

Friends of Tecolote Canyon

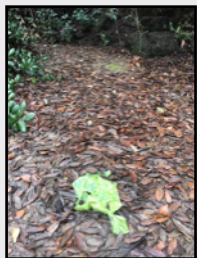


May 2019
Volume 4, Issue 3



Inside This Issue

ESCAPE & Events.....	2
New Bridges & Nano Nature.....	3
Kudos from Parks & Rec.....	4
Tecolote Family Day (free!).....	5



Rare Frog Sighting?

Did the Nature Center Director see a very rare frog at Tecolote Nature Center?
Continued on p. 2

Rattle and Pole?



Volunteer and canyon rim resident Anna G found this young Southern Pacific Rattlesnake in her backyard. Anna carefully moved the snake with a very long pole and put it back into its own backyard...Tecolote Canyon!

Never put yourself in danger when it comes to wildlife! For more information check out this link.
https://www.sddac.com/content/dam/sdc/das/pdf/brochures/Snake_Brochure.pdf

Nano Nature

By Joan Brosnan

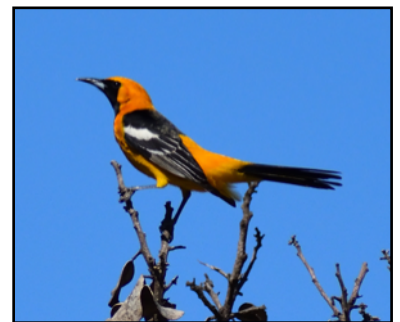
Whether you view it from a window or a trail, a nano nature moment awes. Thank you to the shared moments from these recent Tecolote Canyon visitors.



Black Phoebes photos by Susan & Rich

"These Black Phoebes were waiting for lunch outside our patio. With it drizzling, Rich just took the shot through the closed door. The two parents were zipping back and forth to satisfy those cuties. A parent shoved in an insect without even stopping to perch!"
-by Susan and Rich

"If a child is to keep alive his inborn sense of wonder, he needs the companionship of at least one adult who can share it, rediscovering with him the joy, excitement, and mystery of the world we live in."
— Rachel Carson



*Hooded Oriole (top), Nuttall's Woodpecker (middle), baby Desert Cottontail (bottom)
photos by Amanda*

"My girlfriend and I spent the weekend in San Diego, La Jolla, and Torrey Pines and were so glad that we spent time at the Tecolote Canyon Nature Park. We did a couple miles of trail hiking on Sunday (3/31/19) and as a birder, I was so thrilled to see birds that aren't in my local area (San Pedro, CA)."
-by Amanda

Nano Nature continued p. 3



May Events

Tecolote Nature Center

5180 Tecolote Road San Diego, CA 92110

858-581-9944

Park Ranger Office 858-581-9961

Monday – Closed,

Tuesday – Saturday 9:00-4:00,

Sunday 9:00-2:00

Saturday, May 4

We're in the Clairemont Garden Tour! For more info

<https://www.clairemontonline.com/Garden-Tour>

Sunday, May 5

9:00-11:00 Sunday in the Garden

Volunteer in our native plant garden and nurture nature with Park Ranger Erika!

Wednesday, May 15

1:30-3:00 Art & Activities for Kids- Free!

Learn a little, create a lot! Have fun in nature and create some spring crafts.

Saturday, May 18

9:00-11:00 Weed Warriors

Volunteer help is needed in the restoration and revegetation areas. Gloves and tools provided. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes. No flip flops please. Bring sun protection and a refillable water bottle. * Arrive early to get a good parking spot.

**Save the date – June 1st 10:00-2:00
Tecolote Family Day!**

Activities are posted at

<https://www.meetup.com/Friends-of-Tecolote-Canyon-Natural-Park-and-Nature-Center/>

Like us on Facebook/Friends of Tecolote Canyon

www.friendsoftecolotecanyon.org

Many volunteer opportunities available!

Call 858-581-9959

www.sandiego.gov/volunteer-program

Rare Frog Sighting?

continued from p. 1, by Director Marla Gilmore

A very rare giant frog was seen in Tecolote Canyon. Wait a minute—upon closer investigation, this is not a rare giant frog after all. It is a very common dog poop bag that was left in the canyon. The San Diego Municipal Code requires you to pick up after your dog which also includes throwing the poop bag in the trash. I must say that as a dog owner I have been guilty of placing a filled bag somewhere along my walk if it isn't convenient to carry with me. On the rare occasion when this happens I always take the same path back and dispose of the bag in the trash. I usually pick up poop left by others whether it is bagged or not. Leaving plastic bags on the trail is bad for the environment since bags take years and years to decompose. No one wants to step in poop or have their dog roll around in it. It is every dog owners responsibility to scoop the poop. Thanks for your cooperation in helping park staff to maintain clean safe trails for all!

Hear About the ESCAPE?

Environmental Stewards Canyon Program



San Diego Unified School Students after completing canyon restoration project

ESCAPE-ing in Tecolote

If you've seen groups of children exploring Tecolote Canyon with a guide wearing a blue shirt, you may have seen them ESCAPE-ing. Naturalists with Friends of Tecolote Canyon currently lead nearly 700 SDUSD students into our urban canyon for direct experiences in nature during school. Students participate in guided walks, canyon restoration projects, live animal encounters, and human impact activities. FTC's ESCAPE program is sponsored by SDGE's Environmental Champions Grant and other community donors.

If you are a San Diego Unified School District teacher, we invite you to contact us to schedule a nature field trip for your class. Our ESCAPE education program believes that children will protect what they love and will lead the next generation of environmental stewards in Tecolote Canyon!

www.friendsoftecolotecanyon.org/escape-education



Brave SDUSD teacher and students at ESCAPE live animal encounter with Ranger Cameron



San Diego Unified School Students participating in ESCAPE's mustard weed removal restoration at Mount Brundage Park (above) and live snake encounter with Naturalist Andrea (below)



About Friends of Tecolote Canyon

Friends of Tecolote Canyon is a non-profit community organization committed to sponsoring nature education and restoration activities in Tecolote Canyon Natural Park. Our education program, supported by SDGE's "Environmental Champions Initiative", is dedicated to bringing children into Tecolote Canyon and fostering connection through enjoyable, memorable, and meaningful experiences in our unique and precious local habitat.

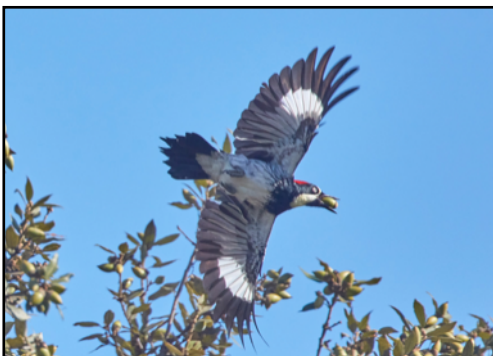
Your donations are always appreciated and make our programs possible. You can donate to Friends of Tecolote Canyon at Tecolote Nature Center, or at our website: www.friendsoftecolotecanyon.org/donate

Nano Nature

(continued from p. 1)



Thank you to Adam L for this submission of a Southern Pacific Rattlesnake sighting



Thank you to Sandeep Dhar for submitting the Acorn Woodpecker and Anna's Hummingbird photos above, and for providing us with this year's photograph for our annual postcard flyer. You can see more of Sandeep's work here: www.instagram.com/sandharphotography/ All are welcome to stop by Tecolote Nature Center to pick one up!

Send your Nano Nature moments to: friendsoftecolotecanyon@gmail.com

New Bridges at TNC

Built by Life Scout Ryan Clairmont



Two beautiful new bridges invite nature center visitors into the native plant garden. The new additions were built by Ryan Clairmont, 14-year old Life Scout in Boy Scout Troop 765, located in the Carmel Valley/Del Mar area, and with help from Troop members. Ryan is a freshman at Canyon Crest Academy and working toward his Eagle rank at this time. He has been involved in Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts since he was in first grade. Ryan is also an avid tennis player, loves math and science and hopes to be a physicist someday. We encourage you all to visit these new connections into nature.



Yoga in Nature

Practice yoga in a beautiful setting surrounded by bird song and nature. Yoga calms your mind and renews your energy, as well as tones, strengthens, and promotes flexibility.

Fridays 10:00-11:00

5 Sessions/\$50.00

Register: San Diego OASIS

www.SanDiegoOasis.org 619-881-6262

Thank You to Our Sponsors



Friends of Tecolote Canyon and the ESCAPE team gratefully acknowledge a generous grant from SDGE supporting another year of our ESCAPE program.



We want to thank **Scott Chalmers** and **Filmetrics** for their donation, providing 5 years of Wi-Fi to the Nature Center.



Thank you to Cole's Fine Flooring for a donation of carpet squares for children's education programs at our Nature Center.



Our thanks to the Clairemont Town Council for their \$250 donation to support TC Habitat Restoration. FOTC will purchase native plants, gloves, and hand tools for children to use in our ESCAPE education program.



KUDOS

Marla Gilmore, Center Director II, Ranger Cameron Engelhart and volunteer Susan Briesch

From: Tamara Brown
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2018 12:19 PM
To: Gilmore, Marla
Subject: Our Visit to Tecolote Canyon

Marla,

Thank you very much for making our school visits to Tecolote Canyon AMAZING! Our students learned so much and the parents are eager to come back to continue their family learning at Tecolote Canyon. As you know, Outdoor Education class is a new addition for Greater San Diego Academy, and your assistance and flexibility helped to make it such a success! As a parent and a teacher with the program I was able to witness first hand just how much knowledge my children and students gained. Your interpretive center is full of amazing learning opportunities and the kids have referenced animals they saw up close at Tecolote as we have explored other natural sites in San Diego. The scavenger hunt you provided really helped them explore too. We absolutely could not have made this happen without your hospitality both before and during our two day visit.

Big thanks to Ranger Cameron who shared such a wonderful lesson on snakes with us. Our students, teachers and parents learned so much about reptiles and absolutely loved meeting some scaly friends at the end. The teachers also appreciated lessons on how to NOT meet scaly, rattling friends on the trails.

Ms. Susan's lessons on owls and owl pellet dissection were a huge highlight to our Outdoor Education classes. She was so entertaining and informative! Please pass along our gratitude to her for taking her time to create such fun lessons and coordinate and supply the owl pellet supplies. Many of our students brought their petri dishes full of tiny vole bones to their monthly consultations (meetings held with credentialed teachers to show off favorite learning projects). It was truly an unforgettable lesson and experience.

And finally, thank you to Friends of Tecolote Canyon for providing these amazing resources to our children. Our goal for the GSDA Outdoor Education program is to foster a love of learning and a love of nature through hands-on learning in our unique San Diego home. Tecolote Canyon provided us with so many resources to make this happen and we are truly grateful. The beautiful, hand-made signs along the Battle trail gave students a wonderful introduction to the animals they might see in the canyon. Teaching our first and second graders about Native Americans while sitting inside a Kumeyaay hut was unforgettable. The outdoor seating area gave students a wonderful spot to sit and write about their five senses related to their surroundings. Thank you for giving our students such a wonderful gift. We look forward to visiting again soon.

Sincerely,
Tamara Brown

Submitted by: Steve Haupt
District Manager



Free! Tecolote Family Day

5180 Tecolote Road | San Diego, CA 92110

Saturday, June 1, 2019

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

- Geology Rocks! with Norrie Robbins
- Critter Encounters
- Luiseño Storyteller, Cathleen Chilcote Wallace
- San Diego Tracking Team
- I Love A Clean San Diego
- Project Wildlife
- Face Painting (10:30-12:30)
- Owl Pellet Dissection
- Insect Investigation
- Live Snakes
- Turtle Time
- Music from Biomimicry
- Animal Tracks
- Selfie Station
- Nature Crafts, and more!



Special thanks to the Friends of Tecolote Canyon,
District 2 Councilmember Jennifer Campbell,
and many wonderful volunteers!

The City of

SAN DIEGO



Parks and
Recreation

Pack a picnic and come enjoy the day!
Tecolote Nature Center 858-581-9944



AS A RECIPIENT OF FEDERAL FUNDS, THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO CANNOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANYONE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, GENDER, RELIGIOUS CREED, MARITAL STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, ANCESTRY, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE, MENTAL OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY, MEDICAL CONDITION (INCLUDING HIV, AIDS & AIDS-RELATED COMPLEX). IF ANYONE BELIEVES HE OR SHE HAS BEEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, HE OR SHE MAY FILE A COMPLAINT ALLEGING THE DISCRIMINATION WITH EITHER THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTACT DISTRICT MANAGER (619) 685-1131 OR THE OFFICE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240. THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.