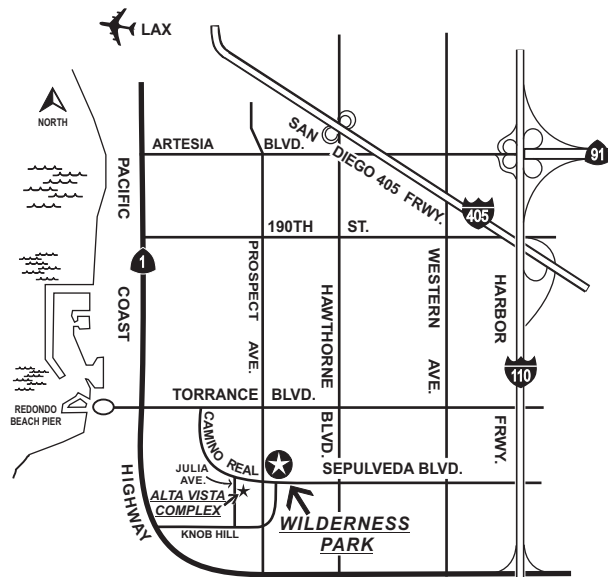
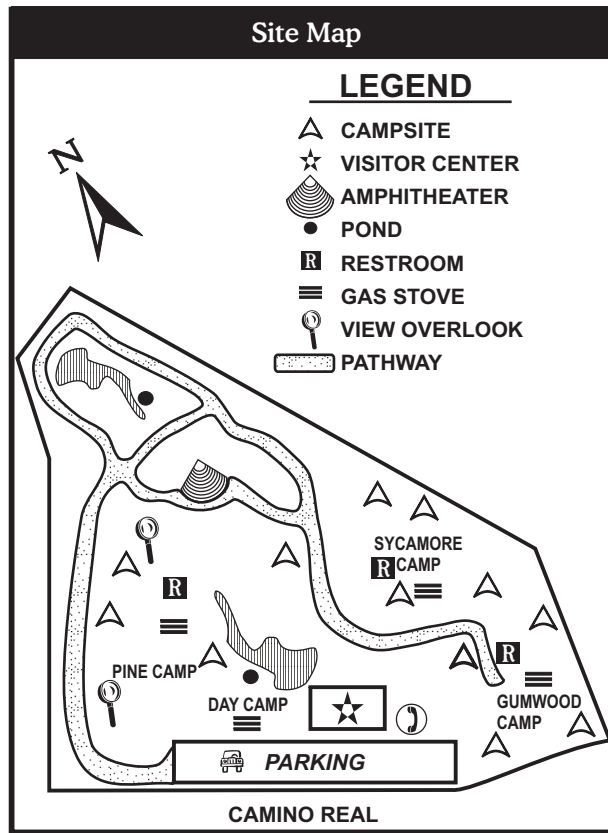


A Brief History

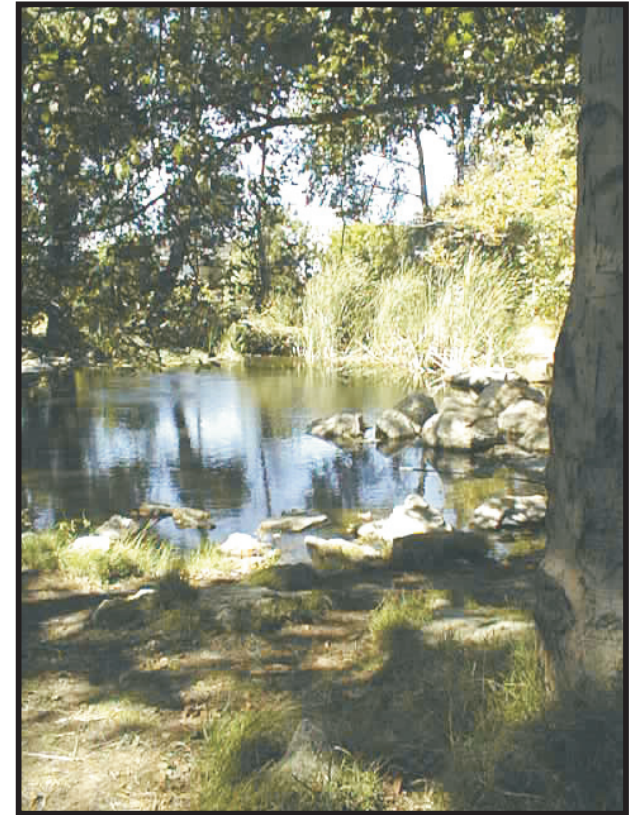
On May 7, 1971, the City of Redondo Beach was given the title to 11 acres of federal land by the General Services Administration of the United States. By investing approximately one million dollars from federal, state, and local sources, and assisted by the California National Guard, this originally bare NIKE Radar site has been transformed into an urban wilderness campground and nature study area. On April 30, 1977, Wilderness Park was officially dedicated. On May 9, 1977 the Mayor and City Council renamed the park to honor Frances E. Hopkins, Redondo City Manager from 1954 to 1972. He played a significant roll in the park's acquisition and development.



Location Map

HOPKINS WILDERNESS PARK

1102 Camino Real
Redondo Beach, California 90277
(310) 318-0668



Redondo Beach Recreation
and
Community Services Department

Reservations can be made at:
Alta Vista Tennis Complex
715 Julia Avenue
Redondo Beach, CA 90277
(310) 318-0670
www.redondo.org

Welcome to Hopkins Wilderness Park

The City of Redondo Beach welcomes you to one of the most unique recreation facilities in the South Bay area. Hopkins Wilderness Park is an 11-acre camping and study area, established to provide wilderness experience within an urban environment. The park's location, situated high upon costal hills, provides a commanding view in all directions.

Wilderness Park consists primarily of four ecological habitats: forests, meadows, streams, and ponds - places where nature can thrive, undisturbed by man. During your visit, we hope you relax, walk slowly and "adopt the pace of nature" while exploring the four worlds of Wilderness Park.

"In the Beginning..."

Did you know you are standing on a sand dune? Wilderness Park is located within the southern end of the El Segundo Sand Hills. The Sand Hills extend from Playa Del Rey south approximately 12 miles, lapping onto the Palos Verdes Hills.

Many years ago a geological uplift occurred in this area. Sea level dropped causing the beach area to enlarge. For several thousand years, an abundant sand supply was available for the dominant easterly winds to transport. Wilderness Park is situated upon the highest point of these sand dunes.

The Four Worlds of Wilderness Park

The Forest

The Wilderness Park forest is a very young one. All of the trees, approximately one thousand of them, were planted in 1975 during the developmental stage of the Park.

Many species of trees have been planted. At the south end, the Eucalyptus or Gumwood is the predominant tree. The east side of the park has a fine grove of California Sycamores, and in the north end, there are several species of pine, predominantly Aleppo Pine and Japanese Black Pine. Some other species of trees found within the park include the California Redwood, Catalina Ironwood, Cottonwood, California Bay, Evergreen Pear, Brazilian Pepper, Catalpa and several types of Ash and Elm.

Watch for forest birds such as the scrub jay, Anna's hummingbird, the sparrow hawk and various types of warblers. You may see a pair of sharpshinned hawks searching for their next meal.

Through the years, this forest will become a mature one. Try to visualize just how Wilderness Park will appear ten or twenty years from now.

The Meadow

Much of Wilderness Park consists of meadows or grasslands. A meadow can be an exciting place for nature exploration. Gophers build tunnels and cause the small mounds of soil. Alligator lizards and fence lizards feed upon insects. An occasional harmless garter snake may slide quietly through the grass.

Listen for the call of the tree frog. On warm days, colorful butterflies seem to dance across the meadowlands.

While exploring the meadows of Wilderness Park, watch for the birds. Meadowlark flash their white tail feathers in flight. They live here year-round and build their nests among the grasses. As the trees grow taller, they will produce much more shade and eventually cause much less meadow area in Wilderness Park. This is a process called natural succession. Birds which prefer meadows will decrease in number and forest birds will increase. But for now, the meadow world of Wilderness Park is yours, an exciting place to spend a lot of time exploring.



The Stream

There are two streams at Wilderness Park: the Upper Stream located near the Visitor Center, and the Lower Stream found within Green Swamp Nature Study Area. Both streams have their source from water pumped into the man-made stream beds. The water then flows into the ponds where it is again pumped back up to the stream source and recirculated. The two streams of Wilderness Park provide a water environment for various forms of life. We hope you will take time to sit along a Wilderness Park stream. Listen to the sound of cascades and small waterfalls and think a bit about the value of water in your life as you watch it flow toward the pond below.



The Pond

The two ponds of Wilderness Park can provide you with many unique experiences. They are the home of various forms of animal life including turtles, crayfish and bullfrogs. You may be lucky enough to observe a great blue heron or black-crowned night heron feeding in either pond.

The Green Swamp Nature Study Area contains the larger of the two ponds. It supports thousands of small mosquito fish, Gambusia. They feed on mosquito larvae. Notice the two shallow portions of this pond; these are small marshes. Look closely for interesting nature happenings. Quite often brilliant blue damselflies with their wings held over their backs can be observed perched along the marsh edge. Their keen eyesight helps to spot the smaller insects upon which they feed. The mockingbird is one of the most easily observed birds here in Green Swamp. White wing patches flash as it flies. The blue scrub jay is often observed voicing its noisy call.

Camping

Overnight Camping - By Reservation only

Applicant must be 21 years of age or older.

Camping is limited to tents and/or sleeping bags. No vehicles of any kind are permitted inside the park.

- Two overnight campgrounds for organized groups. Capacity: 40 persons each campground.
- One overnight campground for individual or family camping. Capacity: 40 persons
- Cooking centers, picnic tables and restrooms are located at campgrounds. No open fires are permitted.

Persons under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older, in ratios of 1 to 5.

Day Camping - By Reservation Only

Fee For Private / Youth Groups (Scouts and Schools)

- One day camp picnic site with cooking center and picnic tables.
- Capacity: 40 persons

Groups over 10 must make reservations. Individuals and organizations who wish to reserve the park must pay a fee:
\$7.00 per hour (within session) - Youth Groups (Scouts and Schools)
\$50.00 per three hour session for Private Parties
10 A.M. - 1 P.M. and 1:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. and 5:00 - 9:30 P.M.

Fees - Overnight Camping (per person / per night)

Youth *	Adult	Friday and Saturday only
\$3.00	\$5.00	Facility Staffing Fee

*Youth are persons 17 years of age or younger.

Amphitheater Use - By Reservation Only

An outdoor Amphitheater is available.
Capacity: 150 persons
Fee: \$50.00 per three hours for non-campers.

Rules and Regulations

Wilderness Park is a wildlife community where plants and animals are at home. Respect and protect them.

- No collection, removal or destruction of any plant, animal or any natural object.
- No alcoholic beverages or intoxicants of any kind.
- No fireworks, toy guns or weapons of any kind.
- No campfires, charcoal barbecues, open-flamed devices or devices using flammable liquids, and no smoking.
- No bicycles, skateboards or motorized vehicles.
- No climbing trees or buildings.
- No wading in the pond.
- No water balloons or water shooting devices.
- No fishing or fishing equipment in the pond.
- No pets.

Additionally:

- Overnight camping is limited to sleeping bags and/or tents.
- Supervise children and teach them to respect wildlife and its environment.
- Place litter in designated receptacles.

Park Policy, Procedures and Facilities

Hours: Open 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. daily (weather permitting). Closed Wednesdays for irrigation. No entrance fee is required for individuals or families who wish to walk through the park. Parking is limited.

Children **UNDER AGE 10** must have adult supervision to be admitted to the park.