Discover the

San Diego River

and its watershed

Things to Do

Places to Go

	CYCLING	BIRDING	BOATING	CAMPING	DOGS OFF LEASH	FISHING	HIKING	HORSES	INTERPRETIVE GARDEN	PICNICKING	SCENIC VISTA	VISITOR CENTER
1 SANTA YSABEL OPEN SPACE PRESERVE	●	●					●	●		●	●	
2 INAJA MEMORIAL PICNIC GROUND							●			●	●	
3 EAGLE PEAK PRESERVE	●	●					●	●		●	●	
4 CEDAR CREEK FALLS TRAILHEAD		●					●	●			●	
5 EL MONTE COUNTY PARK							●			●	●	
6 LAKESIDE'S RIVER PARK		●					●				●	
7 MAST PARK	●	●						●		●		
8 SANTEE LAKES RECREATION PRESERVE	●	●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●	
9 MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK	●	●		●		●	●		●	●	●	●
10 MISSION VALLEY PRESERVE		●							●	●		
11 SOUTHERN WILDLIFE PRESERVE	●	●									●	
12 FAMOSA SLOUGH		●									●	
13 DOG BEACH		●			●				●	●	●	

The San Diego River Park Foundation
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THE SAN DIEGO RIVER PARK FOUNDATION

Connect. Create. Conserve.

www.sandiegoriver.org

Discover the

San Diego *River*

The San Diego River is a local treasure waiting to be explored. With a watershed of more than 440 square miles, the River is an inviting and often overlooked waterway rich in cultural history, value, and recreational opportunities.

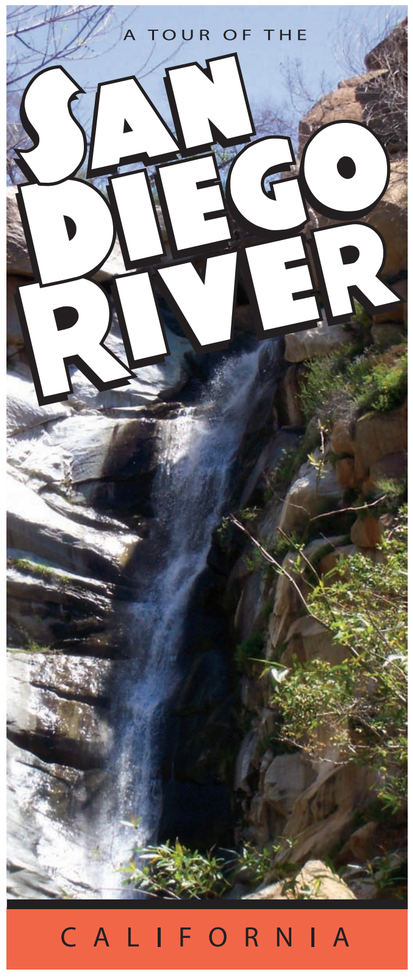
This brochure is a guide to our river. From its majestic and rugged upper reaches, complete with 1000 foot deep gorges and 100 foot waterfalls, to El Monte Valley, an active agricultural area with views of the wonderful granite face of El Cajon Mountain, and through Lakeside, Santee, and the City of San Diego, the San Diego River travels through areas rich in willow and cottonwood forest, freshwater marshes and on to a magnificent coastal estuary. Our River is home to numerous species of wildlife and people who have lived and depended upon it for over 8,000 years.

Today, the River is being rediscovered and you are invited to follow its course and learn more about our namesake waterway.

So get out there and discover the San Diego River!

think BLUE San Diego

THE SAN DIEGO RIVER PARK FOUNDATION



SAN DIEGO AUDUBON SOCIETY • AQUATIC ADVENTURES • BACK COUNTRY COALITION • BACK COUNTRY LAND TRUST • CALIFORNIA HISTORY AND CULTURE CONSERVANCY • CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER • CUYAMACA RANCHO FOUNDATION • DOG BEACH COMMITTEE/ OCEAN BEACH TOWN COUNCIL • ENDANGERED HABITATS LEAGUE • FOUNDERS' TRAIL ASSOCIATES • MISSION BAY PARK COMMITTEE • FRIENDS OF DOG BEACH • SURFRIDER • FRIENDS OF DOVE CANYON • FRIENDS OF FAMOSA SLOUGH • FRIENDS OF MISSION VALLEY PRESERVE • FRIENDS OF RUFFIN CANYON • FRIENDS OF THE SAN DIEGO RIVER MOUTH • I LOVE A CLEAN SAN DIEGO • SAN DIEGO • JULIAN COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP • LAKESIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY • MAINE AVENUE REVITALIZATION ASSOCIATION • MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CAC • MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK FOUNDATION • MISSION VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL • MISSION VALLEY PLANNING GROUP • SAN DIEGO TRACKING TEAM • THE NATURE CONSERVANCY • NAVAJO COMMUNITY PLANNERS • OCEAN BEACH PLANNING BOARD • PRESERVE WILD SANTEE • CITY BEAUTIFUL • RAMON A TRAILS COUNCIL • SAN DIEGO ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER • SAN DIEGO COASTKEEPER • SAN DIEGO COUNTY BICYCLE COALITION • SAN DIEGO COUNTY TRAILS COUNCIL • TRUST FOR PUBLIC LANDS • SAN DIEGO PRESIDIO PARK COUNCIL • SAN DIEGO MOUNTAIN BIKE ASSOCIATION • SAN DIEGO RIVER PARK FOUNDATION • LAKESIDE'S RIVER PARK CONSERVANCY • SAN DIEGO STREAM TEAM • SIERRA MESA COMMUNITY COUNCIL • SIERRA MESA PLANNING GROUP • SIERRA CLUB, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER • TECOLOTE CANYON CAC • TIERRASANTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL • URBAN CORPS OF SAN DIEGO • CITIZENS COORDINATE FOR CENTURY 3 (C-3)

1 Santa Ysabel Open Space Preserve

Located between Julian and Santa Ysabel, this preserve is ideal for hiking and mountain biking and its internal trail system totals approximately 20 miles.

Farmers Rd,1.2 miles north of intersection with Wynola Road
Julian, CA 92036

2 Inaja Memorial

High above the headwaters of the San Diego River, the viewpoint at Inaja looks south and west down the wild and beautiful San Diego River Gorge. Deep in this canyon the San Diego River begins it's journey to the ocean.

1 mile East of Santa Ysabel on Hwy 78/79
Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

3 Eagle Peak Preserve

The San Diego River Park Foundation's Eagle Peak Preserve is one of those special places that can be transformational for many. It is a place of rare beauty that is matched by its natural, recreational and cultural resources.

1/2 mile from the end of Eagle Peak Road
Julian, CA 92036

4 Cedar Creek Falls Trailheads

At the end of Eagle Peak Road are amazing views of the River gorge and Mildred Falls. Hike, permit required, two miles down to beautiful Cedar Creek Falls. The falls are also accesible via the Thornbush trailhead across the river.

End of Eagle Peak Road
Julian, CA 92036

15531 Thornbush Road
Ramona, CA 92065

5 El Monte County Park

Just below El Capitan Reservoir, the River enters a beautiful agricultural and equestrian valley which is home to El Monte County Park. The park is a terrific place for a family picnic and affords wonderful views.

15805 El Monte Road
Lakeside, CA 92040

6 Lakeside's River Park

Maintained by Lakeside's River Park Conservancy, this park has a lovely 3/4 mile trail that runs from Riverside Drive to Channel Road on the northern bank of the San Diego River.

Along the San Diego River at the intersection of Rio Camino and Riverside Drive
Lakeside, CA 92040

7 Mast Park

Mast Park provides opportunities to stroll along the River, play basketball, and have a family get-together. Mast Park is also a summertime home for the Least Bell's Vireo, an endangered songbird which is making a comeback along the River.

9125 Carlton Hills Boulevard
Santee, CA 92071

8 Santee Lakes

This is a 190-acre park adjacent to Sycamore Creek. The park offers fishing, boating, birding, overnight camping and more. This is a popular destination, as well as a recreational treasure.

9040 Carlton Oaks Drive
Santee, CA 92071

Help Keep

OUR RIVER *clean and healthy*

Help protect the San Diego River by taking the following steps to prevent pollution:

- Always properly dispose of trash and take larger items to a landfill or recycling center
- Keep gutters in front of your house free of leaves and grass clippings
- Sweep up trash and debris instead of hosing down driveways and sidewalks
- Pick up after your pet and properly dispose of waste in the trash
- Properly dispose or recycle household chemicals
- Add ground cover to landscaped areas to help prevent erosion
- Never dispose of wastewater or other liquids including paint and motor oil down the storm drain

think BLUE San Diego

For more information visit www.thinkblue.org

9 Mission Trails Regional Park

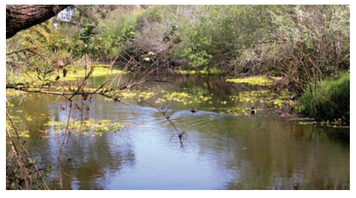
At more than 6,000 acres, Mission Trails Regional Park is one of the largest urban parks in the United States. It is a wilderness within a city, full of wondrous vistas and close-up glimpses of native plants and animals. The park surrounds the San Diego River as it passes through Mission Gorge. MTRP is a naturalist's and hiker's paradise, and any visit should include a walk, ride, or slow drive from the Visitor's Center along Junipero Serra Trail to Old Mission Dam, a distance of about 2.5 miles.

1 Father Junipero Serra Trail
San Diego, CA 92119

10 Mission Valley Preserve

The River turns westward below the mouth of Mission Gorge and flows through Mission Valley before reaching the 51-acre Mission Valley Preserve at the west end of the valley. The Preserve includes riparian and estuarine wildlife habitat for species such as the endangered Least Bell's Vireo and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. Work is ongoing to restore native plants and provide habitat for animals and, ultimately, to provide educational and recreational opportunities for all San Diegans. The Preserve has a native plant garden and interpretive area for visitors to enjoy.

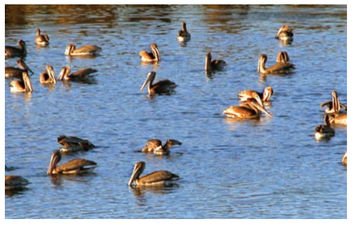
Friars Road and Napa Street
San Diego, CA 92110



11 Estuary and Southern Wildlife Preserve

When the River passes beneath Interstate 5, it enters the City of San Diego's Mission Bay Park. At this point, its meandering route to the Pacific Ocean takes it through the Southern Wildlife Preserve. The Preserve is part of the River's estuary - you may view many migrant bird species as they make their journeys along the Pacific Flyway, as well as permanent residents of the marshes. There are bicycle and walking trails on both the north and south sides of the river, providing superb bird viewing and photography opportunities.

Sea World Drive and South Shores Park
San Diego, CA 92109



12 Famosa Slough

The Famosa Slough is a 37-acre wetland between Ocean Beach and the San Diego Sports Arena area. The slough is an excellent place for bird watching or just going on a relaxing walk through nature.

W. Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92107

13 Dog Beach

Dog Beach can be found where the river meets the Pacific Ocean. This is a popular recreation area as well as an excellent and accessible location for experiencing an emerging sand dune habitat.

North end of Voltaire Street
Ocean Beach, CA 92107

Want to do more?

Become a MEMBER *of the San Diego River Park Foundation today!*

Keeping the storm drains clean is just one of the many ways you can help our River. The San Diego River Park Foundation is a community benefit non-profit organization working to create a river-long system of parks, open spaces, and community places which enhance our community's quality of life.

You can show your support for the San Diego River Park Foundation by volunteering, participating in clean-ups along our River, or making an annual donation and becoming a member!

For just $35, you can make a difference. Become a member today!

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