



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



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



From the Desk of the
Interpreter
Notes and tidbits from State
Park Interpreter Ian
Bernstein.

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Barbed Wire Removal

Clearing the way for wildlife in the Park



The barbed wire fences were installed when the land was used for cattle ranching early in the last century to separate land ownerships. Because the barbed wire is a danger to wildlife, CHSPIA has a goal to eliminate all the fences within the Park that can safely be removed (with the exception of those that mark boundaries). [Read More](#)

See a Fire in the Park?

What should you do if you see smoke or a fire in the Park

[Learn More](#)



We need an Instagram Person

Do you love taking pictures of the Park and posting on Instagram? CHSPIA needs someone to maintain our Instagram page and post content.

Contact Eric at eric@chinohillsstatepark.org if you are interested.

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.

Barbed Wire Removal Project

The barbed wire fences were installed when the land was used for cattle ranching early in the last century to separate land ownerships. Because the barbed wire is a danger to wildlife, CHSPIA has a goal to eliminate all the fences within the Park that can safely be removed (with the exception of those that mark boundaries).

Following the Blue Ridge fire in October 2020, the barbed wire fences in CHSP were located and mapped. Plans were made, volunteers were sought, and removal was approved by the Park's Department to begin in February 2021. To date, a total of 2.5 miles have been removed in nine work-sessions by over 30 volunteers.

The next barbed wire fence scheduled to be removed is in upper Blue Mud Canyon. There is a fence ½ mile long that runs down a hill into the canyon and then back uphill again. It is expected to require two days of hard work by volunteers.

Barbed wire fences that will be scheduled for future removal are in the areas of Olinda Village, Telegraph Canyon, Gilman Trail, Little Canyon, Easy Street, Bobcat Ridge, Scully Ridge and Slaughter Canyon. Those fences range in length of 10 to 2300 feet for a total of 1.25 miles.

The window of opportunity for fence removal is small. It can only be scheduled for fall and winter and only when the weather cooperates. Rain/mud, high winds and heat make it too dangerous for the volunteers. In the spring, when the birds begin nesting and the native plants begin to sprout, barbed wire removal stops in order to protect them.

Barbed wire fence removal in CHSP has resumed this fall as it cools off. Hardy volunteers who don't mind working on semi-steep hillsides and are available on Fridays are welcome (contact: Mary@ChinoHillsStatePark.org).

From the Desk of the Interpreter

Thank you for taking the time to read this article. This is the first of many articles to come from the desk of the Interpreter. My name is Ian and I have been the Interpreter for Chino Hills State Park since 2016. I always like to start by introducing my position and what it means. A State Park Interpreter is not someone who translates languages, rather a State Park Interpreter is an educator. I like to say: "I speak the language of the trees." My role at the park is to run all the education programs for the public and school groups as well as facilitate the visitor center and coordinate all park volunteers and special events.

For each newsletter, I will be detailing our program successes, upcoming special events, as well as providing park factoids and tidbits. So be sure to regularly check back. If you have any special requests for public programs or topics of interest please submit them to ian.bernstein@parks.ca.gov and I will try my best to address it in the next newsletter.

What to do if you see a fire

As a park visitor we rely on you to be our eyes and ears on the trails. In the event you witness a fire in the park we encourage you to take the following steps:

- Make note of the specific location of the fire/smoke – closest trail junction, direction smoke is blowing, etc
- Get yourself to safety. Find the closest park exit and find your way out of the park to a safe location.
- Find a location with Cell Service and call 911. Provide them with the information you observed about the fire/smoke location.
- On your way out of the park, if you encounter a park staff member, provide them with the information you observed

Your personal safety is our priority in any emergency situation. And by following these steps, you will help park staff and emergency personnel to address the situation and make sure that all the proper precautions are taken to safely clear the park.

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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