



INSIDE

- **New!** Special sneak-peek hike on soon-to-be open trails.
- Coyote Ridge Wildflowers - Sign up now to see the brightest blooms first!
- **FREE** fun and educational activities for families.
- Spring into action for OSA: Volunteer opportunities abound.
- OSA in your neighborhood: Community Outreach Events.



photo by Cait Hutnik

The Great Blue Heron is one of many birds to be seen in or around Llagas Meadow at Rancho Cañada del Oro OSP.

Celebrate the season with an outdoor adventure. Whether it's hiking, birding, stargazing, or exploring for butterflies and news, the Open Space Authority has a springtime activity for you. Get a taste of what's in store here and check out openspaceauthority.org for details. Then choose your pleasure and let us know you're coming.

OSA is working to protect sensitive lands, preserve natural communities, and manage open space in ways that promote agriculture and compatible recreation.

Santa Clara County
Open Space Authority
6980 Santa Teresa Blvd., Ste 100
San Jose, CA 95119



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SPRING INTO ACTION FOR OSA



photo by Matthew Warner

Volunteering with OSA is a fun and rewarding way to enjoy, protect, and preserve the beauty of our Santa Clara Valley. Opportunities for volunteers include Trail Patrol, Land Stewards (habitat restoration), Community Outreach, and the Docent Program. For more information please contact Dana Litwin, Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, at (408) 224-7476 x.27, or volunteer@openspaceauthority.org.

OSA at Community Events

Come by and say "Hi" to OSA staff and volunteers at these Springtime community celebrations:

April 2nd
Celebrate Ulistac

April 23rd
Spring in Guadalupe Gardens



photo by Lark Burkhart

DOCENT ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Walking with Woody

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- March 3, May 5 9am
- Meet Docent Woody in the parking lot

Do you love to hike but you hate to go alone? Why not join our friendly Docents instead? This series of hikes is for people who would like to take a slightly longer, yet gentle approach to exploring the outdoors. Each hike ranges from 6-9 miles depending on participants and will involve hiking the trails at Rancho Cañada del Oro. Hikes begin at 9 and end by 1 pm. This is a great way to get back into hiking.

Dragons Underfoot! Newts Migration March Hike

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- March 5 9am
- Meet Docent Cait in the parking lot

The newts are on the march for their annual migration to find mates. Join Docent Cait for a hike along the Mayfair Trail to try and track down some of these fascinating creatures. This hike is about 4.5 miles and takes about 3 hours. Join us for a morning of fun exploration with friendly people.



Welcome Wildflowers

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- March 6 10am
- Meet Docent Bob in the parking lot

A walk for all levels; The total hike will be 9.5 mi. traveling up Mayfair Trail to Longwall Trail; up Longwall Trail to Bald Peaks Trail; Along Bald Peaks Trail into Calero County Park on down to the parking lot. There are three alternative loops; The Mayfair Trail loop is 4.3 mi. The Mayfair/Longwall/Catamount Loop is 8.5 mi. The Mayfair/Longwall/Serpentine Loop is 8.8 mi.

Attention: Coyote Ridge Enthusiasts!

This year Coyote Spring has a flexible start date.

HOW IT WORKS:

This year OSA will be waiting until the flowers are in their peak to start the wildflower hikes on Coyote Ridge. If you would like to be included in these hikes, please call our office at (408) 224-7476 or email Teri Rogoway at TRogoway@openspaceauthority.org and get on the notification list. When the flowers are ready, we will send out a broadcast and you will be directed to an online site to register. Registration will be first come, first served. This is a closed, sensitive area and registration is required to attend.

Starry Nights - Stargazing

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- March 12 6:30pm, April 23 8pm, May 14 8:30pm
- Meet Docent Chris Kelly in the equestrian parking lot

The Open Space Authority is proud to present this series of stargazing programs presented by our Docent and local astronomer, Chris Kelly. Please join us under the stars for some peaceful and fun evenings exploring the night skies. Telescopes will be available to share. If you would like to bring your own and need help setting up, please come an hour early and we will help you. Families and friends are all welcome.

Blair Buddies - Nature Explorations

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve, Blair Ranch Area
- March 17, April 21, May 19 9am
- Meet Docent Woody in the parking lot

Please join Docent Woody in his exploration of nature behind the scenes in this "soon to open to the public" preserve. Be among the first to get a sneak peek at the trails, sites and scenery while setting a gentle pace. Hiking poles, water, and a snack are recommended. Please no children under 8 years old. Call to reserve a spot today. (408) 224-7476.

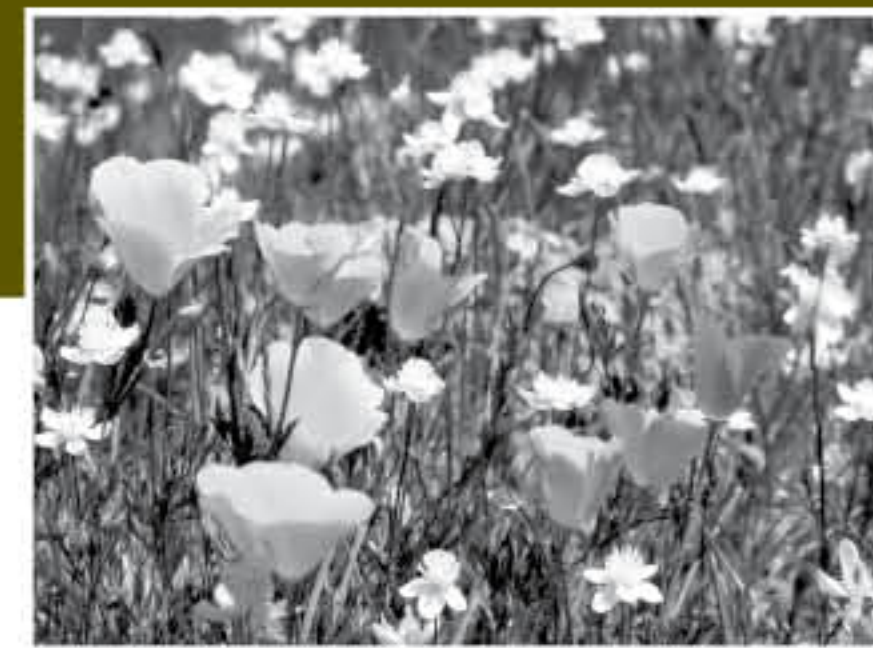


photo by Cait Humik

Early Spring Wildflowers & Native Ferns

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- March 26 9am
- Meet Docent Cait in the parking lot

Are you ready to say hello to Spring? Join Docent Cait on a gentle hike through Rancho Cañada del Oro to explore the newly emerging wildflowers and native ferns. See the many wonders of the oak woodlands and grassy foothills on this 4.5 mile hike through the scenic views of early spring.

Rancho Rambles

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- April 5, April 10, April 19 9am
- Meet Docent Cait in the parking lot

Do you need a hiking buddy for a gentle mid-week walk through our hillsides? Feel free to join Docent Cait for these Tuesday rambles through the hills and oak woodlands of Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve. This is a great way to get back into shape and enjoy nature in the meantime. No reservations necessary.

Spring Wildflowers Abound

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- April 7, April 9 10am
- Meet Docent Paul in the parking lot

Rancho Cañada del Oro showcases a large variety of native spring wildflowers. But did you ever wonder why they grow where they do? Don't miss the chance to hike with Docent Paul as he points out these beauties and explains the reasons for their locations. Please bring a sack lunch, as this hike includes a lunch stop. Heavy rain cancels. No reservations necessary.

Please note that pets are not allowed on Open Space Authority lands.

Santa Clara County Open Space Authority
6980 Santa Teresa Blvd., Ste 100 • San Jose, CA 95119
tel 408.224.7476 • fax 408.224.7548

www.openspaceauthority.org

Secret Spring at Blair - Special Access Event

- April 30 9am
- Registration Required
- Meet in the Rancho Cañada del Oro parking lot

Soon Blair Ranch will be opening to the public! Join us for this last chance to see it in the privacy and seclusion of a special access day hike. Join our Docents as they explore all the serpentine splendor complete with rolling hills and beautiful flower displays. We'll have a special treat for those who sign up for this special day! Sign up through Eventbrite at: www.eventbrite.com/event/1246499313 or by calling us at (408) 224-7476.

May Day Morning

- Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve
- May 1 10am
- Meet Docent Bob in the innermost parking lot at Alum Rock Park

Are you looking for a longer hike? Celebrate May 1st in style as you hike along one of the most scenic and historic areas on Santa Clara County. See views as only historic cattlemen of old once did. Join Bob with a welcome to spring on the Boccardo Trail and get a sneak peek of new trails soon to be opened. Hiking poles, water and a snack are recommended.

Wings and Blings

- Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve
- May 10, May 17, May 24 9am
- Meet Docent Cait in the parking lot



photo by Cait Humik

If you think butterflies and flowers are beautiful then this is the hike for you! This "out and back" hike along the Longwall Canyon Trail is exclusively for the enjoyment of butterflies and flowers. Join Cait, our local expert and amazing photographer on this exploratory walk to

seek out these elusive beauties. Cait will set a gentle pace. Families welcome.