

Natural Resources

This preserve contains non-native grassland, oak woodland/savannah, shrubland, and riparian woodland plant communities. The grassland is interspersed with stands of blue oak woodland/savannah. The valley itself is primarily annual grassland with valley oak lining the intermittent drainages. Non-native grasses, introduced to California by early settlers, comprise the annual grassland flora. Native and non-native wildflowers are seen in springtime.

The steep, northeastern-facing slopes in the southwestern portion of the preserve support mixed oak woodland and chamise/black sage/manzanita chaparral. Riparian and wetland vegetation occur along Round Valley Creek. The



southwest corner of the preserve supports mixed oak woodland containing blue, valley, coast live, interior live, and black oak; California buckeye; and California bay laurel. Riparian vegetation occurs primarily along Round Valley Creek. The creek flows until late spring or early summer, after which the water pools at intervals along the stream course.

Wildlife

The preserve is habitat for a wide variety of wildlife typical of that found in the East Bay Area and also some species more common to the Central Valley. Several species in this area have evolved to survive with only seasonal supplies of water and green vegetation.

Mammals in Round Valley include the California ground squirrel, San Joaquin pocket mouse, Audubon’s or desert cottontail, and the endangered San Joaquin kit fox. Round Valley is one of the northern extremes of the kit fox range in California, which is listed on the federal and state endangered species lists. The Park District is playing a major role in protecting the fox by preserving its habitat in Round Valley.

The preserve is also home to nesting golden eagles, a state species of special concern protected by state and federal law. The golden eagles feed on ground squirrels. Burrowing owls, another species of special concern, nest in ground squirrel burrows and feed on mice and insects.

Ponds and streams in Round Valley support the federally threatened California red-legged frog, western toads, western pond turtles and Pacific tree frogs. These species breed with the onset of winter rains, and burrow into the mud or use rodent holes for hibernation during the dry summer months.

Geology

The bedrock geology of the preserve is Cretaceous Panoche shale and sandstone, with deposits of recent alluvium on the surface in valleys and creek drainages. The preserve has small amounts of high-quality soils, located mainly in the level areas along Marsh Creek and in the valley proper. Most of the soil, however, is of a lower quality, suitable only for range, wildlife, and watershed uses. The Marsh Creek (Mount Diablo) Fault is located about two miles southwest of the preserve.

Ours to Explore, Enjoy, and Protect

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

Safety

- Stay on trails. Shortcuts are dangerous and damage natural resources.
- Carry and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration.
- Be prepared for sudden changes in weather conditions.
- Trails can be slippery, rocky and steep. Proceed carefully at your own risk.
- Keep the parks clean. Pack out what you pack in.
- Inform someone where you are going and will return.
- Store our 24/7 Dispatch Center number on your cell phone: **Emergency (510) 881-1122;**
Nonemergency (510) 881-1833

Rules

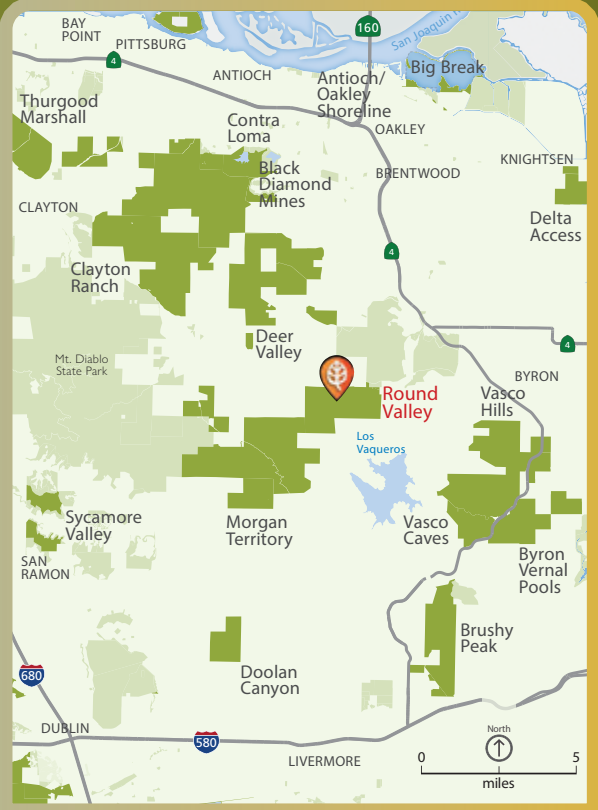
- ***Dogs are not allowed in Round Valley due to the sensitive nature of the wildlife habitat at the park.***
- State law requires all bicyclists under age 18 wear an approved helmet while riding on trails and roadways. Equestrians and bicyclists are strongly encouraged to wear helmets at all times.
- Bicycles are permitted on designated trails only.
- Bicyclists yield to pedestrians and equestrians. Both yield to equestrians. Call out or sound a warning when passing trail users. Speed limit is 15 mph.

The following are prohibited:

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| – Wading and/or swimming in undesignated areas | – Damaging plants, geological, or archaeological features |
| – Consuming alcohol in non-designated areas/parks | – Smoking/vaping |
| – Feeding or approaching wildlife | – Graffiti |
| – Releasing animals into parklands | – Drones |
| | – Skateboarding |

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

POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL EMERGENCY	9-1-1
PARK POLICE (evenings/weekends)	510-881-1833
CAMPING RESERVATIONS	1-888-327-2757, option 2
PARK OFFICE.....	1-888-327-2757, option 3, ext. 4556



Round Valley Regional Preserve
19450 Marsh Creek Road
Brentwood, CA

East Bay Regional Park District
2950 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland, CA 94605
1-888-EBPARKS or 1-888-327-2757 (TRS 711)
ebparks.org



Regional Parks Membership
RECEIVE FREE DAY-USE PARKING, SWIMMING,
DOG PASS, AND MORE. 510-544-2220
REGIONALPARKSFUNDATION.ORG

Photos courtesy Marc Crumpler.



Round Valley Regional Preserve

BRENTWOOD



East Bay
Regional Park District
Healthy Parks Healthy People

Round Valley Regional Preserve – Brentwood

Year Opened: 1998

Acres: 1,979

Highlights: Hiking, biking, camping, horseback riding.

History

Round Valley Regional Preserve, part of the ancestral homelands of California Native Americans, may have existed as a boundary between several tribal groups, where members of East Bay and San Joaquin Valley groups met to trade and socialize.

The land was purchased in 1873 by Thomas Murphy, an Irish immigrant who established a ranching and farming operation. Murphy's grandson, Jim Murphy, sold the core 700 acres of Round Valley to the East Bay Regional Park District in 1988. A few pieces of farm equipment in the preserve date to the late nineteenth century or early twentieth. All archaeological and historic objects in the preserve are protected by law; please leave them undisturbed for others to view.

The climate at the preserve is arid and temperatures commonly exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer months. Be prepared for the summer heat: use sunscreen, wear a hat and loose-fitting clothing, wear good hiking shoes, and bring plenty of water.



**Round Valley is a sensitive wildlife habitat:
Dogs are not allowed in the Preserve.**

Archaeological, historic, and geological objects are protected by law. Please leave them undisturbed for everyone to enjoy. Help protect our park wildlife by not releasing or feeding ducks, cats, or other wildlife. Do not feed wild park animals; enjoy them from a distance.

