



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES
ACTIVITY GUIDE



Special Events – pg 10-11
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Artist of the Year – pg 25

FUN THINGS TO DO

IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PARKS

Visit scparks.com for more information about parks, programs, and activities.

GO! PLAY! EXPLORE! MOBILE REC

Come join the fun with our Mobile Rec team. The Santa Cruz County Parks recreation team will lead kids of all ages in a fun, unique and engaging outdoor activities designed to increase activity, spontaneity, and interactions with friends and neighbors!

See details on page 21.



TAKE A HIKE

Many hiking opportunities can be found at Santa Cruz County Parks. For a more rustic hiking experience, head out to the Miller Property County Park and enjoy the quiet majesty of the redwoods. Pinto Lake County Park and Anna Jean Cummings Park also boast beautiful hiking trails.



THROW A PARTY

Want to throw a unique party? You'll find just the right venue with County Parks. Many picnic areas can be reserved for your exclusive use, while others are available on a first-come, first-served basis. We have many locations throughout Santa Cruz County for different types of events. Visit us at scparks.com to book your next event.



HAVE A POOL PARTY

Whether you're looking to book a private pool party for a child's birthday or to celebrate with family, we have you covered. Simpkins Family Swim Center is available for your special use! You can reserve a portion, or all of the swim center pools for exclusive use! Questions? Contact us at swimcenter@scparks.com or 831-454-7960.

FREE SWIM DAY

Splash around, do a Cannon Ball or just enjoy the sun's rays with us on Memorial Day (5/25).



FULL MOON HIKE

Come join us for a quiet exploration at Quail Hollow Ranch, under the moonlight. On this guided hike on the lower trails, you will search for critters and meander through the forest. Hike available. *See page 21.*

SPECIAL EVENTS

Light Up the Night Pool Party
Free Swim Days
Breakfast with the Grinch & Holiday Market
Superbowl Activities

See details on page 10-11.

FREE PROFILE PERFORMANCE

Join Artist of the Year Micha Scott on June 5th from 7-9pm at the Museum of Art & History.

Admission is FREE.

See details on page 25.



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JOIN OUR TEAM

We're hiring Lifeguards, Parks Services Officers and Parks, Recreation & Cultural Service workers (Recreation Leaders).

For more information and apply, visit santacruzcountyjobs.com

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, OPEN SPACE & CULTURAL SERVICES

979 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95062 | (831) 454-7901; Fax (831) 454-7940

The Mission of the County of Santa Cruz Department of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services is to provide safe, well-designed and maintained parks, and a wide variety of recreational and cultural opportunities for our diverse community.

County Board of Supervisors

Manu Koenig	District 1
Kimberly De Serpa	District 2
Justin Cummings	District 3
Felipe Hernandez	District 4
Monica Martinez	District 5

Meets selected Tuesdays, 9AM

Arts Commission

Sonia Leclerc, Karen Kroslowitz	District 1
Brenda Rogers, Charlie Singer	District 2
Sean McGowan, Valeria Miranda	District 3
Vacant, Judy Stabile	District 4
Lynda Phillips, Margaret Niven (chair)	District 5

Meets selected Mondays, 4:30PM

Parks & Recreation Commission

Alexis Konevich	District 1
Nick de Sieyes	District 2
Jeremy Sanford	District 3
Elizabeth Hernandez	District 4
Anne Less	District 5

Meets selected Mondays, 5PM

Contact Parks & Recreation and Arts Commissioners
via e-mail at:
ParksCommission@parks.santacruzcountyca.gov

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

Aquatic Registrations (831) 454-7953
swimcenter@scparks.com

Facility Reservations (831) 454-7938
reservations@scparks.com

Recreation Registrations (831) 454-7941
rec@scparks.com

Monday-Friday 6am-7:30pm & Saturday-Sunday 9am-4pm

Simpkins Family Swim Center
Front Desk & General Questions (831) 454-7960

Non-discrimination Policy

Santa Cruz County Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability, medical condition (cancer related and genetic characteristics), marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender, age (over 18), veteran status, pregnancy, or any other non-merit factor. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in relationship to County Parks programs, activities, or facilities, a complaint may be filed with Equal Employment Opportunity Liaison, at (831) 454-7901 or email parksinfo@scparks.com.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires that the County of Santa Cruz ensures that its programs, services and facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Santa Cruz County supports the belief that a community with integrity is one in which people with and without disabilities recreate, learn and experience together. We request that you notify Parks staff two weeks prior to enrollment in order to facilitate the reasonable accommodation request.

TDD/TTY-call 711. For information on the Deaf and Disabled Telecommunication Program, please visit
<http://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/relay.aspx>.



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Santa Cruz County
Parks Department



Follow us on X
[@SCParksDept](https://twitter.com/SCParksDept)



We're on Instagram:
Santa Cruz County Parks

Simpkins Family Swim Center - Your County Pool

Aquatic Registrations (831) 454-7953 • Swim Center (831) 454-7960 • scparks.com

We are open 7 days a week, year round. The center has multiple pools, all of which are open seasonally. The 78-degree **17-lane Lap Pool**, which is the largest in Santa Cruz County, is used for lap swimming, swim lessons, swim teams, junior lifeguards, adult fitness and water aerobics. The **Warm Water Pool** is used for recreational swimming, swim lessons, and therapy, and is kept at 88 degrees. It features a zero-depth entry ramp for easy wheelchair access.

SWIM CENTER RULES

- Children who are non-swimmers must have direct adult supervision, at an arms reach, at all times. Age 12 and under must have direct adult supervision in the locker rooms and on the pool deck.
- Admission is first-come, first-served. All persons entering the pool area are required to pay an admission fee.
- For those not yet toilet trained, we adhere to a 2-layer policy. A swim diaper and plastic pants with elastic leg and waist bands must be worn before entering swimming pool.
- Glass containers are not allowed.
- Please do not bring water toys or floatation devices for your children to the pool.
- Swim program hours may vary from those listed in this pamphlet.
- All fees are subject to change.
- Programs may be cancelled for special events, unusual circumstances or severe weather.
- Please visit scparks.com to view the most current pool schedule, fees, pool closure dates, and other information.



For additional information please visit us at scparks.com, through e-mail at swimcenter@scparks.com or by phone call at (831) 454-7960 or (831) 454-7953.

Adult Fitness

Participate in an organized lap swim workout intended to increase muscular strength, aerobic endurance, stroke technique and build overall fitness level. A variety of workouts will be offered to meet your fitness goals. Qualified coaches offer in-depth analysis and feedback on your stroke and help direct you to a lane with swimmers of similar ability and experience. Workouts are scheduled to be 75-90 minutes long but may be modified based on your experience and fitness goals.

Lap Swim

Lane availability varies throughout the day. Circle-swimming is required. The busiest times are 6-7:30am, 12-1:30pm, and 4-6pm. Please follow posted lap-swim etiquette and lifeguard direction. Ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult in the same lane and be able to swim 25 yards (1 length) without stopping. Kickboards,

pull buoys, swim paddles and exercise equipment are available for lap swimming and warm-water pool exercise.

Water Aerobics

Water aerobics classes provide high intensity workouts and are an excellent way to meet your fitness goals with less impact on your joints. Classes are designed to appeal to all levels of ability including pre-natal, seniors, and rehabilitation or cross-training enthusiasts.

Swim Teams

The swim teams listed below regularly use the county pool, but are not affiliated with County Parks. Please call the numbers listed for information.

Aptos Cabrillo Swim Club - (831) 688-3613

Quicksilver Swimming - (760) 521-0126

Santa Cruz Swimming - (831) 471-7887

**Simpkins Sharks Swim Club - (831) 454-7953
(non-competitive)**

Accessibility Features

Santa Cruz County Parks and the Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities are partnered in their commitment to inclusivity and accessibility for all County residents wanting to enjoy the Simpkins Family Swim Center in safety and comfort. In 2021, the Commission conducted a community survey to discover how best to enhance the Swim Center's accessibility and provide a welcoming, supportive space for community members with disabilities to get the most out of it.

Low Stimulation Hours

Thursdays from 2-4pm Simpkins will offer "low stimulation" hours for swimmers with disabilities that benefit from a quieter environment with less sensory stimulation to enjoy the pools.

Warm Water Pool

Simpkins warm water pool is heated to 88 degrees. Warm water pools are often credited with offering physical and mental benefits for swimmers with developmental, mobility and chronic pain disabilities, among others.

Accessibility Equipment

Several options are provided for people using wheelchairs to access the pools, including a water wheelchair, a stationary lift, and a mobile lift. Staff are on hand to provide verbal instruction on the use of accessibility equipment, though they will not be able to physically assist you.



Zero Depth Entry

People with mobility disabilities and those using the water wheelchair can easily enter the pool with a gently sloping entry point for gradual entry and increased control of the depth at which they are most comfortable.

Free Entry for Caregivers

All entry fees are waived for caregivers accompanying people with disabilities for the purpose of providing them with assistance as they use the facilities.

Use of Flotation Devices Allowed

People with disabilities who require flotation devices to use the pools safely are welcome to bring and use their own flotation devices.

Private ADA-Compliant Shower, Changing Bed, Locker Room and Restroom

The swim center provides a private accessible space for people with disabilities desiring privacy to shower and change before and after swimming.

Registration Tips & Lesson Information

- Review the swim lesson Q&A page in the lesson drop-down list at scparks.com, or call (831) 454-7953.
- If your child has not had the opportunity to practice their swimming skills, staff recommend that they repeat the level completed last summer.
- Children typically spend 2-4 sessions in the same group level before advancing to the next level.
- Each lesson lasts for a 1/2 hour. Children receive 27-28 minutes of swim instruction; instructors will use the last 2 minutes of the lesson to provide feedback to swimmers' parents/guardians.
- Make-up swim lessons are not available if a participant is absent. In the event that a lesson is cancelled, a credit for the cancelled class will be applied to your account.
- Classes fill quickly. Add all classes to the wish list prior to registration date to save time.

Swim Lesson Assessments

Use the descriptions to select the class level that best matches your child's ability level. If after reading the descriptions you are still unsure which class level would best meet your child's needs, you may sign your child up for a swim lesson assessment.

Test time: 5-10 min./child. A parent or guardian must accompany all swimmers under age 18.

Private Swim Lessons

County Parks offers year-round private swim lessons for ages 3 & up, taught by Swim Center staff. Participants will be given undivided attention from one of our experienced swim instructors. Lessons last 28 min. and take place during group lesson times.

Please note that private staff lessons cannot be rescheduled or made-up. Private lessons may be cancelled only in the case of an emergency situation.

Semi-Private Swim Lessons

You may add (1) additional child and it is required that both participants are the same level. Please check the website for pricing. This semi-private additional child must be enrolled in the whole session, and cannot be enrolled in individual classes.



Private Swim Lessons by Contract Instructors

Private lessons are also offered, taught by contracted instructors. All instructors have at least five years of experience teaching swimming and may hold a combination of certificates, such as Water Safety Instructor Certificate or a USA coaching certificate. Their varied teaching experience includes: working with children of all ages and abilities; all levels of swimmers including fearful adults; special needs; stroke refinement; and technical stroke instruction for triathletes.

Group Lessons

Group swim lessons are designed for children ages 2.5-12. Our group swim lessons are designed for all ages and skill levels, from first-time swimmers to those refining their strokes. Participants build confidence and improve swimming skills. We offer different levels for swimmers with all skill sets.

Winter Swim Lessons

Viewable Online: 10/27 at 9am

Registration Opens: 11/3 at 9am

Cost: Varies - Please visit our website for prices.

M|W|F Lessons

Session 1	12/8-12/19	4-7:30pm
Session 2	1/12-1/23	4-7:30pm
Session 3	2/9-2/20	4-7:30pm

T|Th Lessons

Session 1	12/9-12/18	4-7:30pm
Session 2	1/13-1/22	4-7:30pm
Session 3	2/10-2/19	4-7:30pm

Saturday Lessons

Session 1	1/10-1/31	9am-12:30pm
Session 2	2/7-2/28	9am-12:30pm

Sunday Lessons

Session 1	1/4-1/25	9am-12:30pm
Session 2	2/1-2/22	9am-12:30pm

Spring Swim Lessons

Viewable Online: 2/2 at 9am

Registration Opens: 2/9 at 9am

Cost: Varies - Please visit our website for prices.

M|W|F Lessons

Session 1	3/9-3/20	4-7:30pm
Session 2	4/6-4/17	4-7:30pm

T|Th Lessons

Session 1	3/10-3/19	4-7:30pm
Session 2	4/7-4/16	4-7:30pm

Saturday Lessons

Session 1	3/7-3/28	9am-12:30pm
Session 2	4/4-4/25	9am-12:30pm

Sunday Lessons

Session 1	3/8-3/29	9am-12:30pm
Session 2	4/12-4/26	9am-12:30pm

Water Warriors

Water Warriors is designed to help children ages 5-10 get comfortable in the water, engage in games both in and out of the water, and enjoy exciting free play. This camp provides a safe, fun environment for kids to learn essential swimming skills during Winter break—especially important for parents who are working during this time.

Prerequisite: *To ensure participants have the endurance and skills to safely partake in the program, all participants must be at the Guppy Level of our Swim Lessons. These skills include capability of fully submerging face, blowing bubbles for five to ten seconds two times in a row, and floating and kicking on front and back in shallow water with support.*

Winter Warriors

Viewable Online: 10/27 at 9am

Registration Opens: 11/3 at 9am

M-W & F	12/29-1/2	9am-2pm	\$128/\$140
M-F	1/5-1/9	9am-2pm	\$160/\$176

No program 1/1

Spring Warriors

Viewable Online: 2/2 at 9am

Registration Opens: 2/9 at 9am

M-F	4/6-4/10	9am-2pm	\$160/\$176
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Noodle Ball

Noodle Ball will introduce children, ages 6-12, to the game of water polo with noodles. This program provides a safe and learner-friendly environment where we teach the basics and, most importantly, have fun playing the game! Noodle Ball does require a certain amount of water competency. Players will need to pass a swim test on the first day of class to be in this program

Prerequisite: *swim 25 yards freestyle without stopping; submerge and swim underwater for 10 feet and tread water for one minute.*

Su	1/25-2/15	10-11am	\$70/\$77
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Camp Splashgiving

Camp Splashgiving is designed to have children ages 5-10 try out different spots/activities played in the water, engage in fun fall themed games and activities, and have a blast during free play! This camp provides a safe, fun environment for kids during Thanksgiving break – especially important for parents who are working during this time.

Prerequisite: *To ensure participants have the endurance and skills to safely partake in the program, all participants must be at the Guppy Level of our Swim Lessons. These skills include capability of fully submerging face, blowing bubbles for five to ten seconds two times in a row, and floating and kicking on front and back in shallow water with support.*

M/Tu/W 11/24-11/26 9am-2pm \$100/\$110

Simpkins Sharks Swim Club

Simpkins Sharks Swim Club is a recreational, non-competitive swim team that practices year-round. Our swim team aims to offer both fun and fitness to youth ages 5 to 15 years of age. The focus of our club is to create a sense of love for swimming through teamwork and sportsmanship, as well as build their endurance and skills. Practices will be held on Tuesday and Thursday between 4:30-7:30pm. A successful tryout is required to register. Swimmers will be placed in a group dependent on their skill level. Attendance is not mandatory, but consistent attendance is encouraged!

Cost: TBD / \$0 Tryout Fee

Year-Round 4:30-7:30pm - Reg dates: TBD

Tryouts

M	1/5	4:30-7:30pm
M	1/12	4:30-7:30pm
M	1/26	4:30-7:30pm



Junior Guard Clinic

This clinic is designed to help prepare children specifically for the Santa Cruz County Parks Junior Guard swim test, and to improve their swimming skills for summer. Each clinic will consist of one hour of swimming each week, on Sunday, for three weeks; and will include working on skills such as freestyle, treading water, stroke development, comfortability in the water, and basic swim workout etiquette.

PREREQUISITE: *Child must already know how to swim; this is not a swim lesson.*

Cost: \$53/\$59

Winter Session

Viewable Online: Oct 27th at 9am

Registration Opens: Nov 3rd at 9am

Su 2/22-3/8 10-11am or 11-12pm or 12-1pm

Spring Session

Viewable Online: Feb 2nd at 9am

Registration Opens: Feb 9th at 9am

Su 3/15-3/29 10-11am or 11-12pm or 12-1pm

Su 4/12-4/26 10-11am or 11-12pm or 12-1pm



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Santa Cruz County Parks Department



Follow us on X
@SCParksDept



We're on Instagram:
Santa Cruz County Parks

Lifeguard Training Courses

Ages 15+ can learn the skills needed to prevent and respond to emergencies and earn the certification to be employed as a lifeguard in a pool environment. For more information about American Red Cross (ARC) courses, please email swimcenter@scparks.com, visit us online at scparks.com or call (831) 454-7960.

Location: Simpkins Family Swim Center

Cost: \$265

Winter Session

Viewable Online: Oct 27th at 9am

Registration Opens: Nov 3rd at 9am

Session 1: 1/9-1/11

1/9 3-9pm

1/10 9am-6pm

1/11 9am-6pm

Session 2: 2/20-2/22

2/20 3-9pm

2/21 9am-6pm

2/22 9am-6pm

Spring Session

Viewable Online: Feb 2nd at 9am

Registration Opens: Feb 9th at 9am

Session 1: 3/13-3/15

3/3 3-9pm

3/14 9am-6pm

3/15 9am-6pm

Session 2: 3/20-3/22

3/20 3-9pm

3/21 9am-6pm

3/22 9am-6pm

Session 3: 4/10-4/12

4/10 3-9pm

4/11 9am-6pm

4/12 9am-6pm

Session 4: 4/17-4/19

4/17 3-9pm

4/18 9am-6pm

4/19 9am-6pm

Session 5: 5/1-5/3

5/1 3-9pm

5/2 9am-6pm

5/3 9am-6pm



Red Cross
LIFEGUARD
CERTIFICATION



Light Up The Night Pool Party

Join us for a spectacular evening of family fun at the light up the night family pool party. Enjoy illuminated floats, glowing decorations, and a dazzling atmosphere. An exciting and vibrant event designated to bring families together for a memorable evening of fun!

Viewable Online: Feb 2nd at 9am

Registration Opens: Feb 9th at 9am

Sa 3/21 6-9pm \$TBD

Volunteer Program

We accept volunteers for all programming offered at Simpkins Swim Center. If you're interested in applying as a volunteer, please complete the volunteer application form and indicate which program you'd like to participate in. Applicants must be at least 14 years old to apply.

Please visit our Volunteer With County Parks page at scparks.com to submit your Volunteer Interest Form today!

Kreative Kids

Kreative Kids offers children a year-round enrichment program where participants enjoy art, music, creative play and a balance of individual and group activities. Nature crafts, outdoor fun and monthly field trips round out this popular program. Parents assist the staff and provide snacks for the class once each month for each child.

Instructor: *Sandy O'Connell brings several years of preschool teaching expertise to the program. Call (831) 336-1504 for more information.*

Note: A \$10 materials fee is due to the instructor at the first class of each session.

Location: *Wilder Hall* / **Ages:** 3-6

M-Th	12/1-12/18	9:30-1:30pm	\$360/\$396	*No program 12/22-1/4
M-Th	1/5-1/29	9:30-1:30pm	\$360/\$396	*No program 1/19
M-Th	2/2-2/26	9:30-1:30pm	\$360/\$396	*No program 2/16
M-Th	3/2-3/26	9:30-1:30pm	\$360/\$396	
M-Th	3/30-4/23	9:30-1:30pm	\$360/\$396	*No program 4/6-4/10
M-Th	4/27-5/21	9:30-1:30pm	\$360/\$396	
M-Th	5/26-6/18	9:30-1:30pm	\$360/\$396	



Kreative Sports

Our year-round enrichment program gives children a fun and engaging way to explore art, music, sports, and group play activities. We kindly ask that you send a snack and water with your child once a month.

Location: *Wilder Hall* / **Ages:** 3-5

F	11/7-11/21	9:30am-1:30pm	\$67/\$80
F	12/5-12/19	9:30am-1:30pm	\$67/\$80
F	1/2-1/30	9:30am-1:30pm	\$112/\$134
F	2/6-2/27	9:30am-1:30pm	\$90/\$108
F	3/6-3/27	9:30am-1:30pm	\$90/\$108
F	4/3-4/24	9:30am-1:30pm	\$90/\$108
F	5/1-5/29	9:30am-1:30pm	\$112/\$134

Little Ninjas Camp

Get ready for a week full of jumping, climbing, and ninja adventures with Super Tots Little Ninjas Camp! This high-energy program is designed for preschool-aged children to explore the fundamentals of movement in a fun and supportive environment. Campers will practice balance, coordination, and strength through obstacle courses, games, and skill-based activities, building confidence while staying active. Each day offers new challenges that encourage focus, teamwork, and a love for movement. Join us for an action-packed week where every Little Ninja can run, roll, and rise to the challenge!

Location: *Highlands County Park* / **Ages:** 3-5

M-F	4/6-4/10	9am-12pm	\$150/\$165
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SPECIAL EVENTS



Winter Wonderland
SATURDAY DEC 13TH

Breakfast WITH THE GRINCH
\$15 Adult \$7 Ages 7 or Under
Session 1 9-9:45am
Session 2 10:15-11am

Free entry to more festivities
* Holiday Market
* Live Performances
9:00am-2pm

Simpkins Family Swim Center
979 17th Ave,
Santa Cruz 95062

QR Code

Light Up the Night Pool Party

Join us for a spectacular evening of family fun at the light up the night family pool party. Enjoy illuminated floats, glowing decorations, and a dazzling atmosphere.

An exciting and vibrant event designated to bring families together for a memorable evening of fun!

Viewable Online: 2/2 at 9am

Registration Opens: 2/9 at 9am

Sa 3/21 6-9pm \$TBD

Free Swim Days

Splash around, do a Cannon Ball or just enjoy the sun-rays with us on any of these holiday dates.

Location: Simpkins Family Swim Center

Ages: All Welcome!

Memorial Day - 5/25

12-4pm



GET READY FOR

All Ages
WELCOME
4-6pm
FREE



Join us for an unforgettable few days of **excitement, sports, and celebration** before the big game!



Punt | Pass | Kick | 40 yd. Dash
Broad Jump | Shuttle Run | & More...

Tuesday	2/3	Mesa Village County Park
Wednesday	2/4	Brommer County Park
Thursday	2/5	Highlands County Park

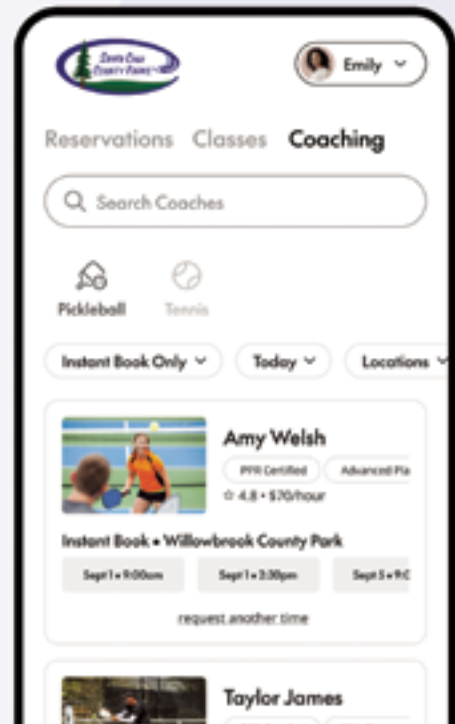
Looking to improve your pickleball or tennis game?

Sign up with Rec to discover instructors and classes, or book your next court at Brommer, Willowbrook, Twin Lakes, and Aldridge Lane County Parks!

Beginner Pickleball Skills • Advanced Beginner Skills • Intermediate Drill & Play • Intermediate Stroke of the Week • Beginner Tennis



powered by **rec**



Shared Adventures, get people outdoors and moving beyond limitation. This awesome non-profit organization is dedicated to improving quality of life for those with disabilities, they believe that recreation, fun, challenge, and access to the outdoors are essential to health and fulfillment.



For a complete list of some of their weekly, monthly and seasonal please visit sharedadventures.org or scan the QR code.





Super Tots Sports

Children can have fun and learn the fundamentals of sports in a structured environment. Super Tots Sports includes 45-minute sessions consisting of organized practices and games. Participants will build confidence, develop teamwork and learn social skills in a positive, fun environment. Super Tots Sports will include a variety of sports, skills/drills and activities.

Ages: 3-5

Brommer County Park

T-Ball	W	5/6-5/27	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
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Highlands County Park

Dodgeball	Th	11/6-11/20	4-4:45pm	\$42/\$48
Gymnastics	M	12/1-1/26	4-4:45pm	\$96/\$106

***No Session 12/22**

Tumbling	Th	12/4-12/18	4-4:45pm	\$42/\$48
Yoga	Th	1/8-1/29	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
Gymnastics	M	2/2-3/30	4-4:45pm	\$96/\$106

***No session 2/16**

Skills & Drills	Th	2/5-2/26	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
Basketball	Th	3/5-3/26	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
Skills & Drills	Th	4/2-4/30	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62

***No Session 4/9**

Gymnastics	M	4/6-6/1	4-4:45pm	\$96/\$106
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***No session 5/25**

T-Ball	Th	5/7-5/28	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
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Simpkins Family Swim Center - Live Oak Community Rooms

Dodgeball	W	1/7-1/28	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
Basketball	W	2/4-2/25	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
Skills & Drills	W	3/4-3/25	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62
Tumbling	W	4/1-4/29	4-4:45pm	\$56/\$62

***No session 4/8**

Youth Fitness

Beginner Sports clinics are designed to introduce the participant to a sport recreationally and non-competitively. The athlete will be encouraged to practice skills and learn rules for specific sports in a fun, positive environment.

Locations: Multiple Locations

Ages: 5-6

Highlands County Park

Gymnastics	M	12/1-1/26	5-6pm	\$125/\$137
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***No Session 12/22**

Gymnastics	M	2/2-3/23	5-6pm	\$125/\$137
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***No session 2/16**

Gymnastics	M	3/10-4/28	5-6pm	\$125/\$137
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Gymnastics	M	3/30-5/18	5-6pm	\$125/\$137
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***No session 5/25**

Brommer County Park

Baseball	W	5/6-5/27	5-6pm	\$62/\$68
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Winter Gymnastics Adventure Camp

Tumble, balance, and stretch into a week of winter gymnastics fun! Gymnastics Adventures Camp is designed for young athletes to explore the fundamentals of gymnastics in a safe and supportive environment. Campers will learn skills on the mat, beam, and bar while building strength, coordination, and confidence. Through engaging drills, creative games, and teamwork challenges, participants will improve their flexibility, balance, and technique. The cozy winter season is the perfect backdrop for trying new skills, making new friends, and staying active indoors. No matter their experience level, every camper will leave with fresh abilities, lasting friendships, and a love for movement. Join us this winter for an unforgettable experience of flips, fun, and fantastic memories!

Location: Highlands County Park

Ages: 5-12

M-F	12/29-1/2	9am-3pm	\$180/\$198
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***No Session 1/1/26**

Tumbling Clinic (Ski Week Break)

Looking for fun and active plans this February break? Join us for our Ski Week Tumbling Clinic! This exciting program is perfect for kids who want to stay moving, stretch their energy, and learn new skills. Campers will practice rolls, handstands, cartwheels, and tumbling progressions in a safe and supportive environment. Through skill-building drills, creative games, and teamwork activities, participants will gain strength, coordination, and confidence while making new friends. Whether your child is new to tumbling or already flipping with enthusiasm, our instructors will guide them at their level to ensure challenge, growth, and fun.

Location: Highlands County Park

Ages: 5-12

T-F 2/17-2/20 9am-3pm \$180/\$198



Spring Gymnastics Camp

Leap, roll, and balance into spring with a week of gymnastics excitement! Spring Gymnastics Camp is designed for young athletes to explore the fundamentals of gymnastics in a safe and supportive environment. Campers will practice skills on the mat, beam, and bars while building strength, flexibility, and confidence. Through engaging drills, creative games, and teamwork challenges, participants will sharpen their technique and coordination while celebrating the energy and freshness of the season. Whether they're brand new to gymnastics or looking to grow their skills, every camper will leave with new abilities, new friends, and a spring in their step!

Location: Highlands County Park

Ages: 5-12

Adult Fit

This introductory class is designed for individuals who are new to resistance training or looking to incorporate a low-impact, full-body workout into their routine. Using resistance bands, participants will learn a variety of exercises that target different muscle groups, improve strength, and enhance flexibility. The class will focus on proper form and technique, ensuring a safe and effective workout. Whether you are looking to increase mobility or just stay active, this class offers a welcoming environment for all fitness levels. No prior experience is necessary. Join us and discover the benefits of resistance band training! Resistance bands will be provided; please bring your own yoga mat.

Location: Simpkins Family Swim Center - Comm Rms A & B

Ages: 18+

RESISTANCE BAND

T	11/4-11/18	5:30-6:15pm	\$21/\$25
T	12/2-12/16	5:30-6:15pm	\$21/\$25
T	1/6-1/27	5:30-6:15pm	\$28/\$30
T	2/3-2/24	5:30-6:15pm	\$28/\$30
T	3/3-3/24	5:30-6:15pm	\$28/\$30
T	4/7-4/28	5:30-6:15pm	\$28/\$30
T	5/5-5/26	5:30-6:15pm	\$28/\$30

Location: Highlands County Park

Th	11/6-11/20	5-5:45pm	\$21/\$25
Th	12/4-12/18	5-5:45pm	\$21/\$25
Th	1/8-1/29	5-5:45pm	\$28/\$30
Th	2/5-2/26	5-5:45pm	\$28/\$30
Th	3/5-3/26	5-5:45pm	\$28/\$30
Th	4/2-4/30	5-5:45pm	\$28/\$30

***No Session 4/9**

Th	5/7-5/28	5-5:45pm	\$28/\$30
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Santa Cruz County Parks



Functional Circuit at GOAT Santa Cruz

A workout designed to improve strength and cardiovascular conditioning. In 45-minute sessions, this circuit combines science, community, and motivation, pushing you to be your best. We offer options for all fitness levels, and our trainers will guide you through adjusting the intensity to suit your needs. Everyone is welcome! This program is in Spanish. All you need is comfortable athletic clothing and shoes, water, and a sweat towel. Sign up now and get your friends to join you - let's kick off 2026 with strength! Four-week sessions, two classes per week.

Location: GOAT Santa Cruz, 1055 17th Ave (rear lot)

Ages: 16+

M W	Session I: 1/5-1/25	6-6:45pm	\$72/\$80
	Session II: 2/2-2/27		
	Session III: 3/2-3/25		

SPECIAL INTEREST CAMPS

Pinto Lake | Nature Winter Camp

Looking forward to an exciting winter break? Santa Cruz County Parks offers Winter Camp at Pinto Lake Park. This camp is packed with fun and educational activities that include sports, arts & crafts, and nature. Please send your child with a snack, lunch, water, appropriate shoes and clothing each day. Meet at Pavilion B (back parking lot)

Location: Pinto Lake County Park (757 Green Valley Road, Watsonville)

Ages: 6-12

M- F	12/29-1/02	9am-3pm	\$180/\$198
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***No Camp on 1/1/26**

Pinto Lake | "Somos Exploradores" Spring Camp

Let your child explore the new spring camp at Pinto Lake County Park. This camp is packed with fun and educational activities that include sports, arts & crafts, and nature. Please send your child with a snack, lunch, water, appropriate shoes and clothing each day. Meet at Pavilion B (back parking lot)

Location: Pinto Lake County Park (757 Green Valley Road, Watsonville)

Ages: 6-12

M-F	4/6-4/10	9am-3pm	\$180/\$198
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Pop-Up Park Fun with Mobile Rec

Get ready for FREE fun, games and snacks! Join us for exciting pop-up activities like sports, art & crafts, nature adventures & more – it all depends on the weather and the season, so there's always something new! Kids of all ages are welcome – grown-ups too! We're rolling through different county parks all month long- catch us at a park near you!

Location: Felton Covered Bridge

M	1/12, 2/9, 3/9 & 4/13	3-5pm	Free
M	5/4 & 6/1	3:30-5:30pm	Free

Location: Quail Hollow Ranch County Park

M	1/26, 2/23, 3/23 & 4/27	3-5pm	Free
M	5/18	3:30-5:30pm	Free

Location: Brommer County Park

Th	1/22, 2/19, 3/19 & 4/16	3-5 pm	Free
Th	5/7, 5/21, 6/4	3:30-5:30pm	Free

Location: Chanticleer County Park

Th	1/29, 2/26, 3/26 & 4/23	3-5pm	Free
Th	5/14, 5/28	3:30-5:30pm	Free

Location: Mesa Village County Park

Sat	1/31, 2/28, 3/28, 4/25 & 5/23	11am-1pm	Free
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Location: Pinto Lake County Park

Sat	1/17, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9	11am-1pm	Free
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Mushrooms Mondays

Join us for a fascinating look into the world of mushrooms! Learn the fundamentals of mushroom identification, explore key features of various species, and gain insight into the incredible role fungi play in ecosystems. (This class is for observation only — no foraging or consuming). Ages 8+ are welcome! Kids 17 & under must bring an adult. Classes might be canceled due to inclement weather. Register today to uncover the science beneath the forest floor.

Location: Highlands County Park

M	1/12	8:30-10am	\$5/\$6
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Location: Aptos Village County Park

M	1/19	8:30-10am	\$5/\$6
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Location: Simpkins Swim Center (Meet at back parking lot)

M	1/26	8:30-10am	\$5/\$6
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Introduction to Birding

Come on a hike and learn to identify birds through sight and sound, using books, some technology and our best guesses! Bring your own binoculars and bird guides if you have them. Wear layers and close-toed shoes. Participants should be able to walk or hike for up to 2 hours. Smartphone app Merlin Bird ID suggested but not required. Pre-registration is required, and space is limited. A class may be postponed or cancelled due to inclement weather.

Ages: 18+

Location: Highlands County Park

M	2/2	8:30-10:30am	\$5/\$6
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Location: Anna Jean Cumming County Park

M	2/9	8:30-10:30am	\$5/\$6
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Location: Pinto Lake County Park

M	2/16	8:30-10:30m	\$5/\$6
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Nature Appreciation and Mindfulness

Join us for a peaceful 4-week journey into mindfulness, all held outdoors in the calming presence of nature. Together, we'll explore breath work, grounding techniques, and mindful walking and sitting, all designed to help you slow down and reconnect — with yourself and the world around you. Through simple practices and quiet reflection, you may begin to notice more joy in the small things, feel more connected, and experience less anxiety, depression, and pain — while nurturing generosity, presence, and overall well-being. A journal and pen will be provided to help capture your reflections. Classes may be postponed or canceled due to inclement weather. Come as you are. Let nature do the rest.

Location: Seascape County Park

Ages: 18+

M	3/2-3/23	1-2pm	\$20/\$22
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Little Turkeys Camp

Give your little one a fun-filled holiday experience at our Preschool Thanksgiving Camp! This seasonal camp is packed with hands-on activities, festive crafts, and playful games celebrating the spirit of gratitude and autumn. Campers will explore nature, enjoy storytelling, and express their creativity, all while building friendships in a safe and supportive environment. Whether they're making turkey crafts, enjoying a harvest-themed obstacle course, or sharing what they're thankful for, your child will have a memorable and engaging time.

Location: Wilder Hall in Ben Lomond

Ages: 3-6

M-W 11/24-11/26 9:30-1:30pm \$75/\$82



Winter Break Camp

Need some exciting activities for your 6-12-year-old child during winter break? Look no further! Santa Cruz County Parks offers winter day camp at two awesome locations! Each day will offer a structured program, starting with an assembly to review the daily schedule of activities which may include fine arts, science, organized games and sports, drama and music, crafts, and cooking. One field trip each week is included in the registration fee.

Location: Aptos Village County Park

Session I: M-F 8am-5pm 12/29-1/2 \$200/\$220

***No program 1/1/26**

Session II: M-F 8am-5pm 1/5-1/9 \$250/\$275

Location: 6860 Soquel Drive Aptos - Mar Vista Elementary / Room 19 & 20

Session I: M-F 8am-5pm 12/29-1/2 \$200/\$220

***No program 1/1/26**

Session II: M-F 8am-5pm 1/5-1/9 \$250/\$275

Location: Quail Hollow Ranch - Outdoor Education Ctr.

M-F 9am-3pm 12/29-1/2 \$180/\$198

***No program 1/1/26**

Lights, Theater, ACTION!

"Welcome to Theater Camp! This year's exciting production is "Toy Store" — a magical play where toys come to life after the shop doors close. Campers will step into the spotlight as they develop original characters, invent quirky powers, and bring the story to life through acting, games, and hands-on activities. We will also be taking a peek behind

the curtain! Set design, theater make-up, and costume are all explored. No experience needed — just bring your imagination!

Location: Simpkins Family Center - Community Room

M-F 1/5-1/9 9am-3pm \$225/\$248

Nature Science Day Camp

Let your child step into the wild and uncover the secrets of nature at Quail Hollow Ranch County Park! From towering trees to tiny critters, they'll become explorers and budding scientists as they dive into hands-on, nature-based science adventures. Each day is packed with discovery, curiosity, and outdoor fun—where learning and nature go hand in hand. Make sure your young adventurer comes prepared with a backpack, snack, lunch, water bottle, closed-toed shoes, and clothing fit for the day's weather.

Location: Quail Hollow Ranch County Park

Ages: 6-12

T-F 2/17-2/20 9am-3pm \$180/\$198

***No program 2/16**

Wilderness Explorers Spring Break Day Camp

Let your child explore the wilderness of Quail Hollow Ranch County Park in this nature-based day camp packed with outdoor fun and educational activities. We will also dive into environmental science on a field trip, included in the registration fee. Please send your child with a snack, lunch, water bottle, close-toed shoes, and weather-appropriate clothing each day.

Location: Quail Hollow Ranch County Park

Ages: 6-12

M-F 4/6 - 4/10 9am-3pm \$225/\$248

Spring Break Camp

Need some exciting activities for your 6-12-year-old child during winter break? Look no further! Santa Cruz County Parks offers spring day camp at two great locations! Each day will offer a structured program, starting with an assembly to review the daily schedule of activities which may include fine arts, science, organized games and sports, drama and music, crafts, and cooking. One field trip each week is included in the registration fee.

Location: Aptos Village County Park

M-F 4/6-4/10 8am-5pm \$250/\$275

Location: 6860 Soquel Drive Aptos - Mar Vista Elementary / Room 19 & 20

M-F 4/6-4/10 8am-5pm \$250/\$275



“My Play Club” Arts & Crafts

Join County Park Friends for weekly family-friendly Arts, Crafts, and Books. No experience required. Instruction and all materials provided. All participating youth may choose a book to take home. All ages are welcome! A parent or guardian must accompany youth under 18.

For more information or to register: info@countyparkfriends.org

Location: Chanticleer County Park

Tu 2/17 3:30-5:30 Free

“Vamos a la Naturaleza” Family Walks

Join County Park Friends for a family-friendly walk at beautiful Parks and Beaches. Enjoy a bilingual presentation about ecosystems while we build community outdoors. Please bring your own water bottle and snacks. All ages are welcome! A parent or guardian must accompany a youth under 18.

For more information or to register: info@countyparkfriends.org.

Sa	3/14	Manresa State Beach	10am-1pm	Free
Sa	4/12	Seacliff State Beach	10am-1pm	Free
Sa	5/9	Nisene Marks State Park	10am-1pm	Free



Party in the Parks!

Reserve our picnic areas!

Enjoy your event at our reservable picnic areas! We take reservations for Anna Jean Cummings Park, Brommer Street Park, Chanticleer County Park, Felton Covered Bridge Park, Highlands Park, Jose Avenue Park, Michael Gray Field Park, Pinto Lake County Park, and Scott Park. Make your reservation today at scparcs.com.



parks.santacruzcountyca.gov

reservations@parks.santacruzcountyca.gov

OPEN HOUSES 2026

Aptos Village Park Valencia Hall

4:30 - 6:30pm

- January 28th
- March 25th
- May 27th
- July 22nd
- September 23rd
- November 25th



For a special day that's
a walk in the park.

Highlands House Quail Hollow Ranch

4:30 - 6:30pm

- January 21st
- February 18th
- April 15th
- May 20th
- June 17th
- July 15th
- August 19th
- September 16th
- October 21st
- November 18th
- December 16th



9:00 - 11:30am

- March 7th



scparks.com

reservations@scparks.com

pinterest.com/sccoparks



Located at 800 Quail Hollow Rd., just 2 miles up Zayante Rd. in Felton or 2 miles from Ben Lomond via Glen Arbor Rd., Quail Hollow Ranch has miles of hiking trails which traverse a variety of habitats. These habitats provide homes for many species of rare and endangered plants and animals, including the Ben Lomond Spineflower and Mount Hermon June Beetle.

Space is limited for Quail Hollow Ranch activities.

Participants may register in advance at scparks.com or call 831-454-7901. Please note: an ActiveNet account is required for advance registration. Activities that include a hike meet first at the Visitor Center, former home of the Lane family of Sunset Magazine fame.

For more info. please contact the Program Coordinator at parks.classes@santacruzcountyca.gov.

For information on additional QHR activities not included in this guide, please visit scparks.com.

Within These Walls: Ranch House Tour

Join Park Docent Richard James on a tour of the Ranch house. Learn about its history from the Watermelon King to Sun-Kissed Ranch, Sunset Magazine, and beyond. This informative tour will give you the opportunity to find out about four of the families who made the ranch their business, home, and haven.

Ages: 16+

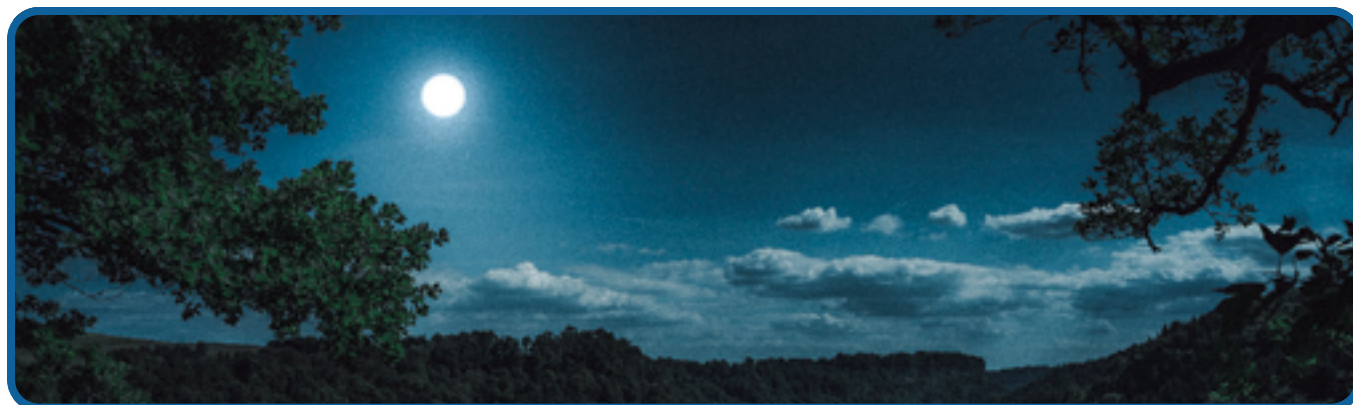
Su	12/7	1-3pm	Free
Su	1/18	1-3pm	Free
Su	3/15	1-3pm	Free
Su	5/24	1-3pm	Free

Full Moon Hike

Come join us for a quiet exploration of Quail Hollow Ranch, under the moonlight. On this one-hour guided hike on the lower trails, you can search for critters and meander through the forest. Bring flashlights and/or a headlamp (though we may try to hike without them), and some drinking water. Dress for the weather and wear good walking shoes.

Ages: 8+ (*15 and under must be accompanied by an adult*)

Th	12/4	6-8:30pm	Free
W	4/1	8:30-10pm	Free
F	5/1	8:30-10pm	Free





Beginning Birding

Join Park Docent Jim Maughn for a leisurely hike through Quail Hollow Ranch County Park, in search of our fine, feathered friends. Previous birding experience not required; open to anyone interested in birds and their antics. Wear warm clothing and comfortable shoes. Bring binoculars and a field guide (if you have them), and some drinking water. *Ages 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Ages: 12+

Su	3/1	8-10am	Free
Su	6/7	8-10am	Free



Reptile & Amphibian Walk

Join Park Docent James Maughn for a saunter along park trails in search of herps: reptiles and amphibians, that is. Peruse the pond and muse over the meadow as we learn about the favorite hang-outs and resting places of these fascinating animals. *Open to ages 6 & up; an adult must accompany ages 12 & under.

Ages 6+

Su	12/14	10am-12pm	Free
Su	1/25	10am-12pm	Free
Su	3/22	10am-12pm	Free

Trek to the Forbidden Sandhills

Join a guided hike with a Park Docent to see and learn about the many rare species that make this special place their home: this is the only time to visit the flower-covered hills of the sandhills habitat. Wear good walking shoes, and bring a hat, and water. Due to the sensitive nature of the area, group size is limited to 10. This is a slow hike open to ages 8 and up; *ages 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Participants must be able to hike up to two hours on uneven terrain.

Ages: 8+ (15 and under must be accompanied by an adult)

Su	4/5	10am-12pm	Free
Su	4/5	1-3pm	Free
Su	4/12	10am-12pm	Free
Su	4/12	1-3pm	Free
Su	4/19	10am-12pm	Free
Su	4/19	1-3pm	Free
Su	4/26	10am-12pm	Free
Su	4/26	1-3pm	Free





For Goodness Snakes!

In this exciting and interactive presentation, you'll get a chance to see and hold (only if you want to!) a blue-tongued skink, black and white Tegu, four different kinds of ball pythons, and a 9-ft. albino Burmese python! Brian will discuss snake senses and how these animals live and interact with the wild. For over 15 years, Brian Gundy of For Goodness Snakes has been educating and entertaining children and adults with his reptile friends. He has worked with exotic animals such as birds of prey, African lions, cheetahs, and domesticated animals of all kinds.

Ages: 7+

Su 5/3 12-1pm Free

Habitat Restoration

French Broom is an invasive, exotic plant that takes over natural habitats. Join the local chapter of the California Native Plant Society and park volunteers for a broom bash, removing these (and other unwanted plants) from the park trails. Your help with this project will improve the natural system of the park as well as its beauty.

Wear comfortable layered clothing, bring something to drink, and lots of enthusiasm! We work rain or shine, but if things get particularly unpleasant, we'll call it a day.

Tools will be provided. Bring work gloves and water.

Chapter website: www.cruzcnp.org

Ages: 16+

Easy Gardens for Busy People – From Seed!

No matter where you live in Santa Cruz County, there's still plenty of time to plant and enjoy a big and bountiful garden! Learn which easy-care and versatile vegetables, culinary herbs and colorful flowers can be planted from seed now that will both feed the pollinators and sustain your family throughout summer and fall.

Instructor Renee Shepherd is the founder of local seed company Renee's Garden. She seeks out the very best seeds from around the world, tests them in her own local trial garden, and shares them with other gardeners in the company's colorful seed packets. Her gardening values, enthusiasm and discerning taste have made Renee Shepherd a household name in the gardening world.

Ages: 12+

Su 5/17 11am-1pm Free



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Santa Cruz County Parks



VOLUNTEER WITH US



MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Whether you're an individual, family, or part of a group, you can make a difference!

Join us for a one-day project or commit to an ongoing, long-term effort.

There's a place for everyone to volunteer!



Youth Programs • Beach & Park Clean-Ups • Park Docent •
Neighborhood Park Projects • Park Maintenance • Special Events
• Junior Lifeguards • Trail Building

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Visit our website to view our one-day opportunity calendar or fill out the Volunteer Interest Form at parks.santacruzcountyca.gov
Feel free to email volunteer@parks.santacruzcountyca.gov with any questions, or call (831)454-7927.



parks.santacruzcountyca.gov



volunteer@parks.santacruzcountyca.gov



(831) 454-7927



County Arts Commission - Mission Statement

The Mission of the Santa Cruz County Arts Commission is to promote, expand, and plan for the cultural life of Santa Cruz County and to bring artists and arts organizations together with government for the benefit of all county residents.

Percent For Art Program: Building A More Beautiful Community

In April of 1991, the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors took action to establish a Percent for Art Program applicable to County construction projects. Up to 2% of the cost of construction of buildings and parks is designated to fund the inclusion of public artwork. Projects recently completed include Floral Park, Green Valley Multi-Use Pathway, Hidden Beach Restrooms, and Children's Crisis Center.

Upcoming public art opportunities include the Swim Center slide replacement and Pace Trails. Visit the website for details: scparks.com/Home/AboutUs/WorkWithUs/CalltoArtists.aspx



Hidden Beach Restroom by Shaun Logan –
Hidden Relief

Recognizing Local Emerging Artists

Through the Spotlight Award, the Santa Cruz County Arts Commission publicly recognizes individuals who have achieved a high level of excellence and creativity in their work, but who have not received widespread acknowledgment of their talent. This award recognizes younger artists as well as those who are discovering their artistic voice later in life. For more information about the award, including how to nominate an artist for the award, please visit scparks.com.



Art Exhibitions

Paintings, prints, crafts, photographs, jewelry, ceramics, sculpture, drawings, and mixed-media works by local artists and crafts people are exhibited year-round at the County Government Center, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz. Exhibits typically run for 2-3 months on the first and fifth floors. Artists interested in showing their work at a County facility (Government Center, Simpkins Swim Center, Health Services Agency, and Westridge) can visit the Arts Council website at www.artscouncilsc.org for more information about the application process.

Artist-led Public Art Walks

Join artist Justin Francavilla for a creative adventure in the park

Together we'll go on a treasure hunt to find hidden animal art on bronze plaques along the Heart of Soquel Parkway. Each plaque is like a secret doorway to the wild showing off the amazing creatures that live right here in our neighborhood! Kids and adults will get to make their own rubbing prints of the plaques to take home, while learning fun facts about these lesser-known animals. It's a hands-on way to explore our park and see how art and nature connect all around us.

Saturday, April 11, 10-11am – All ages at Heart of Soquel Park – Free!

Dive into art and ocean life with artist Justin Francavilla!

We'll explore Monterey Bay's tide pool creatures through a new public art installation at Floral Park. The first part is a bronze plaque featuring their names in both English and Spanish. Kids and adults will get to make rubbing prints of the plaque, learning how to say each animal's name in two languages. The second part is new bronze tide pool sculptures where you can see and touch, turning the park into our own outdoor classroom and art studio. This hands-on activity is a fun way to discover sea life, practice new words, and see how art and nature come together!

Saturday, April 18, 10-11am – All ages at Floral Park – Free!



MICHA SCOTT

ARTIST

OF THE YEAR

Micha Scott, dancer and choreographer, has been named 2026 Santa Cruz County Artist of the Year by the Santa Cruz County Arts Commission. The Artist of the Year award is presented to local artists for outstanding achievement in the discipline of performing, visual, or literary arts who have also made a substantial contribution to the cultural enrichment of Santa Cruz County. A **free Profile Performance will be held at the Museum of Arts & History on June 5th from**

7-9pm. Admission is FREE to the public; seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis the night of the event. To learn more about the award and previous recipients: www.scparks.com.

Micha Scott is a professional dancer, teacher and choreographer who has performed on stages around the world as a 13-year senior member with the renowned Garth Fagan Dance. While in the company, she performed leading roles in many of Mr. Fagan's choreographies including 'From Before', 'Collage For Romie', 'Transition/Translation' and the groundbreaking collaboration with trumpeter/composer Wynton Marsalis, 'Griot New York'.

Moving from New York to Santa Cruz in 2008, Micha is deeply involved in the local dance community, with particular focus on being an advocate for the Black youth dance community. As Executive Director (since 2021) and Artistic Director (since 2011) at Tannery World Dance and Cultural Center (TWDCC), she highlights the artistic traditions passed on to her by Garth Fagan. This includes not only the technical and performance aspects of dance but also incorporating traditions from the Black American experience through music, discussions around race, advocacy and the arts. Locally Micha has taught at TWDCC, Dancenter, Mountain School, UCSC, SCU, Cabrillo College, Motion Pacific, as well as public schools and private studios throughout the County. She serves on the Advisory Board of Black Health Matters, and as a grants panelist at the California Arts Council.

In 2023 Micha started the annual Deep Roots Dance Fest, bringing to the Santa Cruz stage artists of the African Diaspora to perform original contemporary dances rooted in their traditional forms. In 2023, she traveled to Congo to perform a solo and train young dancers at the Tokomi Festival in Brazzaville, a professional highlight. In the winter of 2024, Micha performed in NYC as a guest soloist with Garth Fagan Dance company.

As a biracial Black woman, Micha is deeply committed to advocating for equity in the arts, including access to funding, professional development, and artistic exposure. In her work, she actively elevates black and immigrant artists. It is her honor to collaborate with many renowned choreographers, including Norwood 'PJ' Pennewell (Bessie Award winner), Sharon Skepple Mayfield (Bessie Award winner), Tandy Beal (Tandy Beal & Company), Ramon Ramos Alayo (Alayo Dance Company / CubaCaribe), N'Jelle Gage Thorne (FuturPointe), Sade Bully (CDT Jamaica), Gervais Tomadiatunga (Danseincolore, Congo's Knight of Arts and Letters) and many more. She feels incredibly blessed to be a part of the legacy of Garth Fagan Dance and pass on what she has learned and experienced to her students and professional colleagues.

Micha served on the grants panel at Arts Council Santa Cruz County from 2021-2025, volunteered with Your Future Is Our Business since 2024 as a guest career panelist in local public schools representing the arts, and recently served as a guest panelist for The Great Cabrillo Arts Design Challenge at Cabrillo College in September 2025. She has secured more than \$120,000.00 in grants over the past 4 years to bolster TWDCC's youth scholarship program, ensuring that every child in Santa Cruz County who wants to dance is not barred from participation due to lack of income.



Devi Pride Photography

Our heartiest welcome goes to you! Thank you for being part of our recreation family in our unique and ever-expanding line of programs! We're honored to have you with us on this FUN journey! Please check scparks.com or email us to let us know you're ready to join us in organized activities. We want to ensure you are on our email newsletter list.

We can't wait to see you! In the meantime, feel free to explore the great opportunities we have in store for you at scparks.com. If you need assistance or additional support on our programs, contact us at 831-454-7941 email us at rec@scparks.com.

Capitola Mall Walking

Join the Mall Walkers for health, fitness, and FUN! Meet friendly and supportive participants while you walk in a safe and protected environment. Walking is a wonderful way to be physically active! It's easy, and it's relatively risk-free. Walking is the most popular aerobic activity. We have monthly events and social gatherings at local eateries (lunch is not included). Come join us and be part of the movement. Drop by the entrance to the food court. *Stretch class at 9:30am

Location: Capitola Mall

M/W/F 9am 50 + Annual fee \$25

Pinto Walkers

Join the Pinto Walkers at Pinto Lake County Park! Walk for health, fitness, and fun. Meet friendly, supportive people and walk in a safe, protected environment. Stretch Class from 9-9:30am

Location: Pinto Lake County Park

Ages: 50+

F 4/10-5/29 10-11:30am Free

Fitness in the Park

A kinder, gentler aerobic workout appropriate for active adults who would like to include a low-intensity, low impact workout in their fitness plans. Each class includes anaerobic conditioning and stretching segments. Get ready to stretch, exercise your upper body with resistant bands and lower body exercises to build strength and balance. We will recover with relaxation breathing techniques. *Please consult with your physician before participating in this class.

Location: SFSC Live Oak Community Rooms

W 1/13-3/25 11-11:45am Free

Location: Anna Jean Cummings Park

W 4/1-6/3 11-11:45am Free



High Tea Party

Join us for a High Tea experience with assorted teas, pastries, and finger sandwiches. Wear your fancy hats, and pearls.

Location: Simpkins Swim Center / Live Oak Community Room

F 5/8 3-4:30pm \$25

DANCE CLASSES

East Coast Swing Dance Class

Get ready to swing into fun! Our Beginner East Coast Swing class is the perfect introduction to one of the most versatile and upbeat social dances. Designed for adults with little or no dance experience, this class covers the basic steps, timing, and partner connection in a relaxed, supportive setting. You'll dance to classic swing, rock 'n' roll, and contemporary tunes while learning how to move confidently on the floor. No partner? No problem! Singles and couples are welcome.

Come join the fun and bring some bounce to your step! Classes meet for 4 or 6 weeks and are designed in a progressive series. .

Location: Aptos Village Park

Instructor: Jeremy Pilling

T	11/4-11/25	10:30-11:25am	\$72/\$80
T	Jan-Feb	10:30-11:25am	\$108/\$118
T	Mar-Apr	10:30-11:25am	\$108/\$118

Call (831) 454-7941 for specific dates.

Cha-Cha

Step into the rhythm with our Beginner Cha Cha class, designed especially for adults with little to no dance experience! This energetic and playful Latin dance is perfect for anyone looking to learn basic footwork, timing, and partnering skills in a fun and welcoming environment. You'll groove to lively music while mastering the fundamentals of Cha Cha, building confidence, coordination, and connection on the dance floor. Whether you're flying solo or coming with a partner, this class is the perfect place to start your dance journey.

No prior experience necessary – just bring comfortable shoes and a smile! Classes meet for 4 or 6 weeks and are designed in a progressive series.

Instructor: Jeremy Pilling

Location: Aptos Village County Park

T	11/4-11/25	11:30-12:25pm	\$72/\$80
T	Jan-Feb	11:30am-12:25pm	\$108/\$118
T	Mar-Apr	11:30am-12:25pm	\$108/\$118

Call (831) 454-7941 for specific dates.



EXTENDED TRIPS

For details on our extended trips program please visits us online at scparks.com or call us at 831-454-7941



Discover Christmas Markets

Highlights: Christmas Markets of Six European Cities and Towns, Regensburg (UNESCO), Rothenburg ob der Tauber & German Christmas Museum, Freiburg, "Petite France" of Strasbourg, Colmar, Lake Lucerne Scenic Cruise

December 5-13, 2025

Single \$4,199/Double \$3,599/Triple \$3,569

VISION STATEMENT

We envision a healthy and vibrant community where everyone is able to be active, explore, learn, play and connect, and where our diverse natural and cultural resources are celebrated and protected for generations to come.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide safe well designed and maintained parks and a wide variety of recreational and cultural opportunities for our diverse community.

FEES & CANCELLATIONS

Resident/Non-resident Fees

Where two registration fees are listed (e.g. \$40/\$44), the first is for Residents (R), the second for Non-residents (NR). You are a Non-resident (NR) if: you live outside Santa Cruz County; or in one of the 4 cities (Santa Cruz, Capitola, Watsonville, Scotts Valley); or in one of these Special Recreation Districts: Alba, or La Selva Beach.

Waiting Lists

If your original class choice is full, you will be placed on the waiting list for your original choice and contacted if space becomes available.

Sibling Discount

There is a discount of 15% for each additional sibling who is registered for the same session of the same youth activity, EXCEPT for swim lessons. The sibling discount only applies to online registrations when two or more siblings are registered for the same program option.

Call (831) 454-7941 when registering to receive a sibling discount if siblings are using different program options during the same session.

Cancellation & Refund Policy – Youth Programs and Adult/Senior Programs

Requests for transfers, credits or refunds must be submitted in writing, and are subject to the following guidelines:

4 or more business days prior to activity start date:

- Transfer to another Parks activity.
- Withdraw and receive a full credit to the account with Parks; credits are valid for one year.
- Refund will be issued, less a \$5 processing fee.

3 or fewer business days prior to activity start date:

- Refunds, credits or transfers will not be issued.
- If the space can be filled from a waitlist, the account with Parks may be credited, or one can receive a refund (less a \$5 processing fee).

If the activity has already started: If the participant has attended only one or two class meetings and concerns cannot be resolved, a pro-rated refund may be issued. Refunds are not available if the class has met three times, or if a participant fails to attend.

Course Cancellations: If a program is cancelled by Parks, a full refund will be issued within 4 weeks.

Swim Lesson Cancellation & Refund Policy

Please plan your schedule carefully in order to keep transfers and cancellations to a minimum. A \$5.00 fee will be charged when withdrawing from an aquatics activity.

Make-up lessons are not available if your child is absent.

When withdrawing, the following options are available:

3 or more business days prior to the activity start date:

- Transfer to another aquatics activity, plus a \$5 transfer fee.
- Withdraw and receive a credit to your account, or receive a refund, less a \$5 processing fee.
- Account credits are valid for one year.

2 or fewer business days prior to the activity start date:

- Transfer to another activity, plus a \$5 transfer fee.
- If the space can be filled from a waitlist, the account with Parks may receive a credit; or one can receive a refund, less a \$5 processing fee.
- If the space cannot be filled from a waitlist, credits or refunds will be given on a pro-rated basis, charging for the first class.

If the activity has already started: If the participant has attended only one or two class meetings and concerns cannot be resolved, a pro-rated refund may be issued. Credits and refunds are not available once a class has met three times, or if a participant fails to attend. Make-up lessons are not available for missed classes.

Course Cancellations: If a program is cancelled by Parks, a full refund will be issued within 4 weeks.

Junior & Little Guards Refund/Cancellation Policy

- More than 3 weeks prior to start of the program a \$50 cancellation fee
- Less than 3 weeks prior to start of program 50% cancellation fee. After the 2nd day of the program refunds or credits will not be given.

REGISTRATION

Register with Active Network
@ [scparks.com](https://www.scparks.com)

Online registration is **now open**.

Mail registration to:

Santa Cruz County Parks
979 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Walk-in registration:

979 17th Avenue: M-F, 9am-4pm.

Phone-in registration:

Aquatic Programs: (831) 454-7953. All other programs: (831) 454-7941. Please have your credit/debit card info. including CVC/CVV.

Registration and a signed release of liability are required prior to program participation. Payment is required at the time of registration; fees are not pro-rated for late registration. You may pay using cash, check, credit card, debit card or e-check.

There is a \$40 service charge for returned checks and credit card charge backs. Activities, dates, and fees are subject to change.

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

Love our Parks, Beaches, and Trails? Want to Sponsor Scholarships?

100% of your donation is invested here in Santa Cruz County



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Financial Support for Program Fees

www.countyparkfriends.org

County Park Friends is the nonprofit partner to Santa Cruz County Parks