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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.

### **Saturday, December 6. 9am to 1pm**

#### ***Old St. Hilary's Broom Busters Workday***

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 over 18 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! 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. Lunch 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, event will be rescheduled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at (415) 473-3778 or [GReza@marincounty.org](mailto:GReza@marincounty.org). 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, December 13. 9am to 12pm**

#### ***Creekside Restoration with Save The Bay***

Join Marin County Parks and Save The Bay staff to learn about the history of San Francisco Bay and Creekside Marsh, and be a part of a community-based effort to enrich important habitat areas of Hal Brown Park! 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. Snacks and extra water will be provided. Pre-registration is required. To register, or for additional information visit [savesfbay](https://www.savesfbay.org). 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, January 17. 9am to 12pm**

#### ***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 shore bird 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 from the meeting place requires a 10-minute boat ride. 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. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 12 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Resource Specialist Tori Bohlen at (415) 473-5082 or [VBohlen@marincounty.org](mailto:VBohlen@marincounty.org). Meet at Richardson Bay Audubon Center. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131). Turn left at the light and follow 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, January 17. 9am to 12pm**

#### ***Back to Bahia***

We're back to Bahia on Rush Creek Preserve to wipe out the remaining invasive French broom. The great news is that after 10 years of hard work we are nearing complete eradication. 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. Snacks 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, event will be rescheduled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at (415) 473-3778 or [GReza@marincounty.org](mailto:GReza@marincounty.org). 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.

### **Monday, January 19. 9am to 12pm**

#### ***Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service***

The Corporation for National and Community Service promotes MLK Day of Service as "a day on, not off!" This important call to service is a way to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and support projects that empower and strengthen local communities. Our focus will be to do just that as we work together to spruce up landscaped areas at the Marin County Civic Center. 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 and extra water will be provided. Questions: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at (415) 763-2977 or [KSchroeder@marincounty.org](mailto:KSchroeder@marincounty.org). Meet in front of Marin Veterans Memorial Auditorium in San Rafael. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for North San Pedro Rd (if coming from Hwy 101 North, follow the signs to the Civic Center and to North San Pedro Rd). Once on North San Pedro Rd, turn left at stop light onto Civic Center Drive and follow for 0.5 mile. Turn right onto Avenue of the Flags; parking is available in the lot adjacent to Civic Center Dr and in front of the Veterans' Memorial Auditorium.

**Saturday, January 24. 9am to 12pm*****Creekside Restoration with Save The Bay***

Join Marin County Parks and Save The Bay staff to learn about the history of San Francisco Bay and Creekside Marsh, and be a part of a community-based effort to enrich important habitat areas of Hal Brown Park! 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. Snacks and extra water will be provided. Pre-registration is required. To register, or for additional information visit [savesfbay](http://savesfbay). 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, January 31. 10am to 1pm*****Ring Mountain Grassland Restoration Project***

Join us for our monthly drop-in volunteer workday as we focus on restoring the grasslands of Ring Mountain! Ring Mountain is home to numerous rare and endangered plants, but this habitat is being threatened by invasive species. Volunteer work may include invasive species removal, seed collecting, planting native plants, or other restoration activities. Educational components are included as we discuss the plants and animals that inhabit this unique place and explain how volunteer activities are having a positive impact. Drop-in days are held on the last Saturday of every month (except November and December). Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling, and usually requires a short hike to the site. 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. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator Sarah Minnick at (415) 473-5058 or [SMinnick@marincounty.org](mailto:SMinnick@marincounty.org). Meet at the gate at the end of Taylor Rd in Tiburon. 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 1.7 miles, turn right onto Taylor Rd, and follow to end (dead end).

**Saturday, February 7. 9am to 12pm*****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 shore bird 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 from the meeting place requires a 10-minute boat ride. 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. RSVP required; due to the capacity of the boat, space is limited to 12 volunteers. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Resource Specialist Tori Bohlen at (415) 473-5082 or [VBohlen@marincounty.org](mailto:VBohlen@marincounty.org). Meet at Richardson Bay Audubon Center. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Mill Valley, take the exit for Tiburon Blvd (Hwy 131). Turn left at the light and follow 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, February 7. 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 will begin with service projects that will focus on beach clean-up, landscape maintenance, and habitat restoration. At noon we will 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. Free lunch provided by Whole Foods Market at 1pm. This is a [Healthy Parks, Healthy People](#) event with support from [Lift Levantate](#) through a Measure A Breathe/Respira Community Grant. We have

joined forces with HPHP and Lift Levantate because we share a common goal: To increase opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities through exercise and healthy eating habits. Dress in layers you can get dirty and wear sturdy shoes for the service work. Bring comfortable clothes and a mat or towel for yoga. We will provide water, snacks, tools, and a limited number of extra yoga mats. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at McNears Beach Park. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at (415) 763-2977 or [KSchroeder@marincounty.org](mailto:KSchroeder@marincounty.org). Park entrance is free. If interested, shuttle service will be provided from Pickleweed Park at 9:30am, otherwise 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.

### **Sábado, 7 de febrero. 10am - 2pm**

#### ***Yoga en el Parque***

Este evento dinámico lleno de diversión ofrece una excelente manera de ponerse activo a la vez que contribuye a un parque maravilloso, y ¡se hace un regalo a sí mismo! Comenzaremos con algunos proyectos de servicio que estarán enfocados en la limpieza de playas, mantenimiento de áreas verdes y restauración del hábitat. Al mediodía vamos a hacer un cambio de velocidad y disfrutar de una clase de yoga de 45 minutos en un área plana de pasto al lado de la bahía. La clase será dirigida por el maestro de yoga profesional Daniel Rauck y será adecuada para todas las edades y niveles de habilidad. Almuerzo gratuito cortesía de Whole Foods Market a la 1 p.m. Este es un evento [Healthy Parks, Healthy People](#) en colaboración con [Lift Levantate](#). Hemos unido fuerzas con HPHP y Lift Levantate porque compartimos un objetivo común: Aumentar las oportunidades para mejorar la salud y el bienestar de nuestras comunidades a través del ejercicio y hábitos alimenticios saludables. Vista ropa que se puede ensuciar y use zapatos resistentes para el trabajo de servicio. Traiga ropa cómoda y una colchoneta o una toalla para el yoga. Nosotros proporcionaremos agua, bocadillos, herramientas, y un número limitado de colchonetas de yoga adicionales. No se admiten mascotas (excepto animales de servicio) en McNears Beach Park. Preguntas o para reservar su lugar: Comuníquese con el Coordinador de Voluntarios Kirk Schroeder al (415) 763-2977 o [KSchroeder@marincounty.org](mailto:KSchroeder@marincounty.org). La entrada al parque es gratuita. Si le interesa, habrá un servicio de transporte desde Pickleweed Park a las 9:30 a.m., de lo contrario nos veremos en la cafetería de McNears Beach Park en San Rafael (201 Cantera Way). CÓMO LLEGAR: Desde la autopista 101 en San Rafael, tome la salida de Central San Rafael al este. Tome la 2nd St al este, la cual se une a 3rd St, y luego se convierte en Point San Pedro Rd. Siga Point San Pedro Rd por 3.6 millas, gire a la derecha en Cantera Way, y siga hasta el estacionamiento grande al final.

### **Sunday, February 8. 9am to 12pm**

#### ***Black Point Boat Launch Spruce-up***

Help us clean up this popular boat launch in Novato. We'll improve the central landscaped area of the park, remove invasive plants, and pick up litter. Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling and hiking on steep and uneven terrain. 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. Snacks and extra water will be provided. In the event of heavy rain and/or high winds call (415) 763-2977 to find out about event status. In the event of cancellation, event will be rescheduled. Questions: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Kirk Schroeder at (415) 763-2977 or [KSchroeder@marincounty.org](mailto:KSchroeder@marincounty.org). Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at the Black Point Boat Launch on Harbor Dr in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for Napa/Vallejo (Hwy 37) east 2.6 miles. Take the Atherton Ave exit towards Black Point, merge onto Harbor Dr, and follow for 0.7 miles. The boat launch is on the right, under the bridge.

**Saturday, February 14. 9am to 12pm**

***Rick's Broom Patch***

In 2001-02, devoted Volunteer Environmental Steward Rick Thornton and friends removed a massive pioneer patch of invasive French broom on Terra Linda/Sleepy Hollow Divide. Though Rick passed away in 2005, we've maintained the site with the help of community volunteers and partners. Help us continue Rick's legacy. 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. Snacks 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, event will be rescheduled. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Volunteer Coordinator Greg Reza at (415) 473-3778 or [GReza@marincounty.org](mailto:GReza@marincounty.org). Meet at the gate at the end of Freitas Parkway in San Rafael. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Freitas Parkway west approximately 1.5 miles and follow to end (dead end).

**Saturday, February 21. 9am to 12pm**

***Creekside Restoration with Save The Bay***

Join Marin County Parks and Save The Bay staff to learn about the history of San Francisco Bay and Creekside Marsh, and be a part of a community-based effort to enrich important habitat areas of Hal Brown Park! 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. Snacks and extra water will be provided. Pre-registration is required. To register, or for additional information visit [savesfbay](http://savesfbay). 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, February 28. 10am to 1pm**

***Ring Mountain Grassland Restoration Project***

Join us for our monthly drop-in volunteer workday as we focus on restoring the grasslands of Ring Mountain! Ring Mountain is home to numerous rare and endangered plants, but this habitat is being threatened by invasive species. Volunteer work may include invasive species removal, seed collecting, planting native plants, or other restoration activities. Educational components are included as we discuss the plants and animals that inhabit this unique place and explain how volunteer activities are having a positive impact. Drop-in days are held on the last Saturday of every month (except November and December). Volunteer work is mildly strenuous and involves bending, pulling, and kneeling, and usually requires a short hike to the site. 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. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator Sarah Minnick at (415) 473-5058 or [SMinnick@marincounty.org](mailto:SMinnick@marincounty.org). Meet at the gate at the end of Taylor Rd in Tiburon. 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 1.7 miles, turn right onto Taylor Rd, and follow to end (dead end).

## NATURALIST WALKS

These outings are for ages 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, December 4. 9am to 2pm**

#### ***Mushrooms at Indian Tree***

The mixed forests of this Novato preserve usually host an amazing array of mushrooms at this time of year. With luck we'll make it to the top where we'll enjoy spectacular views in every direction (Distance: 6.5 miles; elevation gain: 1,300 feet). Remember to bring enough water and food. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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, December 9. 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 will 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. 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 (415) 893-9520 or [SBurke@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurke@marincounty.org). Meet at the Chicken Ranch Beach pullout. 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. Turn left onto Sir Francis Drake and follow 4.7 miles, parking is on the right.

### **Sunday, December 14. 10am to 1pm**

#### ***Birds at Las Gallinas***

The ponds at the Las Gallinas water treatment facility are a fabulous place to get close looks at a variety of waterfowl and shorebirds, plus there are usually plenty of hawks hunting for rodents and other prey in the surrounding fields. 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 (415) 893-9520 or [SBurke@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurke@marincounty.org). 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.

### **Sunday, December 21. 10am to 2pm**

#### ***Mount Burdell***

This can be a great place to look for mushrooms if we've had a few good rains. Even if it's been dry we should be able to observe a variety of birds who make this beautiful Novato preserve their winter home. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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, December 28. 9am to 2pm**

#### ***White Hill***

We'll aim for lunch at the summit, exploring a variety of habitats and the plants, animals and mushrooms that live within them. We'll make the 1,000 foot ascent at a pace that will allow us to enjoy all of the scenery we encounter along the way. (6.5 miles round trip.) Remember to bring enough water and food. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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.

### **Tuesday, January 6. 10am to 2pm**

#### ***Birds at Bolinas Lagoon***

We'll start the day at the south end of the lagoon while the tide is high and ducks should be plentiful. Then we'll work our way north to watch the shorebirds come in to feed as the tide recedes. After that, we'll head up to Pine Gulch Delta to look for flocks of songbirds in the alder and willow forest, and enjoy lunch with a view of the water. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Meet in the pullout adjacent to Stinson Beach School (just north of the town of Stinson Beach). 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 and follow 12.5 miles, the school is on the left, park in the big gravel pullout on the right side.

### **Sunday, January 11. 10am to 2pm**

#### ***Birds at Rush Creek***

These tidal wetlands at the edge of San Pablo Bay are a fantastic place to appreciate our winter birds. Ducks (in gaudy breeding plumage), shorebirds, raptors, and many types of land birds should keep us entertained all day. The road sometimes gets quite muddy, so bring appropriate footwear. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Meet at the Pinheiro Fire Rd gate on Binford Rd in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for Atherton Ave east. Turn left onto Binford Rd. The gate is on the right.

## **Thursday, January 15. 10am to 2pm**

### ***Indian Valley***

What we see this day will depend on the timing of the rains. Will the amphibians be breeding? Will there be a bumper crop of mushrooms? Will the flowers of the giant manzanitas be buzzing with pollinators? Whatever the weather, we'll have plenty to discover and discuss. Our route will include one sustained, steep section, but we'll take this part very slowly. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). The parking fee is \$3. Meet at the College of Marin Indian Valley Campus in Novato, parking lot 6 (1800 Ignacio Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the Ignacio Blvd/Bel Marin Keys Blvd exit west onto Ignacio Blvd approximately 2.5 miles all the way through campus. Parking lot 6 is adjacent to the police station.

## **Wednesday, January 21. 12pm to 1pm**

### ***Lecture: Amphibians of Marin County***

What's that frog you hear all winter long, and why are there newts out walking on the trails? This lecture should provide the answers to these questions as well as illustrate the life histories of the salamanders and frogs that live around us. This lecture is intended for ages 15 and up. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Meet in Room 427 at the Civic Center Library in San Rafael (3501 Civic Center Dr). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101, take the exit for N San Pedro Rd east. (If coming from Hwy 101 south, follow signs to get to N San Pedro Rd). Turn left onto Civic Center Dr, then turn left onto Peter Behr Dr. The entrance to the Civic Center is at the top of the archway.

## **Thursday, January 29. 10am to 2pm**

### ***Birds at Stafford Lake***

This reservoir on upper Novato Creek is a great place to see a variety of winter birds. We'll stroll along the shore and enjoy flocks of ducks, while keeping an eye open for raptors overhead. We often see golden eagles here, and now and again a peregrine makes an appearance. The trees here are always a good place to see a variety of woodpeckers, and there are usually plenty of mixed flocks of songbirds passing through as well. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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 left after the gate house and follow to the parking lot.

## **Sunday, February 1. 10am to 2pm**

### ***Birds at Rush Creek***

These tidal wetlands at the edge of San Pablo Bay are a fantastic place to appreciate our winter birds. Ducks (in gaudy breeding plumage), shorebirds, raptors, and many types of land birds should keep us entertained all day. The road sometimes gets quite muddy, so bring appropriate footwear. 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 (415) 893-9520 or [SBurke@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurke@marincounty.org). Meet at the Pinheiro Fire Rd gate on Binford Rd in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the exit for Atherton Ave east. Turn left onto Binford Rd. The gate is on the right.



## **Tuesday, February 3. 9am to 2pm**

### ***Big Rock Ridge***

We'll slowly ascend the eastern flank of this rugged preserve to enjoy sweeping views of the entire Bay Area as we look for early wildflowers and other signs of spring along the way. This is a moderately strenuous hike (distance: 6.5 miles; elevation gain: 1,200 feet). Car shuttle, please be on time! Thanks. Remember to bring enough water and food. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Meet at the gate at the end of Queenstone Dr in San Rafael. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for St. Vincent Dr west. Turn onto Miller Creek Rd, right onto Queenstone Dr, and follow to end (dead end).

## **Sunday, February 8. 10am to 1pm**

### ***Stroll on the Old Railroad Grade***

We'll enjoy a slow stroll along the old railroad grade, a route that takes us in and out of a series of forested valleys separated by open grassland and coastal scrub habitats. We'll employ a car shuttle so we can have a relaxing morning walk. Remember to bring lunch. 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 (415) 893-9520 or [SBurke@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurke@marincounty.org). Meet at the trailhead at the end of Glen Dr in Fairfax. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Central San Rafael west. Follow 3rd St approximately 1 mile, continue on 2nd St, which merges into 4th St. 4th St turns into Red Hill Ave after 0.6 miles; follow for 0.5 miles. Stay right onto Sir Francis Drake Blvd and follow 3 miles, turn right onto Glen Dr and follow 0.5 miles to end (dead end).

## **Tuesday, February 10. 10am to 2pm**

### ***Birds at Bothin Marsh***

We'll start the day enjoying various waterfowl in their resplendent winter plumage and, with luck, we'll watch a variety of shorebirds coming in to feed on the exposed shore as the tide recedes. Of course, we'll also keep an eye out for the resident peregrine falcons that nest nearby. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Park entrance fee is waived for participants. 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 and right onto Hamilton Dr. Parking lot is on the left.

## **Wednesday, February 11. 7pm to 8:30pm**

### ***Lecture: Wild Sex***

Bring your favorite valentine to learn all about the bizarre spectrum of mating rituals found all around us in the natural world. Find out that bondage, group sex, and gender reversals are probably happening every day in a meadow near you! This lecture is intended for ages 15 and up. Questions: Contact David Herlocker at (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Meet at the little theater 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, February 22. 10am to 1pm**

### ***Early Flowers at Mount Burdell***

One of the many rare plants found here in Marin County is an inconspicuous nodding white lily called the fragrant fritillary. We'll visit a small population that should be in bloom this early in the season. We'll then head

up the trail to see some other early bloomers such as shooting star, milkmaids, star lily, and maybe a few surprises. 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 (415) 893-9520 or [SBurke@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurke@marincounty.org). 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).

**Thursday, February 26. 10am to 3pm**

***The 680 Trail***

We'll meet at a trailhead in Lucas Valley (elevation 150 feet), and then carpool up to the Big Rock trailhead (650 feet) to start the walk. It sounds like that would give us a nice 500 foot stroll downhill, but we'll have to go over (or around) Loma Alta along the way. This 7.5 mile walk will include the beautiful new 680 Trail. If we're lucky, we should see a spectacular bloom of Indian warrior along the way. Remember to bring enough water and food. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Meet at the trailhead on Lucas Valley Rd directly across from Mount Muir Ct in San Rafael. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for Lucas Valley Rd west 2.1 miles. Turn left into the parking area on left (or south side) of Lucas Valley Rd.

## 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, December 2. 10am to 1pm**

#### ***Nature for Kids: Indian Tree***

It's the middle of winter, it's wet and cold. Salamanders, slugs, and millipedes are easy to find, but where do they go during the dry months? And where are the lizards and butterflies that we see everywhere in the dry season? We'll look in different habitats and try to answer these questions about the changes in the animal life we encounter as the seasons change. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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, December 23. 10am to 1pm**

#### ***Nature for Kids: Mount Burdell***

We'll take a winter walk at this beautiful preserve looking for cold weather critters. If we're feeling adventurous, we might even head up to Hidden Lake to see if we can find newts and frogs. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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).

### **Tuesday, December 30. 10am to 1pm**

#### ***Nature for Kids: Cascade Canyon***

By now the creek should be rushing, and the waterfall might be going full blast. We'll search for insects, amphibians, and more. We'll learn about an amazing fish called the steelhead that comes into the bay from the ocean and swims up this creek to lay eggs and then goes back out to sea! 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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.

### **Saturday, January 3. 10am to 1pm**

#### ***Explore Stafford Lake Park***

Come out for an easy nature walk around beautiful Stafford Lake. Along the way we'll stop and talk about some of the interesting animals and plants that live here. This is a [Healthy Parks, Healthy People](#) event with support from [Lift Levantate](#) through a Measure A Breathe/Respira Community Grant. We have joined forces with HPHP and Lift Levantate because we share a common goal: To increase opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities through exercise and healthy eating habits. This activity is easy. We will provide water and healthy snacks. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Park entrance is free. 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 first parking lot.

### **Sábado, 3 de enero. 10am - 1pm**

#### ***Explore Stafford Lake Park***

Acompáñenos en un cómodo paseo por la naturaleza alrededor del hermoso lago Stafford. En el camino nos detendremos y hablaremos de algunos de los interesantes animales y plantas que viven aquí. Este es un evento de [Parques Saludables, Gente Sana](#) con el apoyo de [Lift Levante](#) a través de una subvención comunitaria Breathe/Respira de la Medida A. Hemos unido fuerzas con HPHP y Lift Levantate porque compartimos un objetivo común: Aumentar las oportunidades para mejorar la salud y el bienestar de nuestras comunidades a través del ejercicio y hábitos alimenticios saludables. Esta actividad es fácil. Nosotros proporcionaremos agua y bocadillos saludables. Solicitamos que no traigan a sus mascotas (con la 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 am del día del evento para escuchar un mensaje grabado si se cancela. Preguntas: Comuníquese con David Herlocker al (415) 893-9508 o [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). La entrada al parque es gratuita. Nos reuniremos en Stafford Lake Park en Novato (3549 Novato Blvd). CÓMO LLEGAR: Desde la autopista 101 en Novato, tome la salida de San Marin Dr al oeste por 2.9 millas. Dé vuelta a la derecha en Novato Blvd y siga por 2.6 millas. El parque está a la izquierda. Dé vuelta a la derecha después de la caseta de vigilancia y siga al primer estacionamiento.

### **Monday, January 19. 10am to 1pm**

#### ***Nature for Kids: Indian Valley***

We'll look for early blooming flowers and see what kinds of insects (and maybe other animals) are visiting them in search of nectar or pollen. The creek should be full, so we'll follow it up the canyon and have lunch by a beautiful waterfall. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Parking fee is \$3. Meet at the College of Marin Indian Valley Campus in Novato, parking lot 6 (1800 Ignacio Blvd). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the Ignacio Blvd/Bel Marin Keys Blvd exit west onto Ignacio Blvd approximately 2.5 miles all the way through campus. Parking lot 6 is adjacent to the police station.

### **Sunday, January 25. 10am to 12pm**

#### ***Birds for Kids at Las Gallinas***

We will 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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, 25 de enero. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

***Naturaleza para niños: Aves en Las Gallinas***

Nos juntaremos con WildCare Family Adventures para un día de exploración de la naturaleza y educación. Nos acompañará Marco Berger, gerente del Programa Educativo y naturalista bilingüe quien es un maestro y naturalista fantástico que compartirá sus conocimientos y experiencia tanto en inglés como en español. Este es un lugar fantástico para que los nuevos aficionados a los pájaros observen de cerca una gran variedad de aves. Los estanques de tratamiento de aguas aquí son un imán para los patos en su colorido plumaje de apareamiento, los halcones sobrevuelan los campos alrededor, y las aves cantoras recorren de un lado a otro los arbustos a lo largo de los diques. Tendremos telescopios de observación ¡pero traiga binoculares si los tiene! Se podría cancelar el evento por la lluvia. Si el clima parece cuestionable llame al (415) 893-9527 después de las 7 am del día del evento para escuchar un mensaje grabado y ver si se cancela el paseo. Preguntas: Comuníquese con David Herlocker al (415) 893-9508 o [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). Nos reuniremos en los estanques de tratamiento de aguas del Distrito Sanitario Las Gallinas en San Rafael (310 Smith Ranch Road). CÓMO LLEGAR: Desde la autopista 101 en San Rafael, tome la salida de Smith Ranch Rd al este por aproximadamente 0.7 millas. Cruce las vías del ferrocarril y gire inmediatamente a la izquierda para continuar en Smith Ranch Rd. (Si usted pasa por la entrada del parque, ya se pasó). Siga Smith Ranch Rd por 0.8 millas al centro de tratamiento. Estacionese a mano izquierdo.

**Monday, February 16. 10am to 1pm**

***Nature for Kids: Roy's Redwoods***

The redwood forest comes to life in the wet season; ferns, mosses, and mushrooms are all around, banana slugs and newts are on the move, and there are lots of insects and other interesting animals hiding under logs and rocks. 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 (415) 893-9508 or [DHerlocker@marincounty.org](mailto:DHerlocker@marincounty.org). 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.



## RANGER ACTIVITIES

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

**Saturday, December 6. 9am to 11am**

### ***Santa Venetia Marsh***

Join Ranger Luke Bishop for a stroll around beautiful Santa Venetia Marsh. This low-intensity 1 mile hike is a great introduction to exercise for all ages. This is a [Healthy Parks, Healthy People](#) event with support from [Lift Levantate](#) through a Measure A Breathe/Respira Community Grant. We have joined forces with HPHP and Lift Levantate because we share a common goal: To increase opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities through exercise and healthy eating habits. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring water and snacks. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Ranger Luke Bishop at (415) 473-2816 or [LkBishop@marincounty.org](mailto:LkBishop@marincounty.org). Meet at the Vendola Drive entrance (across from the old McPhails School). DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in San Rafael, take the exit for N San Pedro Rd east for 2 miles. Turn Left on Vendola Dr. Trailhead will be on your left.

**Sábado, 6 de diciembre. 9am - 11am**

### ***Santa Venetia Marsh***

Acompañe al guardabosques Luke Bishop en un paseo por la hermosa ciénaga Santa Venetia Marsh. Esta caminata de 1 milla de baja intensidad es una gran introducción al ejercicio para todas las edades. Este es un evento de [Parques Saludables, Gente Sana](#) con el apoyo de [Lift Levante](#) a través de una subvención comunitaria Breathe/Respira de la Medida A. Hemos unido fuerzas con HPHP y Lift Levantate porque compartimos un objetivo común: Aumentar las oportunidades para mejorar la salud y el bienestar de nuestras comunidades a través del ejercicio y hábitos alimenticios saludables. Use varias capas de ropa, y zapatos resistentes. Nosotros proporcionaremos agua y bocadillos saludables. Son bienvenidos los perros mansos pero deben traer correa. Se podría cancelar el evento por la lluvia. Preguntas: Comuníquese con el guardabosques Luke Bishop al (415) 473-2816 o [LkBishop@marincounty.org](mailto:LkBishop@marincounty.org). Nos reuniremos en la entrada de Vendola Drive (frente a la antigua escuela McPhails). CÓMO LLEGAR: Desde la autopista 101 en San Rafael, tome la salida de N San Pedro Rd al este por 2 millas. Dé vuelta a la izquierda en Vendola Dr. El comienzo del sendero estará a su izquierda.

**Saturday, December 13. 10am to 3:30pm**

### ***Hike to the Top***

We'll start at the end of Crown Rd in Kent Woodlands and hike through three different agency's lands as we make our way to the top of beautiful Mt Tamalpais. Rangers from Marin County Parks, MMWD, and State Parks will discuss the history of the area as well as the multi-agency Tam Lands Collaborative which is dedicated to caring for Marin's iconic mountain and its surrounding lands. Get a great work out and enjoy breathtaking winter views of the Bay Area (approximately 10 miles roundtrip). This activity is strenuous. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring water and lunch. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. Heavy rain will cancel the event. Questions: Contact Ranger Mike Warner at (415) 473-2816 or [MWarner@marincounty.org](mailto:MWarner@marincounty.org). Meet at the gate at the end of Crown Rd in Kent Woodlands. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd west 2.1 miles. Turn left onto College Ave, right onto Woodland Rd, left onto Evergreen Dr. Continue uphill to the intersection with Ridgecrest; 50-feet uphill from this junction, left onto Crown Rd, and follow to end (dead end).

**Saturday, December 13. 10am to 1pm*****Wreath Making Workshop***

Bring the beauty of nature to your front door with a festive, homemade wreath! Join rangers at McNears Beach Park for a day of sipping hot chocolate, listening to holiday tunes, and creating your own natural wreath to take home. Fresh greenery, pinecones, and other natural materials will be provided. You may bring your own decorations to use. This event is ideal for ages 7 and up. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. We will provide supplies and healthy snacks. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain does not cancel this event. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ranger Sarah Burkhart at [SBurkhart@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurkhart@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 at the end.

**Sunday, December 14. 11am to 12:30pm*****Bird Box Build***

Ever see birds in your backyard and wish they would stay a bit longer? Building a bird house can provide them with a place to spend the night or even, if you're lucky, a place to nest in the spring. Join the ranger staff in constructing (and decorating) a bird house to take home for the birds in your own backyard. This event is ideal for all ages. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. We will provide kits and healthy snacks. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. Rain will cancel. Please contact Ranger Jon Janzen at [JJanzen@marincounty.org](mailto:JJanzen@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.

**Friday, December 26. 11am to 1pm*****Learn to Skate at McInnis***

Join us at the McInnis Skate Park 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. Rain will cancel. Please contact Supervising Ranger Adam Craig at [ACraig@marincounty.org](mailto:ACraig@marincounty.org). Park entrance is free. Meet at the skate park 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 skate park, turn right, and follow the road to the skate park parking lot.

**Saturday, December 27. 9am to 11am*****Nature Walk at King Mountain***

Take a walk through your local forest and connect to its natural wonders. Join Ranger Ian McLorg as we explore the King Mountain Loop Trail and learn about the area's unique natural resources and features. We'll also discuss some of the area's rich local history, as well as fascinating facts about its acquisition. This activity is moderate. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring water and snacks. We request that no pets (except service animals) attend. This is a rain or shine event, but high winds will cancel. Questions: Contact Ranger Ian McLorg at (415) 473-2816 or [IMcLorg@marincounty.org](mailto:IMcLorg@marincounty.org). Meet at the gate at the end of Ridgecrest Rd in Kentfield. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Larkspur, take the exit for Sir Francis Drake Blvd

west 2.1 miles. Turn left onto College Ave, right onto Woodland Rd, left onto Evergreen Dr, second right to stay on Evergreen, left onto Ridgecrest Rd, and follow to end (dead end).

**Saturday, January 10. 10am to 12pm**

***McNears Beach Park in Maps***

Join Ranger Josh Rosenfeld for an insightful look at the history of McNears Beach Park and the Point San Pedro Peninsula through the layers of time captured on maps. View old Maps and browse modern digital imagery of this beautiful park located on the shores of San Pablo Bay. Lovers of old maps and history buffs won't want to miss this combination of mixed media and interesting stories. We will provide water and healthy snacks. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain does not cancel the event. Questions: Contact Ranger Josh Rosenfeld at [JRosenfeld@marincounty.org](mailto:JRosenfeld@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 at the end.

**Saturday, January 17. 6pm to 8pm**

***Girls Can Be Park Rangers Too***

Girls can play in the dirt, rock at sports, fight fires, camp in the woods, and be park rangers! Join Ranger Sarah Burkhart at the Marin County Parks Lucas Valley Field Office for hot chocolate and s'mores and learn about what a Marin County Park Ranger does and how to become a park ranger. This program is ideal for Girl Scout groups and other young ladies between ages 6-12. Boys welcome too. Maximum capacity: 20 participants. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Ranger Sarah Burkhart at [SBurkhart@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurkhart@marincounty.org). 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).

**Sunday, January 18. 9am to 12pm**

***Hike to Beautiful Gibson Falls in Novato***

Meet a ranger for a walk in this beautiful canyon to view a waterfall nestled amidst the trees. A discussion of creek ecology, watersheds, and water conservation will be included on the way. This will be an easy walk with one steep section, approximately 1 mile round-trip. This activity is moderate. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring your camera. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. Heavy rain will cancel the event. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Craig Solin at (415) 473-2816 or [CSolin@marincounty.org](mailto:CSolin@marincounty.org). Meet at the end of Fairway Dr in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 101 in Novato, take the Ignacio Blvd/Bel Marin Keys Blvd exit west on Ignacio Blvd approximately 0.5 miles. Turn left onto Fairway Dr and follow approximately 1.8 miles to the end (dead end).

**Saturday, January 24. 9am to 1pm**

***Stafford Winter Classic***

Come out and show off your game at Stafford's 2nd Annual Winter Disc Golf Classic! Merit and raffle prizes will be awarded with top honors going to lowest score per 18 holes. This event is ideal for all ages. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. Wear comfortable athletic clothing and sturdy shoes. We will provide hot chocolate and snacks. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain will cancel. Questions: Contact Ranger Sarah Burkhart at [SBurkhart@marincounty.org](mailto:SBurkhart@marincounty.org). Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at the gate house 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 and the gate house is the first structure you see.

**Saturday, February 7. 9am to 12pm**

***Learn to Saltwater Fish***

Come spend the morning learning the basics of saltwater fishing at Paradise Beach Park. A limited amount of poles will be available on a first come, first-served basis. 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. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Rain does not cancel the event. Questions: Contact Supervising Ranger Mike Maraccini at [MMaraccini@marincounty.org](mailto: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.

**Saturday, February 14. 4pm to 6pm**

***Evening Hike on the Big Rock Trailhead***

Join us at Big Rock Trail and unwind as we end a beautiful winter day on the Lucas Valley Preserve. Ranger Mike Warner will be leading a short hike to one of the best sunset viewing spots in Marin Open Space. Don't forget to bring a flashlight. This activity is moderate. Dress in layers and wear sturdy shoes. Friendly dogs are welcome, but must be leashed. Heavy rain will cancel the event. Questions: Contact Ranger Mike Warner at (415) 473-2816 or [MWarner@marincounty.org](mailto:MWarner@marincounty.org). 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.

**Monday, February 16. 9am to 12pm**

***Presidents Day Paddle***

Enjoy a family friendly paddle board race for all ages at McNears Beach Park. Day of race registration starts at 9am, races start at 10am. USCG approved flotation devices and leashes are required. Course length and duration will be weather dependent. This activity is easy. Wear comfortable athletic clothing and sturdy shoes. Don't forget to bring a paddle board, OC1, OC2, prone, or kayak. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Heavy rain will cancel the event. Questions: Contact Ranger Jim Slack at (415) 897-0618 or [JSlack@marincounty.org](mailto:JSlack@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 at the end.

**Wednesday, February 18. 6:30pm to 8pm**

***Wild Canines of Marin***

Stay warm and cozy inside the McNears Beach snack bar and learn about the wild canines of Marin. Chief Park Ranger Rob Ruiz will discuss the habits and identifying characteristics of our canine neighbors: Foxes and coyotes. We will provide hot chocolate and snacks. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Questions: Contact Chief Park Ranger Rob Ruiz at (415) 473-4045 or [RRuiz@marincounty.org](mailto:RRuiz@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 at the end.

**Friday, February 20th. 9am to 11am**

***Lake Fishing for Kids***

Rangers will cast out with the kids at Stafford Lake Park, and try to reel in the biggest fish in the lake. A limited number of fishing poles and bait will be provided first-come, first-served to beginners thanks to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. A fishing license is not required for persons under 16. All skill levels are welcome and no experience is necessary. No pets (except service animals) are allowed at this park. Heavy rain

will cancel the event. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Questions or to RSVP: Contact Josh Gilmore at (415) 446-4424 or [JGilmore@marincounty.org](mailto:JGilmore@marincounty.org). Park entrance is waived for participants. Meet at the gate house 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 and the gate house is the first structure you see.