

8. Past programs

Black Birders Week - 2023

In 2023, East Bay Regional Park District's celebration of Black Birders Week kicked off at Thurgood Marshall Regional Park - Home of the Port Chicago 50. This week-long program series is a collaboration between Naturalist staff and the East Bay Regional Park District Black Employee Collective members to enjoy the parks of the East Bay together and create safe spaces for guided discussions about Black Experiences in the outdoors.

We birded among the bunkers (technically, magazines) and along the railroad tracks of this former weapons depot, while learning about the site's significance in the desegregation of the U.S. military. Together, we reflected on the work that still needs to be done to make everyone feel welcome in their public lands.



Black Birders Week - 2024

This year we ended our program at Thurgood Marshall Regional Park - Home of the Port Chicago 50 after visiting six other parks throughout the week. A community of birders joined us in celebrating Black Birders Week 2024 by getting outside, spending time with community, and learning about the birds of the East Bay.



More on Black Birders Week: <https://www.ebparks.org/we-celebrate/black-birders-week>
Watch out for our 2025 program, running Sunday May 25th- Saturday May 31st, 2025!

7. Past programs (cont.)

Juneteenth Celebration Walk - 2022 - 2024

Each year, we celebrate Juneteenth weekend with a guided walk in the future Thurgood Marshall Regional Park - Home of the Port Chicago 50. As we explore the future park we discussed stories of Black history, civil rights, and the fight for freedom on this land.



Our next Juneteenth program will take place at Thurgood Marshall Regional Park on Thursday June 19th, 2025.
Keep an eye out for more details!

Veteran's Day 2022 Virtual Program (video linked below)



7. Past programs (cont.)

Celebrating Black History Month Hike - 2023 and 2024

In honor of Black History Month, East Bay Regional Park District Naturalists lead public tours to explore the southern end of the new Thurgood Marshall Regional Park - Home of the Port Chicago 50, site of the former Concord Naval Weapons Station. As we walk, we learn about the history of this land, stories of resistance and bravery, and the events here that played a vital role in the desegregation of the armed forces. Each year, participants have contributed their stories and experiences while enjoying the views of the park and snowy Mt Diablo.

Thank you to the East Bay Regional Park District's Black Employee Collective for supporting this walk in honor of Black History Month!



Our 2025 Black History Month Hikes are scheduled for Saturday Feb 1, Sunday Feb 2, Saturday Feb 15, and Sunday Feb 16th. We'll see you there!

7. Past programs (cont.)

Wildflower Walk 2023

In spring of 2023, participants joined Naturalists for a public tour to explore the Southern end of what is now the site of the Thurgood Marshall Regional Park - Home of the Port Chicago 50. We searched for wildflowers that thrive here while enjoying views of Mt. Diablo.

Late Bloomers 2023

In late spring, participants met new friends as we explored the former weapons transfer facility in search of plants and wild creatures. This exploration took us 2 to 3 miles on step and uneven trails around the park.



Upcoming Events

<https://www.ebparks.org/parks/thurgood-marshall#events>

Dates for 2025 Programs

Black History Month Hikes - Saturday Feb 1, Sunday Feb 2, Saturday Feb 15, and Sunday Feb 16th

Black Birders Week - Sunday May 25th through Saturday May 31st, 2025

Juneteenth - Thursday June 19th, 2025

