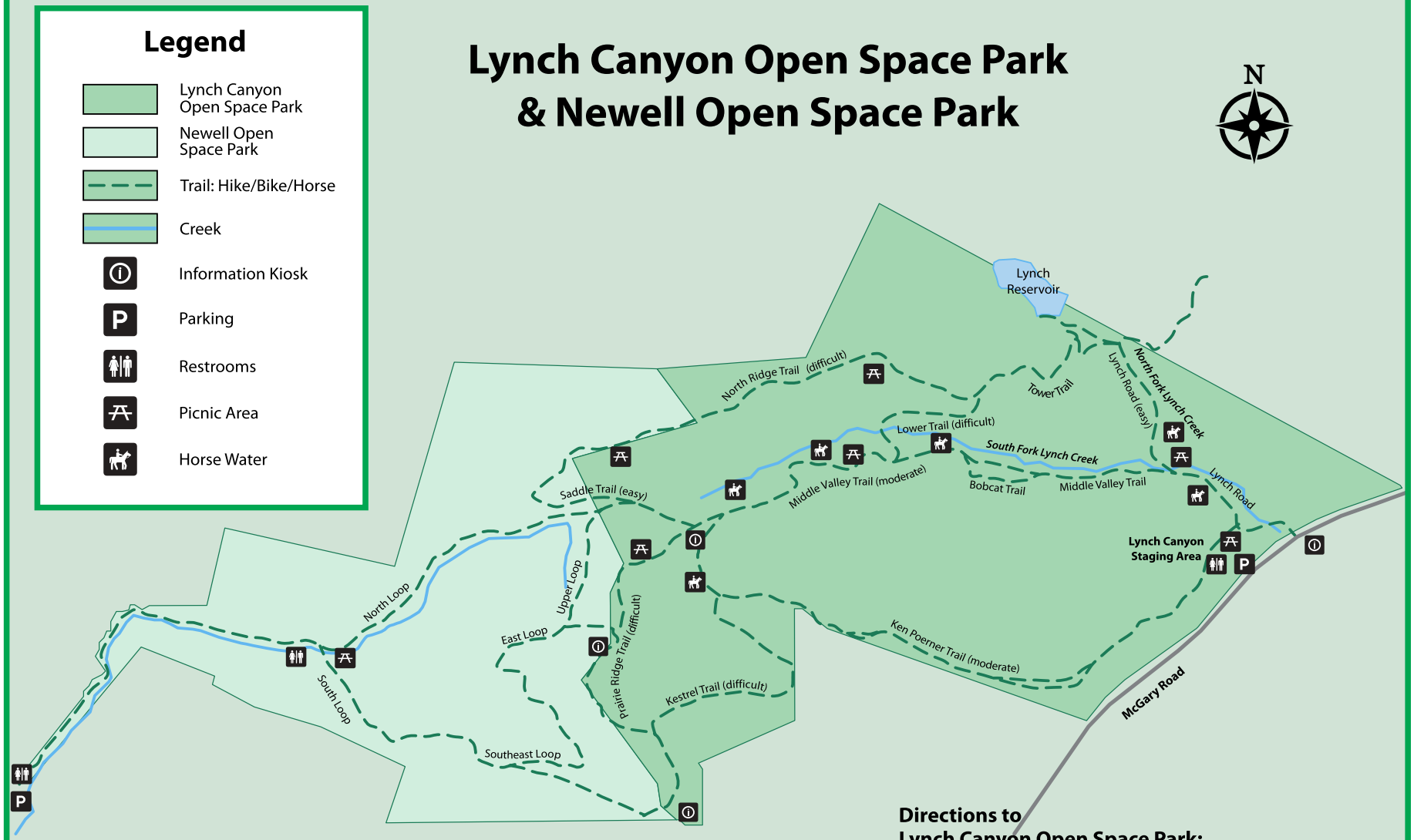
Did You Know? Lynch Canyon has over 10 miles of trails and connects to the Newell Open Space, owned by the City of American Canyon in Napa county, adding several more miles of trails to explore.

Lynch Canyon Kite Festival (Solano County Parks photo)

Learn More: Visit **solanocounty.com/parks** for current information, including hours, maps, and directions .Visit **solanolandtrust.org** and search for "Lynch Canyon" to view a free wildlife guide.

Lynch Canyon (Solano Land Trust photo)

Lynch Canyon Open Space Park & Newell Open Space Park



Potable water is not available.
Please bring your own water.

Dogs are not allowed
Off-Road Vehicles are not allowed.

Directions to Lynch Canyon Open Space Park:

From San Francisco/I-80 East. Take Exit 36 at American Canyon/ Hiddenbrook Pkwy. and take a left onto McGary Rd. Take a left onto Lynch Rd. and proceed under the freeway.

From Sacramento/I-80 West. Take Exit 39A at Red Top Rd., go under the freeway and turn west (right) on McGary Rd. Take a right onto Lynch Rd. and proceed under the freeway.

Benicia — Benicia State Recreation Area

Where: 1 State Park Road, Benicia, CA
Phone: 707-648-1911
Hours & Fees: Daily: 8am – Sunset. A parking fee is required.

Benicia State Recreation Area covers marsh, grassy hillsides and rocky beaches along the narrowest portion of the Carquinez Strait and offers 2.5 miles of road and bike paths. The marshland area on Dillon Point is a favorite place for fishing.

Great for: Cyclists, runners, walkers, equestrians, roller skaters, picnics, bird watching and fishing.

Camping & Day Use: Three "Enroute" campsites are available for an overnight stay on a "first-come, first-served" basis with no reservations possible. This camping is limited to motor homes or vehicles with trailers, which must be fully self-contained. Tents are not permitted.

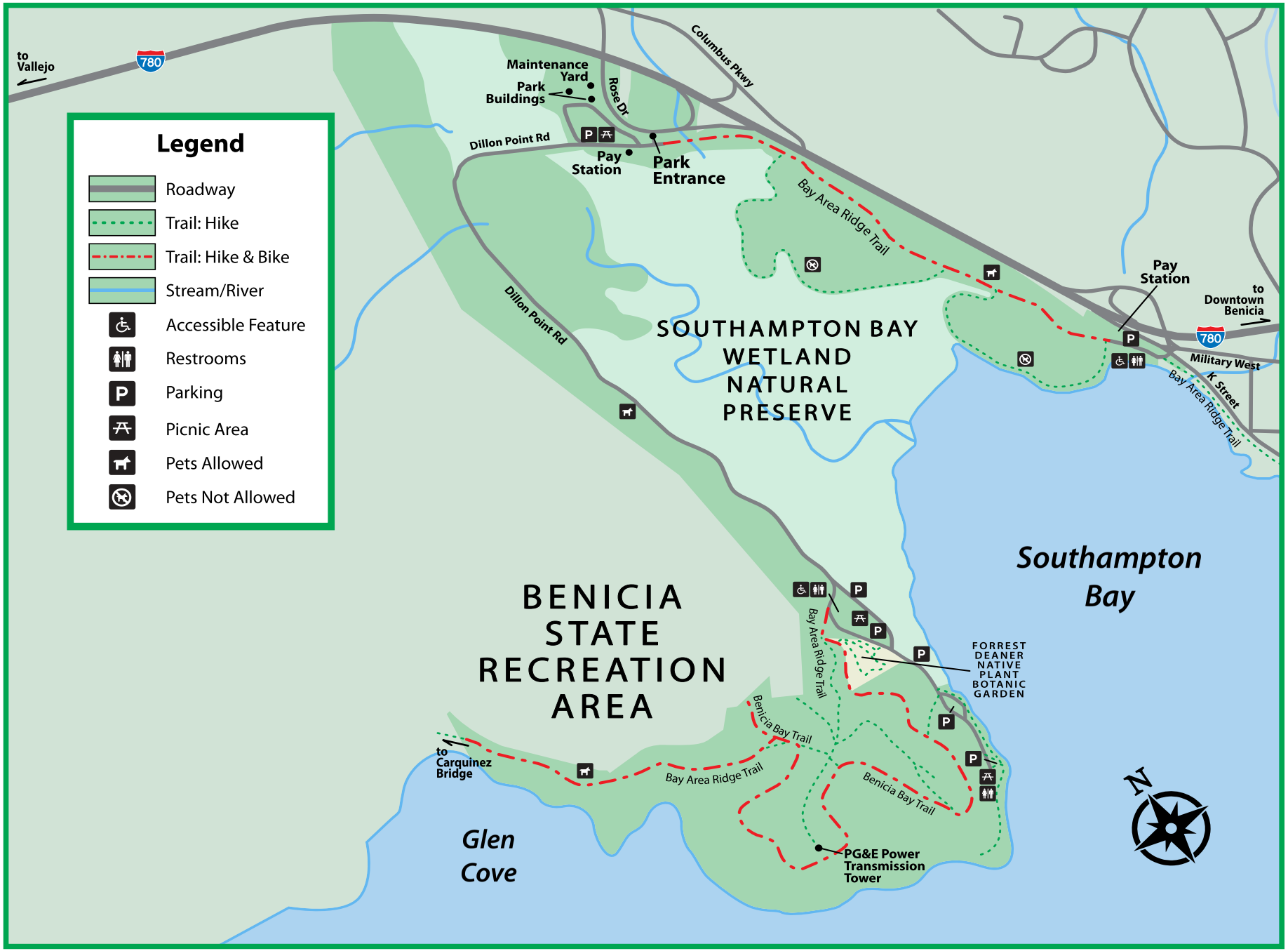
Interpretive sign at Benicia State Recreation Area (SRCD photo)

Did You Know? The Bay Area Ridge Trail runs through the park, part of a larger loop trail. The Benicia SRA is a designated Important Bird Area, which provides essential habitat for bird species including Virginia Rails, endangered California Clapper Rails and Black Rails, herons, egrets, pelicans and terns.

Learn More: Visit parks.ca.gov and search for "Benicia State Recreation Area" for current information, including hours, closures, maps, and brochure.

Students exploring BSRA (SRCD photo)

A view of the bay from the Bay Ridge Trail (https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/476/files/BeniciaFinalWebLayout2018.pdf)


Legend
Roadway
Trail: Hike
Trail: Hike & Bike
Stream/River
Accessible Feature
Restrooms
Parking
Picnic Area
Pets Allowed
Pets Not Allowed
to Vallejo
780
Maintenance Yard
Park Buildings
Rose Dr
Columbus Pkwy
Dillon Point Rd
Pay Station
Park Entrance
Bay Area Ridge Trail
SOUTHAMPTON BAY WETLAND NATURAL PRESERVE
Pay Station
to Downtown Benicia
780
Military West
K Street
Bay Area Ridge Trail
Dillon Point Rd
Southampton Bay
BENICIA STATE RECREATION AREA
Bay Area Ridge Trail
FORREST DEANER NATIVE PLANT BOTANIC GARDEN
Benicia Bay Trail
to Carquinez Bridge
Bay Area Ridge Trail
Benicia Bay Trail
Glen Cove
PG&E Power Transmission Tower
N

Observation Quest

According to...

Nature's Calendar

If it wasn't printed on a calendar, how would we know what season it is?

NATURE CAN TELL US!

Put a ✓ next to the *phenological events you observe* to investigate what season it really is... ***according to nature!***

Watershed Explorer students observing Manzanita at Rockville Park (SRCD photo)

Things to LOOK for...

- ❍ Brown, orange, red, or yellow leaves
- ❍ Leaf buds on a bush or tree
- ❍ Green leaves on a bush or tree
- ❍ An acorn (ripe or almost ripe)
- ❍ A puddle on the ground
- ❍ Animal tracks
- ❍ Your breath fogging in the air
- ❍ A leaf falling to the ground
- ❍ Colorful flowers or flower buds

Things to FEEL for...

- ❍ Wet grass or soil
- ❍ Warm sunshine against your face
- ❍ Bare tree stems
- ❍ Cold air against your face
- ❍ Soft, tender leaves
- ❍ Crispy or crunchy leaves

Observation Quest

Things to LISTEN for...

- ❍ Leaves crunching under your feet
- ❍ Bees buzzing by
- ❍ Trickling or running water
- ❍ Wind blowing through trees or grass
- ❍ A hummingbird's wings beating
- ❍ Woodpecker pecking
- ❍ Baby birds chirping
- ❍ Frogs singing or splashing
- ❍ Ducks or geese honking

Things to SMELL for...

- ❍ Freshly blooming flowers
- ❍ Leaves from last season
- ❍ Fresh grass
- ❍ Wet soil or plants
- ❍ Fresh cow manure
- ❍ Something that smells "tasty"

YOU can be a CITIZEN SCIENTIST...

Marianne Butler, Education Director at SRCD teaching 6th graders on Suisun Marsh field trip at Rush Ranch Open Space (SRCD photo)

Simply upload what you find to the National Phenology Network!

https://www.usanpn.org/usa-national-phenology-network

Outdoors Word Search

In the grid below, find the names of the ten parks described in this guide and twelve things you can do when you visit. Words run up, down, diagonally, forwards and backwards.

L E S A N D Y B E A C H U P F I E H A
I R I D G E T E A I L S Q R T R V E R
P E R J E T W A L K C I W B O U R L O
W B D E P T S R T F A F E L Y A R C C
T O C P L H N G O A S D P U C E N Y K
D D M S X I U J R G H X J E A D O C V
L A G O O N V A L L E Y R R V P Y I L
R A N N Z K I S D P K E L O E H N B L
U N B P A P N R I T T O P C L I A U L
S E A R C H I C M A N Y H K P K C A E
H P V A I W N C T A G A O S D E H S H
R P C I H I B S L Z K L T P M I C E I
A I A R C B A O S I E P O R T E N A L
N C L I D I S T A X C A G I R T Y S L
C K A E C E H C O T E S R N U P L T S
H O L I K C A N O E T S A G S I M R I
U A N A E H C A C O E G P S H E A A D
Y E L L B I R D W A T C H S G U B L C
B R A V E F D N A L S I Y L Z Z I R G

LAKE SOLANO
ROCKVILLE HILLS
LYNCH CANYON
BICYCLE
PICNIC
FISH
GEOCACHE
SANDY BEACH
LAGOON VALLEY
RUSH RANCH
WALK
BOAT
BIRDWATCH
CAMP
BENICIA STATE REC AREA
BLUE ROCK SPRINGS
HIKE
PHOTOGRAPHY
RIDGE TRAIL
EXPLORE

Parks Mad Libs

Ask your friends to give you words to fill in the blanks in the story below, according to the hint below each blank. Do not let your friends see the story first. When the blanks are filled-in, read the story aloud.

A Day in the Park

My best _____ and I went to the park with my family. We
(noun)

_____ up a steep trail, and saw a _____ eagle. We
(verb-past tense) (adjective)

_____ our lunch _____ on a _____
(verb-past tense) (verb-ends in 'ing') (noun)

as we watched _____turtles and _____.
(adjective) (plural noun)

Later, we _____ for signs of _____. We saw ten
(verb-past tense) (noun)

_____ kinds of birds, _____ lizards and some
(adjective) (adjective)

_____. Next, we are _____ to a park where
(noun) (verb-ends in 'ing')

we can _____. I might bring my _____.
(verb- base form) (noun)

You can make your own Mad Libs to play in the car or at home.
All you need is a pencil and paper!

My Nature Journal

Great Blue Heron (SRCD photo)

My Nature Journal

Western Fence Lizard (SRCD photo)

SOLANO
Resource Conservation District

Dragonfly (SRCD photo)

Connect with us online! Share your outdoor adventures with photos or write to us about what you did.

You can also visit our website or social media to learn more about how you can get involved in protecting Solano County's watersheds.

SolanoRCD.org

email: info@SolanoRCD.org

where will YOU go?