



## Friends of los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve

March 2019

**Rain CANCELLED: our restoration event for Sunday, Feb . 24.  
Next events: March 10 & 17 (depending on rain!)**

**Note new walks below**

### Volunteer Projects

#### Friends' Volunteer Restoration Projects in Black Mountain Open Space Park

Sun., Mar. 10 & Mar. 17: 1-4 p.m. Planting parties. Help plant natives. No experience needed. Community Service Credits available. Join us at Black Mtn. Ranch Community Park at the northeast corner, 14700 Carmel Valley Rd., Rancho Peñasquitos 92129.

#### Ranger John's Graffiti Warriors

Sun., Mar. 10: 8:30 – noon. Join Ranger John Garwood for trash cleanups and other type of projects. Meet at the Ranger Station, 12005 Black Mtn. Rd., SD 92129.

#### Ranger Melanie's Peñasquitos Canyon Restoration Project

Sat., Mar. 16. Join Ranger Melanie Fontana in restoring wildlife habitat sites. Get on the list for the meeting place at:  
[mfontana@sandiego.gov](mailto:mfontana@sandiego.gov).

#### Ranger John's Environmental Projects

Sun., Mar. 24: 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Join Ranger John Garwood for trash cleanups and other types of projects. Meet at the Ranger Station, 12005 Black Mtn. Rd., SD 92129.

### March Walks

#### Vernal Pool Walk on Lopez Ridge w Mike Kelly

Sat., Mar. 9, 9 – 11 a.m.

Vernal pools are our most endangered habitat. Learn from naturalist Mike Kelly about the extremophile plants and animals that thrive in this extreme environment. Should be good wildflowers too. Meet at 11125 Taloncrest Way, San Diego 92121.

#### Camino Ruiz Rim to the Creek Hike w Les Braund

Sat., Mar. 16, 8 – 10 a.m.

Join naturalist Les Braund for a hike leaving

from Camino Ruiz Park. Most of the hike is in the shade of tall Chaparral vegetation and follows a nice switch-back trail from the rim of the canyon down to the valley floor and stream side. See uncommon native plants such as the Summer holly shrub and others. Les says this is one of the most beautiful walks he's knows. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa.

#### Carmel Mountain Tadpole & Fairy Shrimp Hike Sun., Mar. 17, 4–6 p.m.

Join Anthropologist Dr. Will Bowen for a hike to look for and learn about fairy shrimp, tree frog tadpoles, and spadefoot toad tadpoles — the short term inhabitants of the ephemeral rain pools and road puddles that form during the "wetting" phase of the vernal pool cycle. Learn about the anurans' and anostracans' life cycles and behaviors. Meet at the Carmel Mountain Trail Head at the corner of Shorepointe Way and Fairport Way.

#### Birding with all Your Senses w Jeanie Anderson

Sat., March 23, meet 7:45 a.m., Hike 8-10 am.

Join Ornithologist Jeanie Anderson on a path in the canyon with many birds both visible and calling. Bring sturdy shoes, binoculars and cover-ups. Handouts and checklists will be provided. Meet at the west end of Canyonside Park Driveway, 1 block west of Black Mtn. Rd. at the Preserve sign at the beginning of the white ranch house fence. 12350 Black Mtn. Rd. Rancho Peñasquitos, 92129.

Visit [www.penasquitos.org](http://www.penasquitos.org) for lots of information on hikes, volunteer activities, meetings, and decades of newsletters, videos, and more.

Reach Mike Kelly at [kelly.mike8388@gmail.com](mailto:kelly.mike8388@gmail.com) or call 858-863-7393 for questions or more info.