Fact Sheet

MOUNT MADONNA COUNTY PARK

Watsonville, CA
April 19 – 21, 2024

THE PROJECT
The first V-O-Cal project of 2024 will be at Mt. Madonna County Park near Watsonville. This is a beautiful park in Santa Clara County dominated by redwood forest. We have received approval to do a partial reroute of the Redwood Trail to bypass a major slide. If time allows, we’ll also do a much-needed rehabilitation of the Sprig Trail. The work should be fun and rewarding.

CENTER CAMP
We have the entire Valley View 2 campground set aside for us. The kitchen will be set up in campsite #220, and campsite #221 will be used as the common area. Please note that available camping space is limited and we’ll need to fit 3 or 4 tents into every available campsite. If you’re camping overnight and have the option to bring a smaller tent, please do. Please note that smoking is prohibited in the park.

VOLUNTEERS
Volunteers who are working on the trail will be divided into crews and assigned a certified crew leader who will provide training on tool use and safety and will supervise the work throughout the day. V-O-Cal provides all necessary tools. Volunteers are encouraged to bring their own work gloves, though V-O-Cal does have gloves available. Please bring/wear comfortable work clothing and sturdy closed-toe shoes or boots.

WEATHER
Please come prepared for a variety of weather conditions (think layers!). Unless there is a serious storm predicted, we will work drizzle or shine.

Notes
There is limited cell phone reception in the park. If you need to contact V-O-Cal staff, please do so before Friday, April 19. Most people signed V-O-Cal’s liability waiver when they registered, but it will be available at registration for anybody who was signed up by another person, or who did not pre-register.
All participants must also complete and sign a separate Santa Clara County Parks Waiver and Release form. Copies of these forms are available on the SignUpGenius page where you registered for the project. Please print the appropriate form and bring a completed and signed copy with you to the event. Copies of these forms will also be available at registration on the project weekend.
**Event Schedule**

**Friday**
- 5:00 pm – Check in and camping open.
  DINER IS NOT PROVIDED.

**Saturday**
- 7:30 am – Check in, light breakfast and lunch-packing begin.
- 8:30 am – Morning greeting, announcements, stretching and safety talk.
- 9:00 am – Project begins.
- 12:30 pm – Break for lunch on trail.
- 3:30 pm – Head back to camp. Clean and store tools.
- 4:00 pm – Drinks, appetizers and socializing.
  - Showers are available.
- 6:00 pm – Dinner.

**Sunday**
- 7:30 am – Check in and lunch-packing begin.
  - Hot breakfast is served.
- 8:30 am – Morning greeting, announcements, stretching and safety talk.
- 9:00 am – Project begins.
- 11:30 am – Break for lunch on trail.
- 1:30 pm – Head back to camp, clean tools, pack gear and truck.

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**Meals**

V-O-Cal provides all meals for volunteers from breakfast Saturday through lunch Sunday. Vegetarian options are available for all meals.

- To minimize waste we ask that you bring your own reusable plates, coffee mug, cups and utensils. Hot water and soap are provided.
- A continental breakfast is served Saturday morning.
- Please arrive at camp by 7:45 am at the latest to check in, eat breakfast and prepare your lunch. We provide lunch and lunch bags.
- Appetizers and beverages will be available at 4:00 pm after the work day on Saturday. Dinner will follow at 6:00 pm.
- Hot breakfast is served Sunday morning.

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**Hazards**

**POISON OAK**
There is a risk of exposure to poison oak at the work site. Have your crew leader point some out to you if you don’t know what it looks like. Clean with Tecnu (which we provide) after the work day and be cautious when handling your dirty clothes.

**TICKS and MOSQUITOS**
Mosquitoes could be active this time of year so bug spray and long-sleeved, lightweight shirts are recommended. Ticks are always a hazard; light colored clothing makes them easier to spot when you check during and after the project.

**SNAKES**
Snakes are present on the property. Use caution, especially when picking items up off the ground or moving rocks.

**SHARP TOOLS**
Please listen to your crew leader’s tool safety talk and observe proper tool use throughout the day.

**SUN EXPOSURE | HYDRATION | HYPOTHERMIA**
Most of the work areas are fully shaded. However, please plan for sun protection, including sun hats, sun block and light long sleeve shirts. Please bring water bottles or a water bladder large enough to hold at least 2 liters of water. Drink plenty of water throughout the work day. If you feel tired or weak, let your crew leader know, and take a break.

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**What To Bring**

- Sturdy shoes or boots with good tread. Ankle support is important on much of the trail. Sandals and open-toed shoes will not be permitted.
- Water bottles or a water bladder that can hold at least 2 liters of water. (You will not be allowed on the trail without water.)
- Work gloves. (If you don't have your own gloves, V-O-Cal will provide them. Please return them at the end of the project.)
- Day pack to carry your water and lunch.
- Sunglasses, hat, and sunscreen.
- Insect repellent and allergy medicine (if you normally need these things when working outdoors).
- Reusable plate/bowl, eating utensils, and mug/cup.
- A change of clothes for each work day, especially if you are sensitive to poison oak.
- Layers of clothing for a range of temperatures.
- If you will be camping . . .
  - A tent *(if you have the option to bring a smaller tent, please do!)*
  - A sleeping bag and pillow
  - A flashlight or headlamp
  - A camp chair (if you don't want to sit on the ground)
  - Other camping gear that makes you comfortable
Driving Directions

Mt. Madonna County Park – 7850 Pole Line Rd, Watsonville, CA 95076

From the East (North of Gilroy):
- From US-101, take the Tenant Ave exit (exit 365)
- Turn right on Tenant Ave
- Turn left on Butterfield Blvd & continue onto Watsonville Road
- Turn right on CA-152 (Hecker Pass Hwy)
- Turn right on Pole Line Road

From the West
- From CA-1, take the exit for CA-152 East
- Turn left on Pole Line Road

Once in the park
- Go past the entrance kiosk & turn right on Valley View Road
- Follow the signs to “Overflow/Extra Vehicle Parking” and “Valley View 2 Campsites”

PARKING

If you’re staying overnight, park in the campground. There is room for 2 vehicles per campsite. We also have permission to park along the side of the road in the campground.

If you’re coming just for the day, park in the Azalea day-use picnic area. There is room to park on either side of the road just past the sign that reads “Overflow/Extra Vehicle Parking”.

Volunteer Parking Pass
Mt. Madonna County Park
April 19, 2024
April 20, 2024
April 21, 2024
Children 14 and over are welcome on V-O-Cal projects. Volunteers under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

To register, visit our website at [www.v-o-cal.org](http://www.v-o-cal.org) or [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/mtmadonna](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/mtmadonna)

For photos of our recent projects, please visit
- [https://www.facebook.com/volunteersforoutdoorcalifornia](https://www.facebook.com/volunteersforoutdoorcalifornia)
- [https://instagram.com/volunteersforoutdoorcalifornia](https://instagram.com/volunteersforoutdoorcalifornia)

### Volunteer Project Team

- **V-O-Cal Executive Director**: Cathy Moyer
- **Project Team Lead**: Joseph Cavaness
- **Technical Advisor**: Duane Sheets
- **Crew Leader Manager**: Chris Moen
- **Chefs**: Matt Lyman | Craig Fish
- **Camp | Kitchen Operations**: Pete Duringer
- **Tool Manager**: Jared Rodgers
- **Outreach**: Lily Brady | Joseph Cavaness | Melinda Green
- **Shopping**: Cathy Moyer | Chris Fishel
- **Truck | Warehouse Load Lead**: Duane Sheets
- **Registration**: Melanie Lee | Augusta Murphy
- **Stretching**: Lauren Blanchard

### Agency Partner

**County of Santa Clara, Parks and Recreation Department**

### Project Sponsor

Special thanks to Bay Area Barns and Trails (BABT) for their generous grants supporting V-O-Cal these past few years. BABT assists landowners and land managers with preservation and maintenance of publicly accessible Bay Area barns, stables, pastures, staging areas, horse camps, and trails.

### In-Kind Project Sponsors

Connoisseur Coffee | Tecnu | REI | Sidley Austin | Metro Mobile Communications | Adventure Medical Kits | Clif Bar