



ADVENTURES WITH NATURE MAY 2017



Sponsored by the S. L. O. Coast & Oceano Dunes State Park Districts
Supported by the Central Coast State Parks Association

This schedule can be found at www.centralcoastparks.org

Date	Day	Time	*LOC	*SC	Adventure	Presenter
1	Mon	9:00 am	MdO		Intertidal Life at Hazard Reef	Faylla Chapman
6	Sat	10:00 am	MB	♿	The Otter Information Station!	David Curtius & Richard Schultz
9	Tue	10:00 am	MdO		Hike the Sand Spit	Bardeen, Kirkhart, Reifel, Renshaw
13	Sat	9:30 am	MB		Morro Bay Geology and Plants	Barb Renshaw & Jeff Reifel
13	Sat	11:00 am	MB		White's Point Vistas	Norma Wightman
13	Sat	2:00 pm	MB		Black Hill Trail	Roger Randall
14	Sun	10:00 am	LO		Los Osos Oaks Reserve	Faylla Chapman
15	Mon	10:00 am	MB	♿	Birding the Boardwalk	Claudia Freitas
17	Wed	1:00 pm	MB	♿	Salt Marsh to Mudflats	Faylla Chapman
19	Fri	9:00 am	EB		Walk Along the Edge	Norma Wightman
20	Sat	11:00 am	MB		White's Point Vistas	Molly Stoddard
20	Sat	2:00 pm	MB	♿	Saturday Scientists: Insects - Up Close and Personal!	Claudia Freitas
21	Sun	10:00 am	PB		Oceano Lagoon Walk	Jerry Stanley
25	Thu	1:00 pm	MdO		Eucalyptus- Beauty or Beast?	Faylla Chapman
27	Sat	10:00 am	MB	♿	The Otter Information Station!	David Curtius & Richard Schultz
29	Mon	9:00 am	MdO		Intertidal Life at Hazard Reef	Faylla Chapman
31	Wed	10:00 am	MB		Birds of Land and Sea at Morro Rock	Claudia Freitas

* **LOCation Codes:** EB - Estero Bluffs, HH - Harmony Headlands, LO - Los Osos, MB - Morro Bay, MdO - Montaña de Oro, MS - Morro Strand, NC - North Coast, OF - Oso Flaco, PB - Pismo Beach

* **SC - Special Codes:** ♿ - Adventure accessible by wheelchair

(Adventure Descriptions on the Reverse Side)

SPECIAL EVENTS!

Spoooner Ranch House: Open daily, 11am - 2pm, bad weather will cancel. In Montaña de Oro State Park, above Spoooner's Cove. Historical ranch house, Spoooner history, nature displays.

Oceano Dunes District Visitor Center: Open soon!

Coastal Discovery Center: Discovery Center hours are 11am - 5pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

ADVENTURE DESCRIPTIONS

Everyone is welcome, but no dogs, please. All times are approximate. Rain cancels outdoor activities

Birding the Boardwalk ☺

Enjoy a stroll while identifying shorebirds and more. Beginning birders welcome. Bring binoculars and field guide. Dress for wind/weather. Park close to east end of Morro Bay State Park Bayside marina parking lot. 1 mile, 1.5 hours.

Birds of Land and Sea at Morro Rock

Observe cormorants, pelicans, and various species and age classes of gulls. Watch for resident Peregrine falcons over the Rock and sea birds in the channel. Dress for wind/weather; bring binoculars and a field guide. Meet near the chain link fencing at the base of Morro Rock, in the northwest corner of the large parking lot.

Black Hill Trail

Walk the most accessible of the volcanic sisters while discussing their history and enjoying a panoramic view of the surrounding geography. Dress for wind/weather. Take Golf Course Drive past the clubhouse and bear left at fork in road. Meet at the overlook parking lot above the Morro Bay Golf Course. 0.5 miles, 1.5 hours.

Eucalyptus- Beauty or Beast?

Love it or hate it? Can't decide? Walk through a grove in Montaña de Oro and learn the history, biology, pros and cons, and uses of these trees. Then decide for yourself! Dress for wind/weather and bring binoculars. Enjoy the drive with the light filtering through the groves, trees, and bark as you drive to meet at the Hazard Canyon parking lot, on west side, 1.6 miles from the Montaña de Oro park entrance. Easy walk, chance of poison oak, 0.5 miles, 2 hours.

Hike the Sand Spit

Walk through the dune scrub to the beach on the Sand Spit Trail. Then walk north along the shore. Wear sturdy shoes. Dress in layers, and bring water. Meet at the Sand Spit Parking Lot, Montaña de Oro State Park (turn right on paved road 7/10 mile past the entrance sign). 3 miles, 2 hours.

Intertidal Life at Hazard Reef

Learn some geology while walking through coastal scrub and sand dunes to see seaweeds and marine animals. Dress in layers and wear non-skid shoes that can get wet. Meet in Hazard Canyon parking lot, on West side of road, 1.6 miles south of Montaña de Oro park entrance. Look for announcement board. Active hike, chance of poison oak, 1 mile, 3 hours.

Los Osos Oaks Reserve

Enjoy a shaded stroll through ancient forest. See native plants and evidence of Chumash habitation. Learn colorful historical background. Dress for wind/weather. Meet at Reserve entrance, 0.7 miles east of South Bay Blvd. on Los Osos Valley Road. Easy walk, chance of poison oak, 1 mile, 1.5 hours.

Morro Bay Geology and Plants

Walk on the geologic history of Morro Bay State Park as you learn about the rocks, the soils, and the plants that inhabit them. Wear sturdy shoes; bring water. Meet at the Quarry Trailhead parking lot, off South Bay Blvd. in Morro Bay State Park, 2.6 miles from Los Osos Valley Road. Active hike, chance of poison oak, 2 miles, 2.5 hours.

Oceano Lagoon Walk

As we take a leisurely walk, learn about the history, native plants and animals, and the recreational opportunities of the Oceano Lagoon. Wear sturdy shoes. Dress for weather. Bring water/binoculars. Meet at the Oceano Dunes Visitor Center on Pier Ave in Oceano. Easy walk. Chance of poison oak. 1.25 miles, 2 hours.

Salt Marsh to Mudflats ☺

Walk the State Park Marina Peninsula boardwalk to learn the history of the salt marsh and the plants and animals living in this specialized environment. Dress for wind/weather and mud. Bring binoculars. Park close to east end of Bayside marina parking lot or across the street at MB campground restrooms. Easy walk, 0.5 miles, 2 hours.

Saturday Scientists: Insects - Up Close and Personal! ☺

Come look at bugs up close and personal!! Look at body parts such as wings, antennae, simple eyes, compound eyes, legs and mouthparts. Insects are amazing animals and have many interesting and beautiful adaptations, especially seen through a binocular microscope. Come learn how. Bring your own insects too. Morro Bay Museum of Natural History Auditorium, 2 hours. Family event.

The Otter Information Station ☺

View otters in the waters of Morro Bay, visit our information station, and learn about these incredible creatures from museum docents!! Location varies- look for our spotting scopes on Coleman Drive. For specific location, call (805) 806-0221 after 10:00 am the day of the event. Family-friendly, wildlife viewing station, open 10am:noon.

Walk Along the Edge

Explore the bluffs and beach along Estero Bay examining relationships of animals seen. Bring binoculars; wear sturdy beach shoes and layered clothing. Meet in dirt parking lot one mile north of the end of divided section of Hwy 1, north of Cayucos. Moderate hike, 2 miles, 2 1/2 hours.

White's Point Vistas

Enjoy a short, steep walk to view the estuary, home to hundreds of marine and terrestrial animals. Learn about the forces creating and changing this watery world. Dress for wind/weather. Meet at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History.

