

QUAIL HOLLOW RANCH
Santa Cruz County
Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services
979 17th Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND CULTURAL SERVICES

QUAIL HOLLOW RANCH COUNTY PARK



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Nestled deep in the Santa Cruz Mountains, Quail Hollow Ranch County Park is home to fifteen different habitats, as well as numerous rare and endangered species of plants and animals. Approximately four miles of hiking trails, ranging from the easy one-mile Discovery Trail, to the hilly Sunset Trail, weave through the 300-acre park.

Most interpretive programs are offered on Sundays, covering a variety of topics on the natural and cultural history of the park. Quail Hollow Ranch is located at 800 Quail Hollow Road, just two miles up Zayante Road from Felton and two miles from Ben Lomond via Glen Arbor Road. Park hours are dawn to dusk, daily. The visitor center is open Wednesday-Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and closed when the site is rented for a special event or when staff is out on trails or running errands. For more information call 831-335-9348.



*Upcoming Activities
March & April
2018*

MARCH & APRIL ACTIVITIES - 2018

In Search of Herps - Saturday, March 3 AND Saturday, April 7, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Join James Maughn, Park Docent, for a saunter along park trails in search of herps - that is, reptiles and amphibians. Come peruse the pond and muse over the meadow as we learn about the favorite hangouts and resting places of these fascinating animals. Group size is limited; sign up by calling 831-335-9348. All ages welcome. Free!

Beginning Birding - Sunday, March 4 AND Sunday, April 1, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Join Jim Williams, President, Friends of Quail Hollow Ranch, and an avid birder (or Eric Feuss from the Santa Cruz Bird Club - March 4), for a leisurely hike through Quail Hollow in search of our fine, feathered friends. No previous birding experience is necessary; open to anyone interested in birds and their antics. Wear warm clothing and comfortable shoes. Bring binoculars and a field guide (if you have them), and some drinking water.



Cougars and other Predators - Sunday, March 11, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Come out to Quail Hollow Ranch for a discussion of Cougars and mesopredators of the Santa Cruz Mountains; we'll also do some field searching for signs of predators. After the presentation and Q&A, we'll head outdoors to look for signs such as tracks, scat, and burrows. The presentation will cover life history, ecological interactions, and best practices for living in areas with predators such as cougar, coyote, bobcat, fox, and raccoon. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

A Stellar Experience – Star Gazing at Quail Hollow - Friday, March 16, 8:00 p.m. – midnight

Some people promise the stars; the Santa Cruz Astronomy Club delivers! Come to Quail Hollow Ranch where, gazing up at the night skies, you'll travel through space to see images like the earth's moon and all its craters and mountains, Jupiter and its moons, and the rings of Saturn. Bring your own telescope or just stop by and look through member's telescopes. Dress warmly. Rain or cloudy skies cancels the program. Free! All ages are welcome to attend.

Wildlife Pests - Sunday, March 18, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Are you sharing your landscape and the harvest in your vegetable garden with furry and feathered friends? Wildlife that roam your garden can be a joy to behold, but they can also cause great frustration when they ruin your garden. Join master gardeners Delise Weir, Trink Praxel, and Sue Procter to learn about: pest behavior; identify the damage they cause; methods of managing them using traps, barriers, deterrents; and by incorporating pest resistant plants. We'll cover common pests including gophers, squirrels, rats, deer and birds. Ages 16+. \$3.00 per person.

Within These Walls: Ranch House Tour - Sunday, March 25 AND Sunday, April 15, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Do you enjoy looking through old buildings, learning about their stories? Join Park Docent, Richard James, on a tour through the Quail Hollow Ranch house. Learn about its history from the Watermelon King to Sun-Kissed Ranch, Sunset Magazine, and beyond. This informative tour will give you the opportunity to find out about four of the families who made the ranch their business, home, and haven. All ages are welcome to attend. Sign up by calling 831- 335-9348.

MARCH & APRIL ACTIVITIES - 2018



Plein Air Painting Class

Plein Air Painting at Quail Hollow is a social and relaxed gathering for all skill levels. Students will be taught from a classic impressionist palette and learn to be prepared for work as an artist in the outdoor environment. Small paintings are often the best goal for a 1-day outing. Students will receive a detailed materials list prior to class. Instructor: Gabriel Coke teaches and directs NUMU Atelier for New Museum Los Gatos, where he teaches drawing and oil painting to all ages and skill levels. When not teaching, he enjoys plein air painting. For ages 18+. Fee: \$40/\$44. Sign up www.scparks.com or call 454-7941. Dates: 3/30 - #19061; 4/13 - #19082; 4/27 - #19083; 5/11 - #19084.

Trek to the Forbidden Sandhills - Every Sunday in April, 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Springtime is the best and only time to visit the flower-covered hills of the sand parkland habitat at Quail Hollow. Join Park Docent Sean Wharton for a guided tour to see and learn about the many rare species that make this special place their home. Bring good walking shoes, sun protection, drinking water and optional camera. Open to all flower lovers who can walk a mile and can read. Due to the sensitive nature of the area, group size is limited to 15; sign-up in advance to reserve your space by calling 831-335-9348.

Intro to Artisanal Bread-Making & the Science of Bread - Sat., April 14, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Learn artisanal bread-making techniques including care and feeding of your sourdough starter, bread proofing baskets and bread cooking cloches, and the vital stages of the bread-making process. We'll discuss the science behind successful bread-making, including types of flour and the chemistry of wheat, water and salt in dough formation. A no-knead sourdough bread will be demonstrated. You will go home with a starter and recipes; the bread made in this course will be easy to re-create at home. **Instructor:** Patricia Davis of Quail Hollow Kitchens delights in teaching farm-style cooking. She has a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from UCSD, and was voted *Edible Monterey Bay* "Best Food Artisan" in 2016. She has been teaching cooking classes since 2013. Ages 18+ Fee: \$55/\$61* Prog. #19037 *A materials fee of \$15 is due to the instructor at least one week prior to class.

Star & Moon Gazing - Friday, April 20, 8:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.

Some people promise the stars; the Santa Cruz Astronomy Club delivers! Come to Quail Hollow Ranch County Park where, gazing up at the night skies, you'll travel through space to see images like the earth's moon and all its craters and mountains, Jupiter and its moons, and the rings of Saturn. You'll also have the opportunity to learn about the moon from an indoor slide presentation by Craig Wandke, the club's resident "luna-tic." Bring your own telescope or just stop by and look through members' telescopes. Dress warmly. Rain or cloudy skies cancels the program. \$3.00 per person; ages 4 & under free.

Plant a Great Garden From Seed – It's Not Too Late! - Sunday, April 29, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



Learn all about easy care vegetables, herbs and flowers that you can plant now for enjoyment all summer long! Instructor Renee Shepherd is widely regarded as a pioneering innovator in introducing international vegetables, flowers and herbs to home gardeners and gourmet restaurants. Ages 18 and up. Free.