COASTAL SAGE SCRUB

OAK WOODLAND

River Park and the many opportunities to get detailed information about the trails shown on the Visit the River Park website at www.sdrp.org for respect adjacent private property and protect year-round. Most of the Park's trails are multi-use, winding over 55 miles from the top of Volcan Mountain to the San Dieguito River from its headwaters at over 5,000 feet on the Pacific Crest to the San Dieguito Watershed and aims to protect the San Dieguito River Valley and other organizations to accomplish its goals of preservation, interpretation and public access to the rich and varied natural and cultural resources the River Park has to offer.

The San Dieguito River Valley is the fourth largest in San Diego County. The San Dieguito Watershed covers 346 square miles and is the fourth largest in San Diego County. The San Dieguito Watershed covers 346 square miles and is the fourth largest in San Diego County.

Established in 1989, the San Dieguito River Park attaches over 55 miles of San Dieguito River from approximately 1000’ to ground and can be found in our coastal wetland inundation as the tide or winter rains flood lower elevations. Salt marsh plants grow low to the ground and can be found in our coastal wetland areas, providing binging and nesting habitat for the endangered Federal's Fairy Shrimp. Coastal Sage Scrub surrounds our coastal wetlands and extends inland to about 1500’ in elevation. Waist-high, drought-tolerant plants dominate this vegetation community, which is an important complement to wetlands such as the intertidal marsh found in the San Dieguito Lagoon. Coastal sage scrub is rapidly disappearing with development along the coast.

Chaparral is found in the inland areas of the River Park, extending from approximately 1000’ to 3500’ in elevation. This community is characterized by very drought- and heat-tolerant shrub species that can grow to well over head high, resembling an "elfin forest." Chaparral and coastal sage scrub species may intermingle in the middle elevations.

Oak Woodland reaches to the highest elevations in the River Park and is interspersed with golden, greyish mounds in late summer. Five different species of oak can be seen along the Five Oaks Trail on Volcan Mountain. California Incense Cedar, in the cypress family, is a remnant of the region’s wetter past.

 Riparian species are water-loving and can be found throughout the River Park along its streams, ponds and in the finger canyons that drain to the valley bottom. The Arroyo Willow is an important nesting tree for the endangered Least Bell’s Vireo. Sandy-bottom, slow-moving streams provide critical habitat for the Arroyo Toad.

With special thanks to the Metropolitan Water District and its Community Partnering Program for a generous grant that made this brochure possible.

About the San Dieguito River Park

Plants of the San Dieguito River Valley

Native Plants & Vegetation Communities

Go Native in the Garden!

Invasives Are Unwelcome!

Fountain Grasses Pennisetum spp.

Canary Island Date Palm Phoenix canariensis

San Dieguito Watershed

Coastal-Crest Trail

Legend

Open Trails

SALT MARSH COASTAL SAGE SCRUB CHAPARRAL OAK WOODLAND

Also avoid ice plant varieties such as hotsheet fig (Carobobusta edulis) and Mexican按钮ranchesterum spp., pampas grass (Cortaderia selloana), Peruvian pepper tree (Schinus molle), caster bean (Ricinus communis) and Mesquite San Antonio (Washingtonia robusta). Visit, www.sdrp.org to find out how you can assist the River Park in removing non-native plants and restoring native habitat as a volunteer.

Go Native in the Garden!

Water conservation is a way of life in Southern California. You can do your part to protect the health of our watershed and its habitats by choosing drought-tolerant plants for your landscaping needs. Native plants are an even better choice!

- Are naturally pest-resistant
- Attract many beneficial insects
- Need no fertilizers or soil amendments
- Do well in poor soil
- Need little to no supplemental water once established

Not a gardener? Not a problem! Less is more with natives… the less attention they get, the better. A native plant garden can be designed to attract birds and butterflies, too. Penstemon, wild lilies, sages, fuchsia-flowered gooseberry and California fuchsia are just some of the colorful choices that will bring winged wildlife to your doorstep.

You can further optimize your water use by grouping plants according to their water needs and soil conditions. A drip irrigation system will provide additional water savings for those areas that need it during the dry months. Monitor your irrigation system for clog-ups, particularly onto hard surfaces, use much to shade bare soil and avoid watering during the hottest part of the day.

Because the watershed varies in climate, soil and elevation, visit your local native plant nursery to find out what plants will do best in your area. Better yet, take a walk in the River Park to see what your recommended selections look like in actual setting, especially in winter and spring when natives flourish. And, encourage neighbors or your hometown association to use low-water landscaping techniques… the watershed will love you for it!

San Dieguito River Park

San Dieguito River Park

San Dieguito River Park

Established in 1989, the San Dieguito River Park attaches over 55 miles of San Dieguito River from approximately 1000’ to ground and can be found in our coastal wetland inundation as the tide or winter rains flood lower elevations. Salt marsh plants grow low to the ground and can be found in our coastal wetland areas, providing binging and nesting habitat for the endangered Federal's Fairy Shrimp. Coastal Sage Scrub surrounds our coastal wetlands and extends inland to about 1500’ in elevation. Waist-high, drought-tolerant plants dominate this vegetation community, which is an important complement to wetlands such as the intertidal marsh found in the San Dieguito Lagoon. Coastal sage scrub is rapidly disappearing with development along the coast.

Chaparral is found in the inland areas of the River Park, extending from approximately 1000’ to 3500’ in elevation. This community is characterized by very drought- and heat-tolerant shrub species that can grow to well over head high, resembling an "elfin forest." Chaparral and coastal sage scrub species may intermingle in the middle elevations.

Oak Woodland reaches to the highest elevations in the River Park and is interspersed with golden, greyish mounds in late summer. Five different species of oak can be seen along the Five Oaks Trail on Volcan Mountain. California Incense Cedar, in the cypress family, is a remnant of the region’s wetter past.

Riparian species are water-loving and can be found throughout the River Park along its streams, ponds and in the finger canyons that drain to the valley bottom. The Arroyo Willow is an important nesting tree for the endangered Least Bell’s Vireo. Sandy-bottom, slow-moving streams provide critical habitat for the Arroyo Toad.

Visit the River Park website at www.sdrp.org for detailed information about the trails shown on the map at the right. Enjoy your visit!

The San Dieguito River Park extends from approximately 1000’ to ground and can be found in our coastal wetland inundation as the tide or winter rains flood lower elevations. Salt marsh plants grow low to the ground and can be found in our coastal wetland areas, providing binging and nesting habitat for the endangered Federal’s Fairy Shrimp. Coastal Sage Scrub surrounds our coastal wetlands and extends inland to about 1500’ in elevation. Waist-high, drought-tolerant plants dominate this vegetation community, which is an important complement to wetlands such as the intertidal marsh found in the San Dieguito Lagoon. Coastal sage scrub is rapidly disappearing with development along the coast.

Chaparral is found in the inland areas of the River Park, extending from approximately 1000’ to 3500’ in elevation. This community is characterized by very drought- and heat-tolerant shrub species that can grow to well over head high, resembling an “elfin forest.” Chaparral and coastal sage scrub species may intermingle in the middle elevations.

Oak Woodland reaches to the highest elevations in the River Park and is interspersed with golden, greyish mounds in late summer. Five different species of oak can be seen along the Five Oaks Trail on Volcan Mountain. California Incense Cedar, in the cypress family, is a remnant of the region’s wetter past.

Riparian species are water-loving and can be found throughout the River Park along its streams, ponds and in the finger canyons that drain to the valley bottom. The Arroyo Willow is an important nesting tree for the endangered Least Bell’s Vireo. Sandy-bottom, slow-moving streams provide critical habitat for the Arroyo Toad.

Visit the River Park website at www.sdrp.org for detailed information about the trails shown on the map at the right. Enjoy your visit!
**COASTAL SAGE SCRUB**

- **Alkali Heath**
  - *Phoradendron californicum*
  - Low, spreading, tiny succulent leaves; small pink to purple radial flowers with five petals.

- **Salt Heliotrope**
  - *Heliotropium maritimum*
  - Low, spreading; light green linear leaves; small white star-shaped flowers with purple or yellow centers.

- **Saltmarsh Buckwheat**
  - *Eriogonum fasciculatum*
  - Buckwheat flower with dark brown disk; ovate leaves with rough surface; tiny white flowers along spikes to light purple flowers; heads evenly spaced along spikes.

- **California Wild Grape**
  - *Vitis gymnosperma*
  - Climbing vine with tiny white flowers; edible purple fruit.

- **California Incense Cedar**
  - *Calocedrus decurrens*
  - Tall tree with soft, reddish bark, thin branches, thorns; large acorns with thick cupule; large palmate leaves; red spiny fruit.

- **California (Flat-Top) Buckwheat**
  - *Eriogonum fasciculatum*
  - Large bush with ovate to round leaves; pink to white flowers in small clusters; tart-tasting sticky red berries.

- **Wild Cucumber**
  - *Marah macrosperma*
  - Sprawling vine with lacy leaves, small white flowers; large, spiny fruit; dramatic white flowers with yellow and purple centers on slender stalk.

- **Blue-eyed Grass**
  - *Sisyrinchium bellum*
  - Purple flowers with six pointed radial petals; yellow stamen; slender stalks; numerous petals; creamy white flowers; hanging purple flowers; edible, tiny succulent leaves.

- **Leaves like stacked pickles**
  - *Amygdalus pubescens*
  - Sweet cherry leaves resemble stacked pickles.

**SALT MARSH**

- **Saltwort**
  - *Batis maritima*
  - Ovate to round leaves; pink to white flowers in small clusters; tannin-tasting sticky red berries.

- **Arroyo Willow**
  - *Salix lasiolepis*
  - Small linear leaves, lighter underneath.

- **Black Sage**
  - *Salvia mellifera*
  - Yellow-green aromatic elliptical veined leaves; tiny white flowers making up dense clusters along slender stalk, few grass-like leaves.

- **Goldenrod (California)**
  - *Solidago californica*
  - Yellow flowers in dense clusters along slender stalk; few grass-like leaves.

- **Deerweed**
  - *Lotus scoparius*
  - Large bush with ovate to round leaves; bright yellow flowers with five radial petals; yellow stamen; slender stalks; numerous petals; creamy white flowers; hanging purple flowers; edible, tiny succulent leaves.

- **Botanicaly related**
  - *Ceanothus tomentosus*
  - Ramona Lilac.

**SALT GRASS**

- **Sallie’s Star**
  - *Linaria aurea*
  - Wildflower with pink flowers; drooping yellow stamens; slender stalks; numerous petals; creamy white flowers; hanging purple flowers; edible, tiny succulent leaves.

- **Grusettea**
  - *Gentiana grusettea*
  - Yellow flowers in dense clusters along slender stalk; few grass-like leaves.

**SALISBURY STAFF**

- **Canyon Live Oak**
  - *Quercus agrifolia*
  - Tapering conical leaves, reddish-brown acorn; yellowish-brown leaves; small white flowers; heads evenly spaced along very tall spikes.

- **Englishman Oak**
  - *Quercus engelmannii*
  - Light, scaly bark, light grey-green leaves with smooth edges; drought deciduous.

**CHAPARRAL**

- **Pearly Everlasting**
  - *Anaphalis douglasii*
  - Purple flowers with four petals and yellow stamens; dime-sized citrus-like fruit.

**OAK WOODLAND**

- **Mexican Manzanita**
  - *Arctostaphylos pungens*
  - Woody, branching shrub with dark red bark and light grey-green leaves; light pink bell-shaped flowers; small berries.

- **Chaparral Yucca**
  - *Hesperoyucca whipplei*
  - Flowers turn green then brown; large spiny fruit; flowering stalks.

**CHAPARRAL**

- **White Sage**
  - *Salvia apiana*
  - Large, fleshy light grey aromatic leaves; small white flowers; heads evenly spaced along very tall spikes.

**CANYON LILAC**

- **Low, spreading**
  - *Arctostaphylos californica*
  - Narrow leaves with smooth edges; large acorns with thick cupule.

**Englemann Oak**

- *Quercus engelmannii*
  - Light, scaly bark, light grey-green leaves with smooth edges; drought deciduous.

**CRAB GRASS**

- **Canyon Live Oak**
  - *Quercus agrifolia*
  - Tapering conical leaves, reddish-brown acorn; yellowish-brown leaves; small white flowers; heads evenly spaced along very tall spikes.

**Canyon Live Oak**

- *Quercus agrifolia*
  - Tapering conical leaves, reddish-brown acorn; yellowish-brown leaves; small white flowers; heads evenly spaced along very tall spikes.

**Canyon Live Oak**

- *Quercus agrifolia*
  - Tapering conical leaves, reddish-brown acorn; yellowish-brown leaves; small white flowers; heads evenly spaced along very tall spikes.

**Canyon Live Oak**

- *Quercus agrifolia*
  - Tapering conical leaves, reddish-brown acorn; yellowish-brown leaves; small white flowers; heads evenly spaced along very tall spikes.

**Canyon Live Oak**

- *Quercus agrifolia*
  - Tapering conical leaves, reddish-brown acorn; yellowish-brown leaves; small white flowers; heads evenly spaced along very tall spikes.