

F AIRVIEW P ARK

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FAIRVIEW PARK

MASTER PLAN:

A guide for tomorrow

Park Update.....

VERNAL POOL RESTORATION

Definition: Vernal pools are seasonally flooded depressions which often fill and empty several times during the rainy season. Vernal pools often contain and support specialized plants and wildlife species that have adapted to this cycle of wetting and drying.

Vernal pools are quite rare in Southern California due to: 1) the unique geologic conditions that must be present to form them; and 2) intensive human development of coastal areas. In Orange County, Fairview Park's vernal pools represent one of the few existing examples of this ecosystem. Due to these factors, many plants and animals that occur exclusively or largely in vernal pools are considered biologically "sensitive" by State and Federal Resource Agencies.

The park's seven vernal pool basins and one vernal marsh basin meet Federal wetlands criteria and numerous wetland-dependent migratory birds use these areas for resting and foraging from fall through spring. The park's vernal pools and patches of annual grassland, between and around the pools, supports several sensitive plants and the Federally-endangered San Diego Fairy Shrimp (*Brawchiocla SanDiegoensis*).

Restoration of the largest vernal pool, 2.07 acres, has been completed in two phases; Phase I in 1996 by an agreement with the Irvine Company for mitigation of developing the University Research Project at University of California, Irvine, and Phase II in October 2003 by C. J. Segersstrom and Sons as part of their Home Ranch Project. This was part of meeting requirements for permits from the Army Corps of Engineers, California Department of Fish and Game, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The mitigation measures include coordinating with all the regulatory agencies, removal of soils from vernal pool number one, two, and three, re-contouring the adjacent soil, vernal marshes, and monitoring and maintaining the site for five years. Cost of construction and a five-year monitoring program is \$80,000 with no cost to the City of Costa Mesa.

Ron Melnyk

Fairview Park Plan Administrator

VERNAL POOL TOUR

The City of Costa Mesa's Fairview Friends Committee, will be hosting a free guided tour of a special feature of Fairview Park on Saturday, February 21st. The Fairview Park winter tour will take place at 9:30 p.m. at the large vernal pool, located in the middle of the park, on the upper bluff, on the west side of Placentia Avenue. An information guide about the ecology of vernal pools will be provided as we explore one of the rarest treasures in Orange County. The adventure is expected to take 1 hour with plenty of time to explore other areas of the park on your own.

Our seasonal tours present an overview of what the Park has to offer the community, as well as provide public understanding regarding future plans for the Park. The Fairview Friends Committee holds seasonal tours of the park to encourage the community to witness subtle changes in the park with regard to weather

FAIRVIEW PARK



FLORA/Fauna HIGHLIGHT

CALIFORNIA WISHBONE BUSH

Mirabilis californica

Wishbone bush is a low, much-branched perennial with slender, somewhat weak stems, woody at the base, herbaceous above, and ascending to decumbent. The stems repeatedly fork, are glandular-hairy and sometimes are supported by other bushes. The opposite, entire-margined leaves are ovate to ± heart-shaped.



The flowers are in green, calyx-like involucre which are campanulate and clustered near the ends of branches. What appears at first to be the five petals are actually petaloid sepals which are cleft and pink to purple-red in color. Wishbone bush has no petals. The



five long-exserted stamens are whitish with yellow anthers. This is a fairly common bush on dry slopes and stony washes mostly below 2500'

in coastal sage scrub, chaparral and foothill woodlands from cismontane c. California to San Diego Co. and extending to the desert edge and Channel Islands, blooming from December to June. It gets its common name from the many dry forking stems which resemble a chicken "wishbone," and the family name derives from the fact that it is night-pollinated and opens in the mid-afternoon.

COSTAMAZING

PRIDE IN THE PARK
5K FUN RUN/WALK
FAIRVIEW PARK
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2004

START TIMES

REGISTRATION	7 AM
5K RUN/WALK	8 AM
KIDS K RACE	9 AM
RAFFLE/AWARD	9:30 AM
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT	10 AM
COMMUNITY EXPO	8 AM - NOON

WALK-IN REGISTRATION:
THE CITY OF COSTA MESA OR PLUMA.

ONLINE REGISTRATION:
WWW.ACIME.COM



MORE INFORMATION

AMY KUCIATA
(714) 754-5865

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THIS YEAR'S
MAJOR EVENTS AT THE PARK !!!

APRIL - EARTH DAY CLEAN UP



MAY - PAWS AROUND THE PARK DOG
WALK EVENT



JULY PARK-O-RAMA



OCTOBER - LOUNGE CHAIR THEATER

ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHT

Friends of Fairview Park Committee

City of Costa Mesa
Costa Mesa, CA 92628

Fairview Park Friends Hotline (714) 754-5698
FairviewFriends@ci.costa-mesa.ca.us

www.cmfairviewpark.org



ACTIVITIES

Costa Mesa Historical Society (949) 631-5918
Harbor Soaring Society (949) 642-6830
Orange County Model Engineers (949) 631-3418
ReLeaf Costa Mesa (714) 540-5811

CONTACTS



**Fairview Park
FRIENDS HOTLINE:
(714) 754-5698**

February 7th- Pride in the Park 5K Fun Run/Walk @ 8 am (Registration @ 7 am)
February 21st- Vernal Pool Tour @ 9:30 a.m.
Every 3rd Weekend of the Month: Free train rides on the Eastside of the park
provided by the Orange County Model Engineers Club

UPCOMING EVENTS