



Enhancing public awareness of the importance of maintaining and restoring the unique natural habitat within Chino Hills State Park through interpretive and educational activities.

Become a Member

How you can help support the Park



From the Desk of the Interpreter

Read about poppy season do's and don'ts.

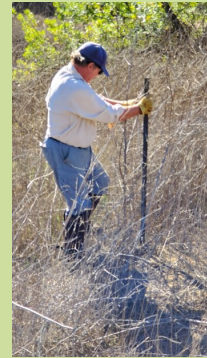
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Help the State Park by becoming a member and also keep receiving these newsletters. Want to do more? [Read More](#) (Scroll Down)

Trail Sign Replacement



Have you noticed all the new trail signs in the park? Many trail signs or their wooden posts were lost due to the fires in recent years. [Read More](#) (Scroll Down)



Barbed Wire Removal Update

Get an update about the continuing effort to remove barbed wire in the project

[Learn More](#) (Scroll Down)



Do you have something to share for the next Newsletter?

Do you have something you want to share about an experience in the Park, such as a special sighting of an animal or bird or plant, or maybe a romance or a friendship you made while in the park?

Contact Eric at eric@chinohillsstatepark.org.

How you can help support the Park

The word is getting out! Chino Hills State Park, surrounded by cities and urban development, is the right place to go to quickly experience vast open spaces, trails, and scenic vistas. Within the last few years, the number of visitors at CHSP has been increasing and will

continue to do so. Along with this love of the park and increased use, comes challenges that require the help of dedicated individuals to ensure the park remains beautiful, clean, and maintained. If you were ever thinking of getting more involved and directly working to improve the Park, there is no better time than now.

First, you can become a **Park Volunteer**. Depending on your interests or hobbies, there is a volunteer program that's right for you! Are you interested in helping to educate school age kids? As an Education Volunteer you can assist our staff with running our education field trip programs. Maybe you like to do a little hiking or spend time gardening outdoors? Then you can become a Trail Ambassador and hike the trails, interact with visitors, and provide interpretive information in an official capacity. Or as a Volunteer Grounds Assistant you can assist with maintaining the Discovery Center grounds and take part in planting opportunities in our Native Plant Nursery.

Another way to volunteer your time is to donate and become a **member of the Chino Hills State Park Interpretive Association (CHSPIA)**. Your funds go directly to supporting and enhancing the Park. Plus, you'll receive great benefits such as free attendance to CHSIPA events. And for our higher-level members, you will receive an annual parking pass allowing free parking for the year at participating park locations throughout the state. Or if you want to become more involved, help make decisions, and work directly to support the park and create partnerships, you can apply to become a **voting board member of CHSPIA**. If you love the Park and enjoy working with the Park's neighbors and community, you would be a great addition to the Board.

A good place to start to learn more about the Park and the different ways that you can help out is to visit us at www.chinohillsstatepark.org.

Replacement of Trail Signs

Have you noticed all the new trail signs in the park? Many trail signs or their wooden posts were lost due to the fires in recent years. CHSPIA has been able to purchase 115 new trail signs thanks to generous grants and donations. So far, 44 new trail signs have been installed, thanks to our awesome volunteers.

More volunteers are needed! Starting about March or April, we should be ready to start doing more sign installations. We are waiting for better weather and a few roads to be mowed (for fire safety). Once we receive clearance from the park's environmental department, and a few other park departments, we can begin more sign installations.

Our signpost installation process is always interesting! We need to drill nice deep holes for pressure treated wood 4" X 4" posts to be placed, since no concrete posts are allowed in the park off paved roads. Some holes can be dug with our motorized auger, but we still use picks and shovels at times!

If you are interested in helping us with sign installations, please contact me through our CHSPIA email: info@chinohillsstatepark.org. We'll keep a list, and when we are closer to the sign installation days, we'll send out an email to see about your schedules. Generally, we stick to weekdays to avoid impacting park guests, but it's not a hard and fast rule, so working folks can volunteer as well!

Hope to see you soon!

From the Desk of the Interpreter

It's wildflower season once again! Chino Hills has been a goto destination for visitors wanting to experience wildflowers since we were "Discovered" during our 2017 super bloom. Ever since, hundreds of people flock at the first sign of our State's golden flower (the California Poppy *Eschlozia californica*).

When visiting the park this spring please keep the following in mind:

- Stay on trails. Going off trail – even just a few feet – can cause damage to our vegetation for years afterwards.
- Do not pick the flowers. Our native wildflowers do not survive being picked. Most (like the California Poppy) will wilt and die as soon as they are picked. Instead, purchase silk flowers which last a lifetime (silk Poppies are available at the Discovery Center store) or visit your local nursery to purchase seed or potted flowers to bring home for your own gardens.
- Be aware of wildlife, especially rattlesnakes. As the weather warms up so do our local reptiles. They will find themselves a spot with plenty of sunshine along trails to warm up even more. If you encounter a rattlesnake, simply leave them be and let a park staff member know.
- Please do not stop or park anywhere that is not a designated parking spot. Emergency vehicles need to be able to come and go as needed.
- Bring water! Drinking water is available for sale at entrance Kiosk where you entered.
- Trash... Pack it in, pack it out. Leave the park cleaner than you found it to ensure that everyone has the same beautiful experience as you do.

You can find these rules and more in multiple languages here:

<https://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/648/files/Super%20bloom%20park%20rules%20flyer%20-%207%20pm%20closure.pdf>

We have also put up a new "wildflowers in the park" website page here:

https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=31208

Now Remember... DON'T DOOM THE BLOOM!

Barbed Wire Removal Project Update

Sixteen individual volunteers from Chino Hills State Park Interpretative Association, Hills for Everyone and official State Park volunteers removed over 3,100 feet of barbed wire fence from October through the end of 2022. The fence in Blue Mud canyon is now completely removed. Several short fences near Telegraph Canyon trail were removed in a "two team" effort with each team starting at opposite ends of Telegraph Canyon and meeting in the middle. A large section of a barbed wire fence running parallel to Telegraph Canyon south of Gilman Peak has also been removed with another half mile slated for removal in 2023.

Anyone who wishes to help protect our wildlife from the dangers of the barbed wire fences while having a good physical workout and joining in the comradery of our volunteer team can contact Mary@ChinoHillsStatePark.org for more information. We will resume barbed wire removal in the fall.

www.ChinoHillsStatePark.org

CHSPIA is a non-profit volunteer based organization that assists the California Department of Parks and Recreation in maintaining and restoring Chino Hills State Park. Through interpretive programs and volunteer support designed to enhance visitor experiences, CHSPIA fosters appreciation and the

enlightened use of the State Park. All funds raised go directly to CHSPIA to support interpretive activities, events and other programs.

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