



# ADVENTURES WITH NATURE SEPTEMBER 2019

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](http://www.centralcoastparks.org)



Date	Day	Time	LOC*	SC	Adventure	Presenter
1	Sun	9:30 AM	LO		Feet in the Seeps, Geology and Pines - Bardeen, Kirkhart	Reifel, Renshaw
3	Tue	10:00 AM	MB	♻️	Birding for Beginners - Part 2	Watts and Revel
6	Fri	9:00 AM	EB		Estero Bluff Rocks!	Wightman/Dickenson
7	Sat	10:00 AM	OC		Oceano's Beavers	Dan Green
7	Sat	11:00 AM	MB		White's Point Vistas	Molly Stoddard
8	Sun	2:00 PM	MB	♻️	Discover Hidden Life in the Morro Bay Estuary	Karen Watts
10	Tue	10:00 AM	MdO		Hike the Reservoir Flat Trail - Bardeen, Kirkhart	Reifel, Renshaw
11	Wed	9:00 AM	MB		Songbirds in the Pines	Watts and Freitas
12	Thu	11:00 AM	MdO		Living History: Pecho Ranch in 1919	Kathy Flock
13	Fri	10:00 AM	MB	♻️	Birding the Boardwalk	Freitas and Revel
14	Sat	10:00 AM	LO		Los Osos Oaks Reserve	Faylla Chapman
14	Sat	6:00 PM	SLO	♻️	Butterfly Ball at SLO Brew Rock	CCSPA
19	Thu	1:00 PM	MB	♻️	Salt Marsh to Mudflats	Faylla Chapman
19	Thu	7:00 PM	AG	♻️	Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Clark Center	CCSPA
20	Fri	7:00 PM	LO	♻️	Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Los Osos	CCSPA
21	Sat	9:30 AM	PB		Grove to Boardwalk to Beach	Becky Bowen
21	Sat	11:00 AM	MB		White's Point Vistas	Norma Wightman
21	Sat	2:00 PM	MB	♻️	Saturday Scientists: Algae	Rouvaishyana
21	Sat	7:00 PM	SLO	♻️	Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Fremont Theater	CCSPA
22	Sun	2:00 PM	MB	♻️	Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Natural History Museum	CCSPA
28	Sat	9:00 AM	OF	♻️	Oceano Dunes History Featuring Dunites <b>NEW!!</b>	Jan Ojerholm
28	Sat	3:30 PM	MB		Windy Cove Mud and Tide Pools	Faylla Chapman
29	Sun	1:00 PM	LO		The History of the 9 Sisters Volcanic Peaks	Faylla Chapman

\***LOCation Codes:** AG-Arroyo Grande, CDC-Coastal Discovery Center, EB-Estero Bluffs, GB-Grover Beach, HH-Harmony Headlands, LO-Los Osos, MB-Morro Bay, MdO-Montaña de Oro, MS-Morro Strand, NC-North Coast, OC-Oceano, OF-Oso Flaco, PB-Pismo Beach, SLO- San Luis Obispo **Adventure Descriptions on reverse side.**

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Wild and Scenic Film Festival, Sept 14 and Sept 19-22:** Fund raiser for Central Coast State Parks Association (CCSPA). All money raised through this event goes to support activities in your local State Parks. For more information, call 805-548-0384 or visit <http://centralcoastparks.org/filmfest/>

**Butterfly Ball at SLO Brew Rock:** The evening will include a film screening, dinner, live music, dancing, and a silent auction. September 14 from 6 PM to 11 PM at SLO Brew Rock, 855 Aerovista Lane in San Luis Obispo.

**Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Clark Center:** The theme for this evening is Pursuing the Monarchs. September 19 from 7 PM to 9 PM at the Clark Center, 487 Fair Oaks Ave in Arroyo Grande.

**Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Los Osos:** The theme for this evening is Environmental Stewardship. September 20 from 7 PM to 9 PM at the South Bay Community Center, 2180 Palisades Ave in Los Osos.

**Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Fremont Theater:** The theme for this evening is Seas to Streams. September 21 from 7 PM to 10 PM at the Fremont Theater, 1035 Monterey St in San Luis Obispo. After party from 10 PM – 1 AM at SLO Brew at 736 Higuera Street.

**Wild & Scenic Film Festival at Natural History Museum:** The theme for this afternoon is Wild Child Family Films. September 22 from 2 PM to 4 PM at the Museum of Natural History in Morro Bay.

**Morro Bay Museum of Natural History:** 20 State Park Road, Morro Bay 93442. Open every day, 10 am to 5 pm, except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year. \$3 admission, CCSPA members and under 17 are free. Special exhibit – *Nests of Ingenious Creatures*. For more information, please call 805-772-2694.

**Oceano Dunes Visitor Center:** Open daily, Noon to 4 pm. The exhibits highlight the Oceano Dunes District's natural and cultural resources as well as our diverse recreational activities. Visitors learn about Chumash culture, the famous Pismo clams, dune habitat, shorebirds, the history of off-highway vehicles and the Dunites. Located at 555 Pier Ave, Oceano 93445 (in the Oceano Campground). For more information, please call 805-474-2664.

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

**Coastal Discovery Center:** Hours are 11 am to 5 pm, Fri, Sat and Sun. San Simeon State Park, Hwy 1, San Simeon.

## ADVENTURE DESCRIPTIONS

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

**Birding for Beginners – Part 2:** In the field, practice using skills introduced in Birding for Beginners - Part 1. Review making quality observations, using binoculars and spotting scopes, and exploring resources available for ongoing skill building. Participation in Part 1 helpful but not required. Park close to east end of Morro Bay State Park Bayside marina parking lot. 2 hours

**Birding the Boardwalk:** Enjoy a stroll while identifying shorebirds and more. Beginning birders welcome. Bring binoculars and field guide. 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 auditorium. 1 hour.

**Estero Bluff Rocks!:** See the mix of tortured rocks (sedimentary, metamorphic and volcanic) that tectonic forces spewed up along this scenic section of coastline. Bring binoculars and water; wear sturdy beach shoes and layered clothing. Meet in dirt parking lot one mile north of the end of the divided section of Hwy 1, north of Cayucos. Moderate hike but short, steep path to beach. 2 miles. 2 hrs.

**Feet in the Seeps, Geology and 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, 1.5 - 2 miles, 1.5 - 2 hours.

**Grove to Boardwalk to Beach:** This is an easy stroll through the Monarch butterfly Grove, the boardwalk and then returning by way of the beach. Along the way, we'll discuss a bit about the area's history, the monarchs, the Pismo clams, the sand dollars and shorebirds as we identify some of the area's plants and animals. Dress for the weather. Bring binoculars, camera, water, and guidebooks. Meet at the benches in the Pismo State Beach Monarch Butterfly Grove, 455 S. Dolliver. Easy walk. One mile. Approx. 2 hours.

**Hike the Reservoir Flat Trail:** Walk through the chaparral into the riparian zone near Islay Creek. Enjoy the view back to Spooner's Cove and the ocean. Then stroll through the shady woods. Meet at the Spooner Ranch House, Montaña de Oro State Park. 2 miles, 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.

**Oceano Dunes History Featuring the Dunites:** The Oceano Dunes have been used by people for thousands of years. Learn about dune formation, the Chumash, Spanish Explorers, early settlers and the Dunites. Drive south on Hwy 1 toward Guadalupe. After passing Trilogy turn right on Oso Flaco Road. Drive to the end and park in the parking lot. Parking passes will be provided. An easy, mostly wheelchair accessible, 2.5 mile round trip walk. 2 - 3 hours.

**Oceano's Beavers:** Discover the beaver's physical adaptations, their role in our country's westward expansion, why they were hunted, and their local history. Search for evidence of their activities during a short walk. Dress for wind/weather with comfortable shoes. Bring insect repellent and water: binoculars a plus. Meet at Oceano Dunes Visitor Center, Guiton Hall meeting room, Oceano Campground, 555 Pier Ave, Oceano. Moderate walk, 0.5 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- Algae:** Learn about the three major classifications of marine algae. Look at algae found on beaches, growing on trees, and growing in areas where you might not want it. If desired, bring samples of green or other colors of algae from your house, car, pond water, and other places. We'll look at algal structures and cells under microscopes. Morro Bay Museum of Natural History Auditorium. 1-1.5 hours

**Songbirds in the Pines:** Walk through pine woods and along the edges of Morro Bay State Park, expecting to see woodpeckers, songbirds, and birds of prey. Bring binoculars and your bird guidebook. Meet at the end of Laloma St., off Quintana Blvd. in Morro Bay. Moderate walking at a slow pace, 1.5 miles, 2 hours.

**The History of the 9 Sisters Volcanic Peaks:** Morro Rock is the most famous of a chain of volcanic peaks leading into San Luis Obispo. Learn about the Nine Sisters, also called the 7 Sisters or the Morros, and other geologic aspects of the area. Meet at the Los Osos Oaks Reserve parking lot, 0.7 mile east of South Bay Blvd on Los Osos Valley Road. 0.5 mile, 1 hour. Chance of poison oak.

**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.

**Windy Cove Mud and Tide Pools:** Walk to Windy Cove below the Museum learning about the plants, the mud and the organisms that inhabit the mud and the rocks around the cove. Wear shoes that can get muddy; no bare feet. Meet at the "Nature Walk" sign in front of the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History. Easy family walk, 1-2 hour.