



ADVENTURES WITH NATURE AUGUST 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	Tue	9:00 am	MB		Songbirds in the Pines	Claudia Freitas & Karen Watts
3	Thu	10:00 am	MB	♿	Birding for Beginners - Part 1	Karen Watts & Robbie Revel
4	Fri	2:00 pm	MB	♿	Discover Hidden Life in the Morro Bay Estuary	Karen Watts
5	Sat	10:00 am	LO		Los Osos Oaks Reserve	Faylla Chapman
5	Sat	10:00 am	OF		Summer Fun Day	Docents & Staff
5/6	Sa/Su	11:00 am	MB		Sea Otter Experience	Docents
5	Sat	11:00 am	NC		Discovery Saturday: Central Coast Marine Mammals	CDC Staff
5	Sat	11:00 am	MB		White's Point Vistas	Molly Stoddard
5	Sat	12:00 pm	MdO		Pecho Players - The Spooners at Home	Ranch House Docents
7	Mon	10:00 am	MdO	♿	Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk	Paul O'Connor
10	Thu	1:00 pm	MB	♿	Salt Marsh to Mudflats	Faylla Chapman
10	Thu	2:00 pm	MdO		Living History: Pecho Ranch in 1919	Kathy Flock
11	Fri	10:00 am	MB	♿	Birding the Boardwalk	Claudia Freitas & Robbie Revel
12	Sat	11:00 am	NC		Discovery Saturday: Beach Exploration	CDC Staff
12/13	Sa/Su	11:00 am	MB		Sea Otter Experience	Docents
12	Sat	3:00 pm	MB	♿	Ranger Program - Protecting the Western Snowy Plover	Ranger David Tyler
18	Fri	5:00 pm	NC		Ranger Program - The peaceful Setting of Harmony Headlands	Ranger Gene Browe
19	Sat	11:00 am	NC		Discovery Saturday: San Simeon Pier Safari	CDC Staff
19/20	Sa/Su	11:00 am	MB		Sea Otter Experience	Docents
19	Sat	2:00 pm	MB	♿	Saturday Scientists: Secrets of Sand and Sediment	Robbie Revel
19	Sat	5:00 pm	NC		Ranger Program - The peaceful Setting of Harmony Headlands	Ranger Gene Browe
20	Sun	9:30 am	MdO		Ranger Program - Exploring Animal Tracks and Fuzzy Mammal Pelts ...	Ranger Jeff Sears
20	Sun	10:00 am	PB		Oceano Lagoon Walk	Jerry Stanley
21	Mon	10:00 am	MdO	♿	Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk	Paul O'Connor
21	Mon	3:00 pm	MB		Ranger Program - Marine Mammals	Ranger Darren Wynns
25	Fri	10:00 am	MB		Exploring Shifting Sands	Robbie Revel
25	Fri	10:00 am	MdO		Ranger Program - Animal Tracks: Clues Left Behind	Ranger Will Rushworth
26	Sat	10:00 am	NC		Ocean Fair	CDC Staff
26/27	Sa/Su	11:00 am	MB		Sea Otter Experience	Docents
26	Sat	3:00 pm	MB		Ranger Program - Morro Bay Estuary - Nursery of the Sea	Ranger David Tyler
27	Sun	10:00 am	LO		Los Osos Oaks Reserve	Faylla Chapman
28	Mon	9:30 am	MdO		Ranger Program - Exploring Animal Tracks and Fuzzy Mammal Pelts ...	Ranger Jeff Sears
28	Mon	3:00 pm	MB		Ranger Program - Marine Mammals	Ranger Darren Wynns
29	Tue	10:00 am	LO		Feet in the Seeps, Geology & Plants	Reifel, Renshaw
30	Wed	10:00 am	MdO		Birding Adventures: Montaña de Oro	Robbie & Bob Revel
31	Thu	11:00 am	MB		White's Point Vistas	Norma Wightman
31	Thu	1:00 pm	MB	♿	Salt Marsh to Mudflats	Faylla Chapman

* **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 ; **New!** - New event added to the AWN calendar
(Adventure Descriptions on the Reverse Side)

SPECIAL EVENTS!

Ocean Fair: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's 25th anniversary event at the Coastal Discovery Center. See Adventure Descriptions on Reverse Side.

Summer Fun Day: Family friendly activities at Oso Flaco. See Adventure Descriptions on Reverse Side.

Oceano Dunes District Visitor Center: We are finally open! Thurs-Sun, Noon to 4 pm. Displays of the Pismo State Park and other State Parks areas, information on Dunites, Off-road vehicles and areas, Butterflies and a small nature store. Located on Pier Avenue, in the Oceano Campground. For more information call 805-474-2667.

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

Coastal Discovery Center: Open Fri - Sun, 11am - 5pm. Hearst State Beach, across from the entrance to Hearst Castle.

ADVENTURE DESCRIPTIONS

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

Birding Adventures: Montaña de Oro

Explore the many habitats of the Central Coast, from grasslands to the rocky shoreline, looking for a variety of bird species. Bring binoculars, water, hat and sunscreen. Dress for wind/weather. Meet at the Bluff Trail head, about 100 yards south of Spooner Ranch House in Montaña de Oro. Slow walk, chance of poison oak, 1.7 mi, 2 hrs.

Birding for Beginners - Part 1

Learn about the skills needed to master birding as a hobby. Practice making observations, learn to use binoculars and spotting scopes, and learn about resources available for ongoing skill building. Binoculars helpful but not necessary. An outdoor walk will follow a discussion in the Museum's Learning Center. Meet at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History. Family event, walk less than 1 mile, 2 hours

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.

Discover Hidden Life in the Morro Bay Estuary

Learn about some of our planet's most fascinating, seldom seen life-forms. A video-microscope will be used to look at the life that exists in a single drop of water. Meet at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History. Talk, 1 hour.

Exploring Shifting Sands

How do wind and waves reshape the beach? What kinds of plants and animals live here? Dress in layers for wind/weather and wear sturdy beach shoes. Take Highway 1 north to the Yerba Buena exit; turn west to meet at Morro Strand State Beach in North Morro Bay. Easy walk, 0.5 miles, 1-2 hours.

Feet in the Seeps, Geology & Plants

Walk along the bay on the stabilized dunes while learning about the bay, the dunes, the plants, and the aquifers beneath. Wear sturdy shoes suitable for walking in loose sand. Bring water. Meet at west end of Butte Drive (north of Sea Pines Golf Course), Los Osos. Moderate walk, chance of poison oak. 1.5 - 2 miles, 1.5 - 2 hours.

Living History: Pecho Ranch in 1919

Visit the Spooner Ranch House in 1919 with Katie Spooner leading the tour. Katie will talk about the making of The Pecho Ranch and Spooner family history. Meet in the Spooner Ranch House in Montaña de Oro. Easy, with chairs available for sitting. 1 hour.

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.

Montaña de Oro Bluff Nature Walk

Take a pleasant hike along the bluffs for the magnificent views and look for wildlife. Dress for wind/weather and bring binoculars. Meet at Bluff Trailhead, about 100 yards south of Spooner Ranch House in Montaña de Oro. Active hike, chance of poison oak, 2 miles, 3 hours.

Ocean Fair

You're invited to celebrate Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's 25th anniversary at this free event featuring live animals, family-friendly activities, and lots of fun for all! Coastal Discovery Center across from Hearst Castle entrance on Highway 1. Free family event. 10am-4 pm. For more information call 805-927-6575.

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.

Pecho Players - The Spooners at Home

Visit the Spooner Ranch House and see the Spooner family at home. A reenactment of past history with actors in period dress. Spooner Ranch House, Montaña de Oro State Park. Family activity. 2 hours.

Ranger Program - Animal Tracks: Clues Left Behind

Learn about tracks of animals in the State Park.. Make a mold of a track to take home. Meet at the Spooner Ranch House picnic tables in Montaña de Oro. Family friendly. 1 hour.

Ranger Program - Exploring Animal Tracks and Fuzzy Mammal Pelts

Join Ranger Jeff exploring animal tracks and touching mammal pelts from animals of Montaña de Oro. Spend 5, 10 or 40 minutes learning about and touching mammal pelts and animal tracks from the creatures of Montaña de Oro State Park. Meet at the Spooner Ranch House in Montana de Oro. Family friendly. 1 hour.

Ranger Program - Marine Mammals

Come by and explore examples of some of amazing marine mammals of our area. A table will be set up with bones, furs and pictures to look at. Morro Bay State Park campground day use area. Family friendly. 1 hour.

Ranger Program - Morro Bay Estuary - Nursery of the Sea

Learn about the estuary: what it is, the environmental factors that affect it, marine life, recreation uses. Meet at the Morro Bay Marina Peninsula Trail head at the east end of the marina parking lot (opposite end from the Bayside Café). Family friendly. 0.5 hr.

Ranger Program - Protecting the Western Snowy Plover

A slide program on the snowy plover, including: how to identify, history, breeding/nesting behavior, fledging, predators and impacts. Morro Bay Museum of Natural History auditorium Family friendly 0.5 hours.

Ranger Program - The peaceful Setting of Harmony Headlands

The wildlife, landscape and history of Harmony Headlands will be discussed via a nature hike originating from the trail head and concluding at the ranch house. Binoculars and sunscreen are recommended. Meet at Harmony Headlands pull-out on left side of Highway 1, ½ mile south of Harmony. All ages. 1 hour.

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: Secrets of Sand and Sediment

Explore samples of sand and sediment using magnifiers and microscopes. Sort living and non-living parts of the sediment and make a miniature mineral & shell collection. Learn what organisms make sand their home. Event held at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History auditorium. This is a family event, lasting 1 hour.

Songbirds in the Pines

Walk through pine woods and along the edges of Morro Bay State Park where it adjoins the golf course, the ends of streets, and private yards. Expect to see woodpeckers, songbirds, and birds of prey. Wear comfortable walking shoes and a hat. Bring binoculars and your bird guidebook, but leave spotting scopes at home. Moderate walking with some hills, at a slow pace. Expect some poison oak. No facilities nearby. Meet at the end of Laloma St., off Quintana Blvd. in Morro Bay. About 1.5 miles, 2 hours.

Sea Otter Experience

Come out to see live otters, ask questions and listen to Docents talk about these fascinating sea mammals. We have spotting scopes and binoculars for close-up viewing. Look for us on the left side of Coleman Road along the boardwalk or in the parking area across from the restrooms in the Morro Rock parking lot. Free Family event, 11am-3 pm.

Summer Fun Day

Join in for activities including plankton viewing, Chumash necklace making, scope viewing of wildlife and more! Dress for the weather. Meet at Oso Flaco near the boardwalk over the lake. Family friendly. \$5 parking within park boundary. No dogs please.

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. Moderate walk, 0.5 miles, 0.75 hours.

Coastal Discovery Center Discovery Saturday Events - San Simeon

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please call 805-927-6575 to reserve space in the program. Suggested donation \$2/person.

Beach Exploration

Learn about the mysteries of San Simeon Cove by beachcombing with marine biologists. Find out what causes high and low tides and investigate the animals and algae cast up on the beach. Buckets and gloves will be supplied for those who want to help clean up the beach on our way back!

Central Coast Marine Mammals

Learn how to identify local marine mammals, what you should do if you see a sick or injured seal, sea lion or sea otter, and what you can do to keep these animals healthy. Join us for lively presentation with real fur pelts, skulls and bones, followed by a walk to the pier to look for sea otters, harbor seals, whales and other marine mammals.

San Simeon Pier Safari

Explore marine life in San Simeon Cove, from the largest residents to the smallest. Bring your binoculars to look for marine birds and mammals. Fish for plankton off the pier and learn the important role they play in the San Simeon Cove food web. Learn about how these marine animals have influenced the rich history of San Simeon Cove. Binoculars and field guides provided (limited number).