

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve

January - March 2012 Activities



COMMUNITY SERVICES
DEPARTMENT



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**FOR ALL GUIDED HIKES, MEET AT
THE SOUTH END OF THE PARKING
LOT. WALKS ARE FREE AND
RESERVATIONS ARE NOT
REQUIRED.**

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve is a 700-acre, oak-lined canyon flanked by coastal sage scrub and chaparral-covered hills. The Reserve is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna. Brilliant colors of wildflowers on the hillsides in spring, a gentle breeze, and the songs of birds provide an inviting escape for a nature walk. The trails are open to the public, free of charge, during daylight hours. The Reserve is managed by the City of Poway, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation with support from the non-profit Friends of Blue Sky Canyon.

DIRECTIONS:
FROM I-15 TAKE RANCHO BERNARDO ROAD EXIT, HEAD EAST ON RANCHO BERNARDO ROAD/ESPOLA ROAD FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE MILES. BLUE SKY RESERVE IS ON ESPOLA ROAD, APPROXIMATELY ¼ MILE SOUTH OF THE OLD COACH ROAD/BRIDLEWOOD ROAD TRAFFIC LIGHT INTERSECTION.

MONTHLY DOG WALKING GROUP

January, February and March

First Sunday of each month at 8:00 a.m.
Hit the trail with your best buddy, and HAVE FUN!
Dogs must be on a leash of 6' or less

Docent/Naturalist Training

The City of Poway is looking for a few good naturalists to join an active group of wildlife enthusiasts at Blue Sky Ecological Reserve! Docent naturalists work with the general public, schools, and scout groups to promote a greater understanding of our natural resources.

Docents may perform a variety of tasks, including leading guided nature walks, restoring damaged habitat, minor trail maintenance, assisting at interpretive programs, conducting foot patrols, or maintaining kiosk displays.

Some prior knowledge of natural history is desirable, but a willingness to learn is more important.

Training begins on Saturday, March 3, 2012. This fun, educational, eight-week training course primarily consists of Saturday sessions at in the Reserve from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with two Wednesday evening classroom sessions. There is no training Easter week. **FREE**

For more information, call (858) 668-4781 or submit a Volunteer Application online at www.poway.org. Please insert 'Blue Sky Docent Training' under *Assignment Preferences* on the form.

Shape Up at Blue Sky Ecological Reserve

Come out and join us on **Monday, January 2** for the first hike in our Monday morning hiking series 'Six Weeks to Ramona Dam'! What better way to meet new friends, de-stress, connect with nature, boost your energy, and get into shape?

The fun begins at **9:30 a.m.** at the south end of the Blue Sky parking lot. Distance and fitness level will gradually increase over six weeks, culminating in a hike to the top of Ramona Dam with its spectacular views of Poway and Lake Ramona.

Wear comfortable shoes and bring water.

Call (858) 668-4781 for more information

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

Meet at the south end of the Blue Sky parking lot for all hikes. Bring your own water as there is no drinking water in Blue Sky.

Sense-A-tional Blue Sky

Saturday, January 7 – 9:00 a.m.
See, hear, smell, touch – use all these senses while on a fun hike with docent Dave Meier.

Do Animals Really Live Here?

Sunday, January 15 – 9:00 a.m.
Come join naturalist Anna Gateley-Stanton on a hunt to find the tracks, scat, burrows, and trails of animals living in Blue Sky.



Native American Uses of Blue Sky's Resources

Sunday, January 22 – 9:00 a.m.
On this hike through Blue Sky with docent John Kordela, hear how Native Americans traditionally used local plants, both as a food source and for their medical needs.

Blue Sky's Flora and Fauna

Sunday, January 29 – 9:00 a.m.
Explore the animals and plants of Blue Sky's habitats on a fun hike with naturalist Ale Franklin.



Signs of Spring

Sunday, February 5 – 9:00 a.m.
The Groundhog gave his report on the 2nd. What do you think? Come and explore with docent Mary Glass to see for yourself the heart-gladdening signs of spring.

Kids Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, February 11 – 9:00 a.m.
Discover our natural world with docent Dave Meier as he engages children in a fun adventure for kids of all ages. Search for some of the hidden treasures in Blue Sky Reserve!

Touchy, Feely Blue Sky

Saturday, February 18 – 9:00 a.m.
Engage all your senses as you explore our beautiful reserve with docent Teresa Bullock.

Plants of Blue Sky

Sunday, February 19 – 9:00 a.m.
Have you been intrigued by the nature of wild plants? Explore Blue Sky's flora on a fun hike with naturalist Ale Franklin.

The Kumeyaay – from Past to Present

Sunday, February 26 – 9:00 a.m.
Blue Sky was once an area the Kumeyaay utilized for many of their needs – food, medicine, and shelter. Join docent John Kordela to hear which plants and animals were, and still are, often used today.



What's New at Blue Sky!

Saturday, March 3 – 9:00 a.m.
Bring the family out to enjoy a slow-paced "look and see" hike with docent Carol Crafts.

Sharing Nature with Children

Saturday, March 10 – 9:00 a.m.
Introduce children to the wonderful world of nature through activities. Children will be encouraged to use their imagination during this fun, interactive hike with docent Dave Meier.

Take Only Photographs, Leave Only Footprints

Sunday, March 11 – 9:00 a.m.
Bring your camera to capture the beauty of the landscape, wildflowers, and wildlife on this nature photography hike led by docent Bob Kiang.

Touchy, Feely Blue Sky

Saturday, March 17 – 9:00 a.m.
Engage all your senses as you explore our beautiful reserve with docent Teresa Bullock.

Blue Sky's Flora and Fauna

Sunday, March 18 – 9:00 a.m.
Explore the animals and plants of Blue Sky's various habitats on a fun hike with naturalist Ale Franklin.

Kumeyaay Building Materials

Sunday, March 25 – 9:00 a.m.
What did the Kumeyaay use to build their shelters? What kind of food and medicine was available in Blue Sky? Naturalist John Kordela has the answers.

Discover the Joy of Birding

Saturday, March 31 – 9:00 a.m.
Whether you're a beginner or a long-time birder, join docent Teresa Norris to check out Blue Sky's feathered friends! Bring binoculars, if you can.

Discovery Table: Sunday, January 15; 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. ARE YOU READY TO ROCK?

Rock is mineral, but not all minerals are rocks. Find out what rocks are made of, where they came from, and learn about the three different types of rocks. Blue Sky docents will be on hand to answer your questions.

School, scout, and group tours are available. Please call (858) 668-4781 for more information.