



San Mateo County Parks



Volunteer Horse Patrol

Do you enjoy riding in San Mateo County Parks?

Wondering how you can help protect your County Parks?

Want to share your enthusiasm for the parks?

Join the San Mateo County Parks

VOLUNTEER HORSE PATROL

The purpose of the Volunteer Horse Patrol is to assist the San Mateo County Department of Parks in providing safe and enjoyable trail use for park visitors. The scope of the volunteer activity is to observe and report trail use and conditions, and to inform and assist park visitors. Parks participating in this program include Edgewood Park in Redwood City, Huddart & Wunderlich Parks in Woodside and Pescadero Creek Park in LaHonda.

2010 Volunteer Horse Patrol Training

DATE: March 10 and 17

TIME: 7-9 PM

LOCATION: Wunderlich Park
4040 Woodside Rd. Woodside, CA

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION Contact San Mateo County Parks

Rob Krensky, Unit leader
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About the San Mateo County Volunteer Horse Patrol

The San Mateo County Volunteer Horse Patrol was founded in 1987 by a group of local equestrians who wanted the county to benefit from their frequent riding and knowledge of the beautiful trails in San Mateo County. The volunteers serve as the “eyes and ears” of the country parks. Equestrian teams (horse and rider) ride the trails while park staff attend to the more heavily used park areas.

The VHP helps the park service by observing and reporting trail use and conditions. Volunteers also inform and assist visitors by answering questions, providing maps, and advising visitors of park regulations and trail etiquette. Park visitors and the park service both benefit from the visibility and general assistance provided by the volunteers

Recognition for Service

On Tuesday, November 22, 1988 the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County presented the San Mateo County Volunteer Horse Patrol with a resolution honoring and commending our members for our *community involvement and value to San Mateo County*. The Volunteer Horse Patrol is still looking for riders with this kind of commitment to community involvement. Applications for membership are welcomed each spring.

General Requirements

- Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and have a qualified horse available to them.
- A qualified horse should be experienced on trails, sound and in good condition, and calm enough to work safely with other horses and people.
- Prospective volunteers attend two evening training sessions (not on horseback) with park staff in March.
- Trainee and horse ride along with a patrolling member in April.
- Volunteer and horse successfully complete a qualification ride in May.

Volunteer Activities

First Aid and CPR training are offered annually to volunteers. Volunteer activities combine the joys of trail riding, the camaraderie of group activities, and the satisfaction of helping San Mateo County maintain a secure and safe environment for all park users. Volunteers perform trail maintenance at Pescadero Creek Park and on the adopted Skyline Trail connecting Huddart and Wunderlich Parks. VHP also provides a Camp Host service throughout the season at Jack Brook Horse Camp. Informal meetings are held several times a year.