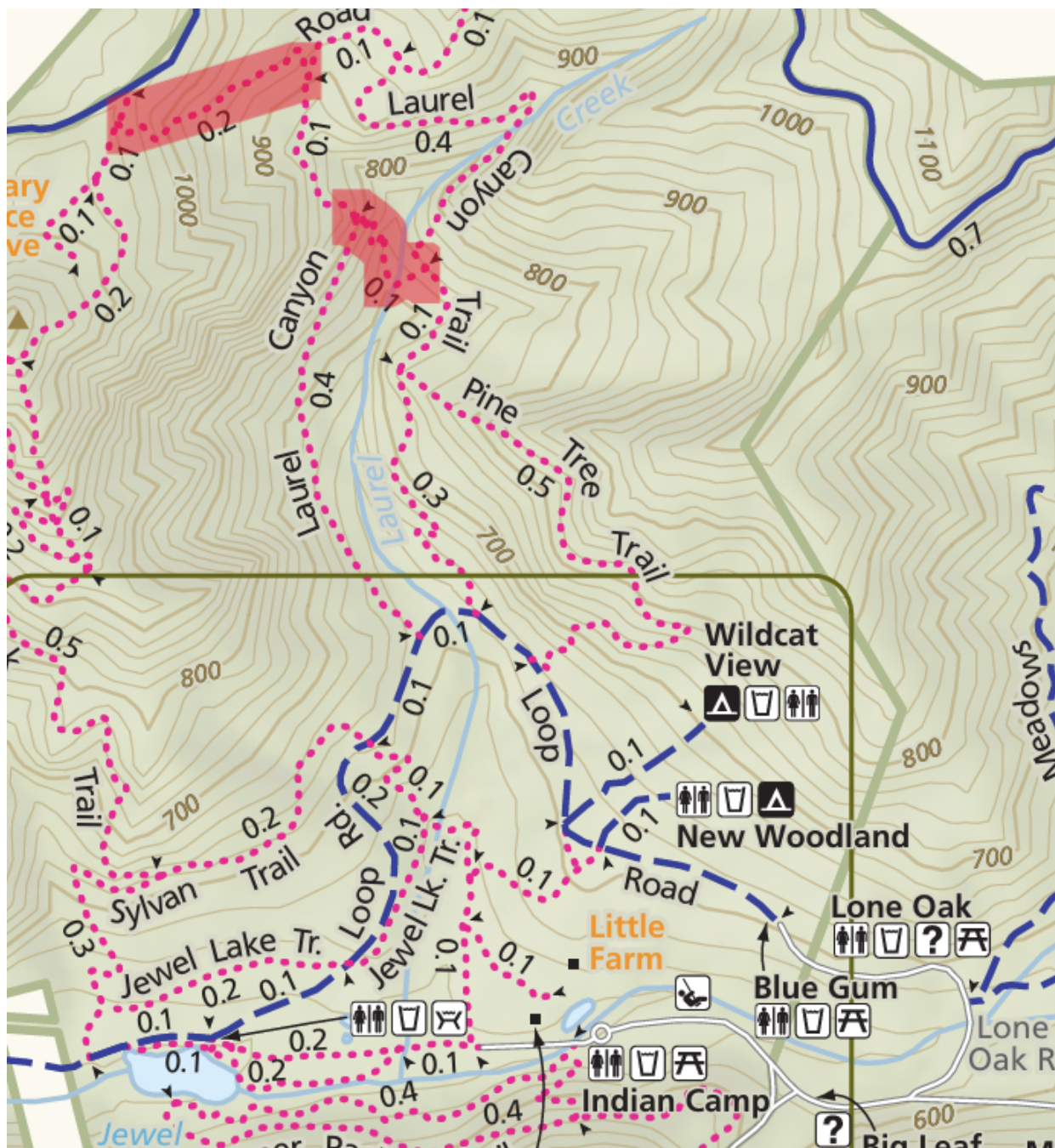


Fact Sheet
Laurel Canyon Trail, Tilden Nature Area
July 24-26, 2026



Date: July 24-26th, 2026

Trail: Laurel Canyon Trail in **Berkeley's Tilden Nature Area** (note: NOT Tilden Regional Park in Orinda)



The Project:

Come join us in **Berkeley's Tilden Nature Area**, where we will improve 2 sections of the Laurel Canyon Trail by adding box steps, learning to construct junk walls, and deploying our signature classic tread and drainage work on trails and switchbacks. The trail winds up and through dapple shaded laurel oak canyonland just a mile or two from downtown Berkeley. There's lots of technical work to be done. If you enjoyed (or missed the opportunity for) building steps at the Sam McDonald, this is your opportunity! Also of note, this is a poison oak intensive

weekend. Close quarters and heavy labor will limit the number of volunteers who can safely participate in some sections. Don't worry, you will have the chance to vary your labors so everything hurts the same amount by the end of the weekend :o).

Hazards:

SUN EXPOSURE | HYDRATION | HYPOTHERMIA Please plan for sun protection, including sun hats, sun block and light long sleeve shirts. We will be in light tree cover. Bring layers to keep warm as it can get cold at night. 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.

POISON OAK There is widespread poison oak. Have your crew leader point some out to you if you don't know what it looks like. If you have any degree of sensitivity, strongly consider bringing two separate outfits (long sleeved) for Saturday and Sunday and a plastic bag for transporting used clothing to the laundry. A few "Bunny suits" will be available for those who need extra protection, and everyone can clean with Tecnu (which V-O-Cal provides) after the work day. Always wear gloves when handling tools.

TICKS and MOSQUITOS and YELLOW JACKETS Ticks are booming this year, so it is important to check during and after the project. Bring bug repellent for mosquitoes or wear thick clothing. Stay calm around yellow jackets. Most will leave us alone. Crew leaders have first aid kits to help in case of bites/stings.

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

Logistics:

DOGS: Unfortunately, **no dogs in camp or on trails** due to the Nature Area's species protections (and due to local hazards, you wouldn't want dogs anyway).

WAIVERS: 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.

WIFI and CELL SERVICE: AT&T yes; no Xfinity and no Verizon. Free and available at the Tilden Environmental Education Center about 1/4 mile away.

Arrival:

First off, make sure you go to the Tilden Nature Area in Berkeley, not the Tilden Regional Park in Orinda.

Use the map address, TildenNature Area, 1500 Central Park Drive, Berkeley, CA 94708

Driving directions:

From San Francisco: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/h5TLK1S3UCuuGqJr6>

From Sacramento: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/UKgYENdWPWRuxAsPA>

From San Jose: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/tjicL3exMbFRV2wj8>

The Loop Road provides a fairly direct route to the group camps and the project work on Laurel Canyon Trail beyond. It can be accessed via Lone Oak Road from Central Park Drive in Berkeley's Tilden Nature Area.

This marker along [Loop Road](#) shows where there is a fence and gate across Loop Road. The gate will be dummy locked on Friday as of around 1:30, allowing you to proceed up the driveway to **New Woodland Group Camp**, where parking and central camp will be. Please replace the dummy lock after entry, and arrive to New Woodland Group Camp by 9pm at the latest. Be respectful of other campers and keep voices down and flashlights low if you arrive after 8pm.

Parking:

There is enough room for 40 to 100 cars depending on how closely the cars are parked. Please condense and please carpool if possible. Additional parking available at the end of [Loop Road](#) : Park anywhere on Loop Road except between the 2 no-parking signs denoting space for a fire truck to turn around. Use typical Bay Area car-theft precautions.

We have use of 2 adjacent group campgrounds for this project.

Center camp will be at the picnic table area of **New Woodland Group Camp**.



Camping:

Most tents will end up in the adjacent **Wildcat View Group Camp**, accessed by a level 100 foot walking path from parking and Center Camp at the New Woodland camp.



Running water exists at New Woodland Camp, and a handwashing station will be placed next to latrines in the Wildcat View Camp.

Weather (use info from past factsheets)

Volunteers (use info from past factsheets)

Schedule:

Friday

5:00pm - Registration and camping open. DINNER IS NOT PROVIDED.

Saturday

7:30am - Registration, light breakfast, and lunch packing begin at Center Camp.

8:30 am – Morning greeting, announcements, stretching and safety talk.

9:00 am – Project begins.

12:30pm - Break for lunch on trail.

3:30 pm – Stop work and return to camp. Clean and store tools.

4:00 pm – Snacks, cold drinks and beer.

6:00 pm – Dinner.

Sunday

7:30am - Registration and lunch packing begin. Hot breakfast is served.

8:30 am – Morning greeting, announcements, stretching and safety talk.

9:00 am – Project begins.

1:30pm - Stop work, clean tools, load tools into boxes and return to camp.

Meals (use info from past factsheets)

What to Bring (use info from past factsheets)

Parking Pass

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Social medias (use info from past factsheets)

Agency Partner:

Small Trails Crew of East Bay Regional Parks

In Kind Sponsors:

The Cheese Board Collective in Berkeley

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

Project Team:

We will collaborate with the Small Trails Crew of East Bay Regional Parks (STC of EBRPD).

While much of this collaboration occurs behind the scenes, volunteers may note some slight differences in work flow and a couple new acronyms.

- Project Lead - Lauren Blanchard
- Technical Lead - Francesca Verdier
- Crew Leader Manager - Tomomi Yuasa
- Kitchen Lead - Pete Duringer
- Camp Manager - Pete Duringer
- Saturday night dinner - Clara Chan
- Registration Lead - Augusta Murphy
- Dog Crew Lead - none needed :o(
- Photographer - Anka Karewicz
- Tools - Marlon Tan unless proven otherwise
- Outreach - Lauren/Lily Brady/Melinda Greene
- Shopping - Duane Sheets
- Truck/Warehouse Load Lead- Duane Sheets
- Stretching - Darren Heiber (Saturday), Duane Sheets (Sunday)
- Agency Consultant - Morris Older