

Discover Morgan Territory

Year opened: 1975 Acres: 5,323
Highlights: Undeveloped wilderness area for hiking, biking, and horseback riding; trail connections into Mt. Diablo State Park; one reservable backpack camping area, wildflowers in season.
Did you know? Family lore says Jeremiah Morgan, after whom the larger region was named, referred to the area he lived as “the morning side of Mount Diablo.” Morgan hunted out the region’s grizzly bears in the late 1850s through 1874, reportedly killing at least 46 in one year.

NATIVE AMERICANS Morgan Territory is located within the homeland of the Volvon, one of six Bay Miwok-speaking tribes whose members had a deep knowledge and understanding of the natural world, and a profound social, political, economic, and religious heritage. They were among the Native people who resisted Spanish missionization, but by 1806 that resistance had crumbled. Some of today’s Bay Miwoks honor their ancestors by working to preserve ancestral cultural sites.

RANCHING Jeremiah Morgan, the region’s namesake, was born in 1818 in the Cherokee Nation, Alabama. He joined a wagon train to California in 1849, but, unsuccessful as a gold miner, returned to Iowa in 1850. In 1853 he relocated his family to the Ygnacio Valley. By October 1857 he had established a 10,000-acre ranch and built a home and barn 4.5 miles northeast of the park staging area, having seen the land on an 1856 bear hunt.

TRAIL NAMES Contrary to its current name (*diablo* means “devil”) Mount Diablo was the sacred birthplace of the world for some local tribes and others as distant as the Sierra Nevada. Their creation accounts describe the heroic acts of the First People – supernatural beings who created people and “everything everywhere so people could live.” The First People had traits and abilities of animals, for which the trails are named, such as Condor (Mollok), Prairie Falcon, Eagle, and Coyote. Other trail names refer to the park’s natural features (Blue Oak, Highland Ridge) and ranching past (Hog Canyon).

POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL EMERGENCY	9-1-1
EBRPD HEADQUARTERS.....	1-888-EBPARKS
GROUP CAMP INFO	1-888-EBPARKS, option 2, 1
PARK OFFICE.....	1-888-EBPARKS, option 3, ext. 4546

NATURAL FEATURES Morgan Territory’s sandstone hills are adorned in spring with more than 90 species of wildflowers, including the Diablo sunflower (*Helianthella castanea*), which grows only in the foothills of Mt. Diablo. Morgan Territory serves as a land bridge between the open space lands of Mt. Diablo State Park and Round Valley Regional Preserve, forming a corridor for animals with large ranges, like the golden eagle and mountain lion. Deer and coyote may be seen here, and a variety of raptors soar overhead. Great horned owls and screech owls live in the oaks. The riparian woodlands support nesting passerines, reptiles, amphibians, and small mammals.

Ridgetop views reveal Mt. Diablo to the west, Mt. St. Helena to the north, and the Sierra Nevada to the east. Lowland valleys cradle the headwaters of Marsh Creek.

WELCOME!

Please enjoy the Regional Parks safely, and help us protect and preserve your parklands by complying with park rules and regulations.

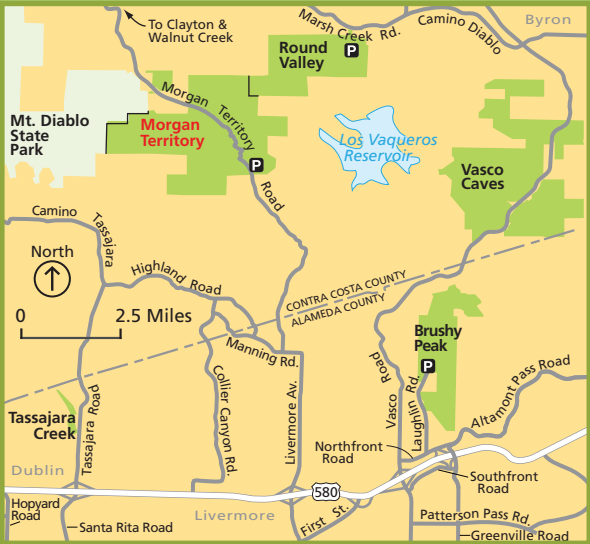
SAFETY and ETIQUETTE

- Stay on trails. Taking shortcuts can be dangerous and causes erosion.
- Wading and/or swimming in undesignated areas may be dangerous and may harm the watershed.
- Carry and drink plenty of water. Dehydration is a leading cause of injuries on the trail.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather conditions.
- Trails can be slippery, rocky and steep. Proceed carefully at your own risk.
- Feeding or approaching wildlife is dangerous and illegal.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only. Horses have the right-of-way on trails.
- Keep the parks beautiful. Pack out what you pack in.
- Drones are prohibited.
- Smoking is prohibited.

RULES

Dogs must be leashed 200 feet from any trail or park entrance. Dogs must be leashed in parking lots, picnic areas, developed areas such as lawns and play fields, and on some trails. They must be under voice control at all times.

Visitors are responsible for knowing and complying with park rules (Ordinance 38). See www.ebparks.org/rules.



**9401 Morgan Territory Road,
Livermore, CA 94551**

To Reach Morgan Territory:

From I-580 in Livermore, exit onto N. Livermore Avenue and turn north. Shortly after North Livermore curves left (to the west), turn right onto Morgan Territory Road and follow it to the staging area on the right. From Walnut Creek/Concord, take Clayton Road to Clayton. Clayton Road becomes Marsh Creek Road in Clayton. About three miles outside Clayton, turn right onto Morgan Territory Road. The staging area is 9.4 miles from Marsh Creek Road. Note: Morgan Territory Road is narrow and curvy on its way to the staging area. Drive with caution.



East Bay Regional Park District
2950 Peralta Oaks Court,
Oakland, CA 94605-0381
1-888-327-2757 (1-888-EBPARKS) (TRS 711)
www.ebparks.org Reprint: 12/2022

Morgan Territory

Regional Preserve

Eastern Contra Costa County

East Bay
Regional Park District



