FOR YOUR SAFETY
1. All OHV's (off-highway vehicles) must have a current off-highway or street legal registration. All OHV's must also have a U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrester and meet sound regulations.
2. All riders must wear a helmet while starting, sitting on, or operating any OHV. Goggles, boots, long-sleeved shirts and long pants are highly recommended. Persons under age 18 operating an ATV/ATC must be in possession of a current ATV Training Certificate. Other regulations apply for riders under age 14 and for riders between the ages of 14 and 17. For more information, contact the park office.
3. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on park premises.
4. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on park premises.
5. Riders may operate on designated trails and OHV facilities only. All trails and tracks are one-way.
6. The speed limit in the parking area is 5 MPH.
7. No stopping on trails. If you must stop, move off to one side of the trail and select a stopping point where you are clearly visible to other riders.
8. Off-Road motorcycles under 80cc engine size are not allowed on the main Motocross Track.
9. ATV's are allowed on the main trails (not black diamond) and on the GP & ATV Tracks.
10. Red-sticker riding regulations will apply accordingly.

RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK AND WEAR REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT
Off-highway vehicle use may be hazardous. Use of protective apparel, skill levels, vehicle condition, terrain, weather, common sense and following the park rules, all affect your safety.

HOURS
The park is open Thursday through Monday and closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Hours vary seasonally; call park office, (408) 226-5223 to obtain current park hours.

Note: Park may be closed during inclement weather.
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WELCOME
Welcome to Motorcycle County Park, the County park system’s only off-road vehicle park. This 459 acre park is located in the grass covered hills of south east Santa Clara Valley. Motorcycle County Park offers trails for the advanced and beginner motorcycle and ATV rider. In addition to the 20 miles of dirt trails, there are 6 different types of tracks, picnic areas and restroom facilities.

HOW TO GET THERE
The park entrance is located at 309 Metcalf Road in San Jose. The park may be accessed from the Bernal Road exit off highways 101 and 80. From the Bernal Road exit, proceed west about 0.2 mile to Monterey Highway south. Take Monterey Highway south 1.25 miles to Metcalf Road. Turn left and proceed up Metcalf Road 2.5 miles to the park entrance.

ACTIVITIES
Motorcycle Park’s 459 acres contains over twenty miles of OHV and trail tracks. Straddling a thousand foot high ridge, these park trails afford riders vistas ranging from Gilroy to San Francisco. The park facilities include:

- Motorcycle cross country track, T.T. Track, G.P. Track, A.T.V. Track and Oval Track
- Mini-motocross track (100cc two stroke engine size or 150cc four stroke engine size or less)
- Beginner’s oval track, 12 miles of main trails (beginners/intermediate)
- 8 miles of single track enduro (expert) trails
- One hill climb area
- Shaded picic areas, restrooms, visitor center, drink vending machines
- A 1/20th mile paved oval track operated by the Baylands Quarter Midget Racing Association, for quarter midget racing and practice.

In addition to a restroom building, there are picnic tables with some barbecues, located at several locations. The park offers a hot catering trailer on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (Burger Man). No bocks will be served from the office.

FEES
Fees are subject to change, call park office at (408) 226-5233 to confirm current fees rates.

(note: Annual passes may be available. For more information, inquire at the park office or call the park office at the number noted above).

PARK RULES
Your cooperation is requested in the important task of helping maintain the beauty and orderliness of the park by observing the following general rules:

- Vehicles: For the visitor’s safety, minimum must observe posted speed limits. Vehicles are allowed on established roadways and parking areas only.
- Pets: Dogs and other pets are prohibited except in designated areas and must be controlled on a 6-foot (or less) leash.
- Garbage: Place in receptacles provided. Recycling is encouraged.
- Fires: Permit required. No fires/ashpits allowed.
- Alcohol: No alcohol allowed.
- Weapons: Firearms, air guns, archery equipment and paintball guns are prohibited
- Discretion: No hunting allowed.
- Spark Arrestors: U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrestors are required for all vehicles.

TRAIL MARKINGS
All trails are one way. Proper direction of travel and trail difficulty will be indicated on canoeist maps and will appear as follows:

- Right Direction: Easy
- Wrong Direction: Intermediate
- Waterfall: Beginner

RIGHT DIRECTION 
- Expert
- Intermediate
- Beginner

NATURAL DIVERSITY
Motorcycle County Park is situated on rolling to steeply sloping hills, with elevations between 205 to 1357 feet above sea level. Soils are mainly clay loam with igneous or serpentinite material. The park receives an average of sixteen inches of rain per year.

There are three dominant plant communities within the park which include grassland, chapparal and oak chaparral woodland. The grassland comprises about 60% of the park and contains mostly exotic grasses such as wild oats. The grasslands include some native perennial grasses such as Purple Needlegrass. The grasslands support an amazing assortment of wildflowers which may be seen in the spring and summer. Some of the more prominent species include the Mariposa lily, hillside yarrow, goldfields, cavanilles and California poppy. Chapparal, which is primarily comprised of chamise and sage species, covers about 26% of the park. The oak chaparral woodland is found in the drainage swales and seasonal creeks, comprising roughly 13% of the park area.

Motorcycle County Park may be home to several species of endangered plant and animal species including the California red legged frog, bay check spot butterfly, Metacal Canyon jewelfish, Santa Clara daisies, and the Mount Hamilton thistle. Most of the endangered plant species are found in the serpentine soil habitats. These habitats have been identified and the County Parks Department is committed to preserving these areas by restricting new trail development, while closing some trails in these sensitive habitat areas. The Department is also in the process of implementing an ongoing erosion and sedimentation control program for the park.

CULTURAL HISTORY
The Ohlone Indians lived around Coyote Creek and the surrounding hills for several thousand years. For more than 3,000 years prior to the arrival of the Spanish in the late 18th century, the Ohlones probably utilized the area for hunting and gathering.

Most of the park falls within the historic boundaries of the Ranchos Rodeo de la Laguna Seca, with small portions fall within the Ranchos Yerba Buena y Soconos and Pueblo Trail III, Ranchos Laguna Seca, mining “dry lake” included almost 200,000 acres, ranging from today’s Metcalf Road south to Morgan Hill, incorporating the valley and surrounding foothills. The ranch was granted to Juan Almarín in 1834 by Governor Figueroa, the Mexican governor of Alta California. William Fisher, born in England in 1830, arrived in Massachusetts as a young man and sold for Baja California in 1830 as a mate on a sealing vessel. He settled in San Jose, Baja California, where he worked as a vessel and navigated upon the Gulf of California. William Fisher married Lucrecia Cena in Mexico and eventually raised four sons and two daughters. At a public auction in April of 1842, he purchased Ranch Laguna Seca for $6,800 and four years later erected an adobe on the current site of Coyote Ranch, part of Santa Clara County Park’s Coyote Creek Parkway near Metcalf Road and Monterey Highway. At the ranch, Fisher engaged in cattle and stock raising until his death in 1850.

One of William’s sons, Francis C. Fisher, born on the ranch in 1850, continued ranching on the 2,600 acre farm while caring for his mother. By 1876, much of the ranch was paralyzed, with the Fishers retaining most of the northern portion of the original ranches around Coyote Station including the original homestead. The ranch was reported to be one of the most productive grain farms in the valley. Most of the ranch was devoted to hay, grain and pasture. The Thompson and West Atlas of Santa Clara County, published in 1876, shows a man named Dan Rola owning 1,865 acres in the Motorcycle Park area.

Fisher founded his primary education at local county schools and attended Santa Clara University for two years. After school, he worked as a foreman for Daniel Murphy, another pioneer of Santa Clara County, who owned much land in and around Morgan Hill and Gilroy. Francis also ran the family ranch while, in 1887, taking charge of the Fall and Murphy ranches at Nevada as General Manager until 1894. After 1894, he turned to cultivating and improving the Fisher Ranch (Coyote Ranch) property consisting of about 1,300 acres. Fiacro built the Coyote Ranch house which is located on Coyote Ranch Road on County property, currently leased for caged group picnics.

In 1917 the Motorcycle Park area was deeded from Oliver and Amy Blanchard to Maria Rameili who became the Rameili Ranch Company. The land which would eventually include Motorcycle Park was acquired by the County in 1971 from Roland Rameili, a total of 914 acres. In 1972, 14 acres were deeded to the State of California for the South Valley Freeway (US 101). In 1976, 207 acres were traded to United Technology Corporation (UTC) for a 98 acre parcel which became Field Sports Park. Six of these 98 acres were deeded to the state for the freeway. In 1974, the County transferred 227 acres to the County Parks Department for the establishment of Motorcycle Park. In 1982, an additional 215 acres were added.

The Central County Safety Committee operated the park and sold memberships to it. Permanent membership included a 50% discount on the South County Micro Midget Racing Association and then the Rancho County Micro Midget Racing Association. In 1988, the Safety Council declared bankruptcy, and the park was temporarily closed due to insurance problems. In 1988, the County Parks Department secured funding from a State of California 036-Highway Vehicle Grant which was used to make major improvements, including a parking lot, signage and fencing. The park re-opened under the auspices of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department in 1990.

A Micro Midget speeds down the back stretch on the Metcalf Raceway Park clay oval, 1966.