

Our Waterful World

A Guide to Enjoying the Beauty of Water in Alameda County



Photo: John Joh

Lake Del Valle Livermore

www.ebparks.org/parks/del_valle

Activities: Rocky Ridge Visitor Center, swimming, picnicking, hiking, camping, fishing, boat rentals, lake tours (naturalist guided), equestrian camps.

Main Attraction: Two swimming beaches with lifeguards on duty during posted periods.



Recharge your batteries with the calming beauty of our local waterscapes. Our handy guide helps you find the perfect spot—only minutes from home.



Gurmeet Manku

Hiking



Gaibhlogal Finds

Biking



Wildlife



Picnics

Enjoy the aquatic beauty in our own backyard!

Alameda County is home to some beautiful waterscapes. The Clean Water Program is excited to share some of our favorite spots for enjoying creeks, wetlands, lakes and the Bay. There's something for everyone—from active hikes to easy strolls, to scenic spots for picnics, and biking, boating & fishing.

Please visit the website for each location to verify access, hours and services. Information compiled in May 2013.



Alberto Fox

Sausal Creek Watershed

El Centro Avenue at Dimond Park, Oakland

www.sausalcreek.org

Activities: Download a map and pick your trail! Trails range from easy to more adventurous, and include creek crossings over rocks and small waterfalls.

Pictured at left: Sausal Creek in Dimond Canyon.

Main Attraction: Experience the urban-creek connection. This creek begins in the Oakland Hills and flows through the city, discharging into the tidal canal that separates the island of Alameda from Oakland; the creek ultimately flows into San Francisco Bay.



Insider Tip: visit www.cleanwaterprogram.org/parks for details on one of our favorite Sausal Creek hikes!



Kas Netele

Warmest spot
to enjoy a walk
by the Bay!

Crown Memorial State Beach

Eighth Street and Otis Drive, Alameda

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD)

www.ebpd.org/parks/crown_beach

Parking fee: \$5 per vehicle when kiosk is attended; \$4 per trailered vehicle.

Activities: Swimming, boardsports, picnicking, biking, strolling, sandcastle-building

Main Attraction: The showpiece of the park is its 2.5-mile beach, with sand dunes bordering a bicycle trail.



Patti Cole

Sycamore Grove Park

1051 Wetmore Road or 5211 Arroyo Road, Livermore

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARP)

www.larpd.dst.ca.us/open_space/sycamore.html

Parking fee: \$5 per vehicle or by annual permit

Activities: Hiking, bicycle and horse trails; barbecue grills at Arroyo Road entrance. Reservable picnic area.

Main Attraction: Several picturesque footbridges crisscross the waterways. Creekside areas boast frogs, pond turtles, dragonflies, ducks and muskrats.

The San Francisco Bay Trail

Berkeley to Emeryville

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project

www.baytrail.org

Activities: Walking, jogging, biking, bird watching. Picnicking and kite flying at Cesar Chavez Park.

Main Attraction: Part of the 330 mile-long San Francisco Bay Trail, the stretch between Emeryville and Berkeley offers an easy, family-friendly paved path for biking and walking, along with stunning views of the Bay and opportunities for shorebird observation. Additional bird watching at adjacent Aquatic Park.

Map: www.baytrail.org/Maps/East_Bay.pdf



Other Waterful Areas to Enjoy

North/Central Alameda County

Lakeside Park (Lake Merritt), Oakland

www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/opr/s/LakeMerritt/index.htm

A great urban oasis, the lake is also home to all kinds of impressive water fowl, including egrets, cormorants, herons and geese.

Strawberry Creek, Berkeley

<http://strawberrycreek.berkeley.edu>

A self-guided walking tour of the creek offers spots to relax and observe, as well as glimpses into ongoing restoration work.

Codornices Creek, Albany/Berkeley

www.codornicescreekwatershed.org

One of the most free-flowing creeks of the East Bay, Codornices Creek boasts native steelhead trout, among other wildlife.

Lake Chabot Regional Park, Oakland/Castro Valley

www.ebparks.org/parks/lake_chabot

Fishing, boating, hiking/biking trails make this park a great way to enjoy the water.

South/East Alameda County

Alamo Creek Park, Dublin

<http://www.dublin.ca.gov/index.aspx?NID=481>

See a natural creek in a family-friendly park that includes basketball courts, picnic area, play equipment, and walkways/trails.

Arroyo Del Valle Trail, Pleasanton

www.ci.pleasanton.ca.us/pdf/trails-map-080908.pdf

Stroll or bike along this urban creek path before or after visiting downtown shops or restaurants.

Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, Hayward/Union City

<http://rhorii.com/EdenLanding/BayTrail.html>

A 2.75 mile trail runs on levees along former salt ponds that are now being restored.

Garin/Dry Creek Pioneer Regional Parks, Hayward

www.ebparks.org/parks/garin

Hiking, horseback riding, picnicking, fishing, and the two-acre Dry Creek Garden, which showcases nearly 200 native and exotic plants.

Hayward Regional Shoreline

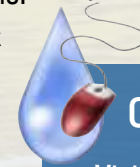
www.ebparks.org/parks/hayward

1,811 acres of salt, fresh, and brackish water marshes, seasonal wetlands and public trails.

Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area, Pleasanton

www.ebparks.org/parks/shadow_cliffs

A former gravel quarry, Shadow Cliffs boasts an 80-acre lake with swimming, fishing, boating, picnicking and birdwatching.



ONLINE INSIDER TIPS!

Visit www.cleanwaterprogram.org/parks for more details, including special insider tips for these waterful parks!

Coyote Hills Regional Park

8000 Patterson Ranch Road, Fremont

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD)

www.ebparks.org/parks/coyote_hills

Parking fee: \$5 per vehicle; \$4 per trailered vehicle.

Activities: Bicycling, walking, bird watching, jogging, nature exploration, and picnicking.

Coyote Hills Visitor Center & Nectar Garden, open Wed.-Sun. 10-4

Main Attraction: The rich wetland is preserved, along with 2,000-year old Tuibun Ohlone Indian shellmound sites. Marsh Boardwalk and 3.5-mile Bay View Trail.



Paige O'Neill

Bike the Alameda Creek Trail from Old Canyon Road to Coyote Hills Regional Park Niles Staging Area, Fremont

East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD)

www.ebparks.org/parks/trails/alameda_creek#activities

Parking fee: None at Niles Staging Area at Old Canyon Road

Activities : Bike along the creek and experience firsthand how creeks flow through our landscape to wetlands, and finally to the Bay at Coyote Hills Regional Park (see below).

Main Attraction: Alameda Creek Regional Trail follows the banks of Alameda Creek from the mouth of Niles Canyon westward to San Francisco Bay - a distance of 12 miles. Alameda Creek is Alameda County's largest, and is home to a host of birds and other wildlife.



Tom Nicholson

See what your neighbors are doing to protect Waterful Alameda County...



Rosi H. and family, Berkeley

"I feel so lucky to live near the Bay and such beautiful parks. We always make sure we don't leave any garbage behind after our picnics. Sometimes the park garbage cans are far away or sometimes they are full. So I always bring a bag to take garbage home, just in case."



Jocelyn G. & Kalin P., Oakland

"First we photograph and then we pick up litter we find. It's part of an instagram project #litterati. You should check it out! Plus it makes our neighborhood a nice place to live."



Ramona M., Livermore

"I like the DIY car washes the best. It's more thorough than washing it in my driveway, and I know the dirty water doesn't end up polluting anything. These car washes have special drains."



Peggy R., Hayward

"I don't use chemicals to fight garden pests* but instead rely on birds and good bugs to eat the bad bugs! I occasionally spray a heavy stream of water on my roses to get rid of aphids."

Editor's Note: There are commercially available products that are less toxic than others. Learn more at www.ourwaterourworld.org



Penny the Dog & owner Ener C., Oakland

"Picking up after our dog helps to keep our neighborhood beautiful, our shoes free of stinky messes, and our waterways clean. It also ensures that parks and cities continue to have dog friendly policies."



Dan W., San Leandro

"I sweep my driveway now, because I found out that using a water hose to clean it will wash pollution into the storm drain. Those drains empty into creeks...I had thought the water was treated."



Your local government is working to protect our shared water resources.

All the cities in Alameda County, along with the Flood Control & Water Conservation District and Zone 7 Water Agency, participate in the Clean Water Program. The Clean Water program facilitates compliance with Federal Clean Water Act for its member agencies in Alameda County. It also empowers Alameda County residents to join the efforts of local government and protect our waterways. Using less-toxic alternatives for auto care, properly disposing of auto chemicals and used oil, washing your car properly and preventing spills and leaks are all things you can do to support our shared mission and prevent pollution.

Protecting Alameda County Creeks, Wetlands & the Bay

To learn more, visit www.cleanwaterprogram.org/parks



www.facebook.com/CleanWaterProgram



Member Agencies: Cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Newark, Oakland, Piedmont, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Union City; the County of Alameda, the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and Zone 7 Water Agency