



BAY AREA BARNs AND TRAILS

BAY AREA BARNs AND TRAILS - EDUCATION, PRESERVATION & STEWARDSHIP
'Helping preserve and grow stables, trails, pastures, staging areas, and horse camps in the San Francisco Bay Area.'

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"LAND FOR HORSES - STABLING, COMPETING, ENJOYING"

'In practical terms: 197 acres = one nice farm...95.5 miles of 4' wide trail...are lost- every hour - for the past 20 years'" ...Join your local open space preservation organization...help save land for wildlife...agriculture... recreation...your family.

-Natural Resource Conservation Service



- photo by Robert Eichstaedt

HORSE HILL... 'EVERY TOWN NEEDS HILLS FOR HORSES'

'Horse Hill is a very special place on the border of Mill Valley and Corte Madera, adjacent to Highway 101 in Marin. Fourteen privately owned horses graze freely. The horses are able to graze on this land thanks to an arrangement between the Marin County Open Space District (MCOsD) and the Alto Bowl Horseowners Association (ABHA). ABHA is a non-profit coalition of horseowners that work in close collaboration with the County to remain in compliance with the Open Space regulations...Just like all Open Space in Marin, people are welcome on Horse Hill with little interference from the horses. When not under saddle, the horses have little interest in the trails. They are mostly interested in the grass. People walking with their canine companions are also welcomed. The horses simply ask that the dogs stay with their human companions, either on leash or by voice control, just as they would around other wildlife.'

ALAMEDA/CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES

Tilden Wildcat Horsemen www.twha.org and Metropolitan Horsemen are preparing for 2007 Six-Day 100-Mile East Bay Hills ride. Wednesday, August 29 - Monday, September 3, 2007. Ride and Camp all or part of the Memorial Weekend. Funds raised support East Bay Parks trails and the Bay Area Ridge Trail. Bay Area Barns and Trails will match the first \$5,000 raised.

- Morris Older: ebhillsride@comcast.net or 925-254-8943

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Update: Victory for South Bay Farmland: From Greenbelt Alliance

"Last month, we asked you to speak up to protect South Bay farmland - and now we have some good news to report! Until now, developers paving over Santa Clara County farmland have not had to pay the true costs of destroying this resource, and thousands of acres of farmland have disappeared from "the Valley of Heart's Delight." Greenbelt Alliance has been working hard to change that, so that all of the agricultural land in Santa Clara County is not lost to sprawl development, and developers pay their fair share.

On April 4, Santa Clara's Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO) adopted policies that will help preserve some of the last prime farmland in the county. The new LAFCO policies recommend that cities require that for every acre of farmland being paved, an acre of local farmland must be preserved. Because LAFCO makes the decision about when and how cities can annex land for development, cities have a strong incentive to adopt the recommended requirements.

This decision could lead to the preservation of hundreds of acres of prime farmland outside Gilroy, Morgan Hill, and San Jose. This is a great victory for Greenbelt Alliance, its local partners, and everyone who appreciates the agricultural heritage of the South Bay."

- www.greenbeltalliance.org



EVENT: FORUM ON COYOTE VALLEY WILDLIFE, MAY 6...

(too late for you to attend...however, please get involved and support Forum sponsors)

"Have a wild afternoon! Join us for a community forum on the wildlife of Coyote Valley, the 6,800-acre swath of open space south of San Jose that is being planned for development. Coyote Valley and the neighboring hillsides are home to many fascinating animals, including tule elk, mountain lions, badgers, and rare butterflies.

The City of San Jose has just released a draft Environmental Impact Report on its plan to develop the valley. This is an important opportunity to protect Coyote Valley's wildlife habitat and biological diversity.

This event is free and open to the public.

When: Sunday, May 6, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Where: Almaden Library & Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue, San Jose

Speakers: Councilmember Nancy Pyle, City of San Jose. Dr. Grey Hayes, Elkhorn Slough Foundation. Dr. Stuart Weiss, Conservation Biologist. Tanya Diamond, San Jose State University

Sponsored by: Greenbelt Alliance, Committee for Green Foothills, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter, Silicon Valley Land Conservancy

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Golden Gate Park Stables

"Day 1,177: "Public stables in Golden Gate Park remain closed which undergoing environmental review..."

Please let Mr. Agunbiade know that you are anxious to help move this effort forward:

Who is responsible? Yomi Agunbiade, Director of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (415-831-2700)

yomi.agunbiade@sfgov.org

www.sfstablesfoundation.org

San Francisco Horsemen's Association www.sfhorsemen.org

SOLANO COUNTY

Lynch Canyon is now open to the public

Solano County has partnered with Solano Land Trust to open Lynch Canyon to the public Wednesday through Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to posted closing time. Closed Monday and Tuesday. This agreement is good for three years; it is important that the public support participating agencies and landowners.

About Lynch Canyon

Drop into the magic of Lynch Canyon, a Bay Area getaway just minutes from I-80 between Fairfield and Vallejo. The hum of traffic disappears when you step into the 1,039-acre Lynch Canyon property and enter a world of steeply rolling hills blanketed with grasslands and accented with groves of buckeyes and live oaks. This enclosed watershed drains to the Suisun Marsh via Lynch Creek. Grasslands, oak groves, riparian woodlands, and wetland meadows provide shelter and forage for deer, gray fox, coyote, bobcat, meadowlark, goldfinch, waterfowl, and many raptors, including the golden eagle. The 900-foot ridges offer panoramic views extending from the Coast Ranges to San Francisco Bay and across the Delta to the Sierra Nevada. Lynch Canyon was acquired by the Solano Land Trust in 1996, and is now home to a section of the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

Hours: Wednesday through Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to posted closing time.

Closed Monday and Tuesday. Restrooms are available at the parking area. No drinking water.

Water on trail; Hitchrails and parking for horse trailers

Directions: From I-80 take the Hiddenbrooke/American Canyon Exit between Vallejo and Fairfield. Turn east on McGary Road (frontage road that runs parallel on the south side of I-80) and proceed to the I-80 underpass. Turn left at the underpass. Proceed through gate at end of cul-de-sac to gravel parking lot.

Fee: A daily parking fee is required as posted. Annual parking passes are available through County Parks at (707) 784-7905.

- www.solanolandtrust.org

