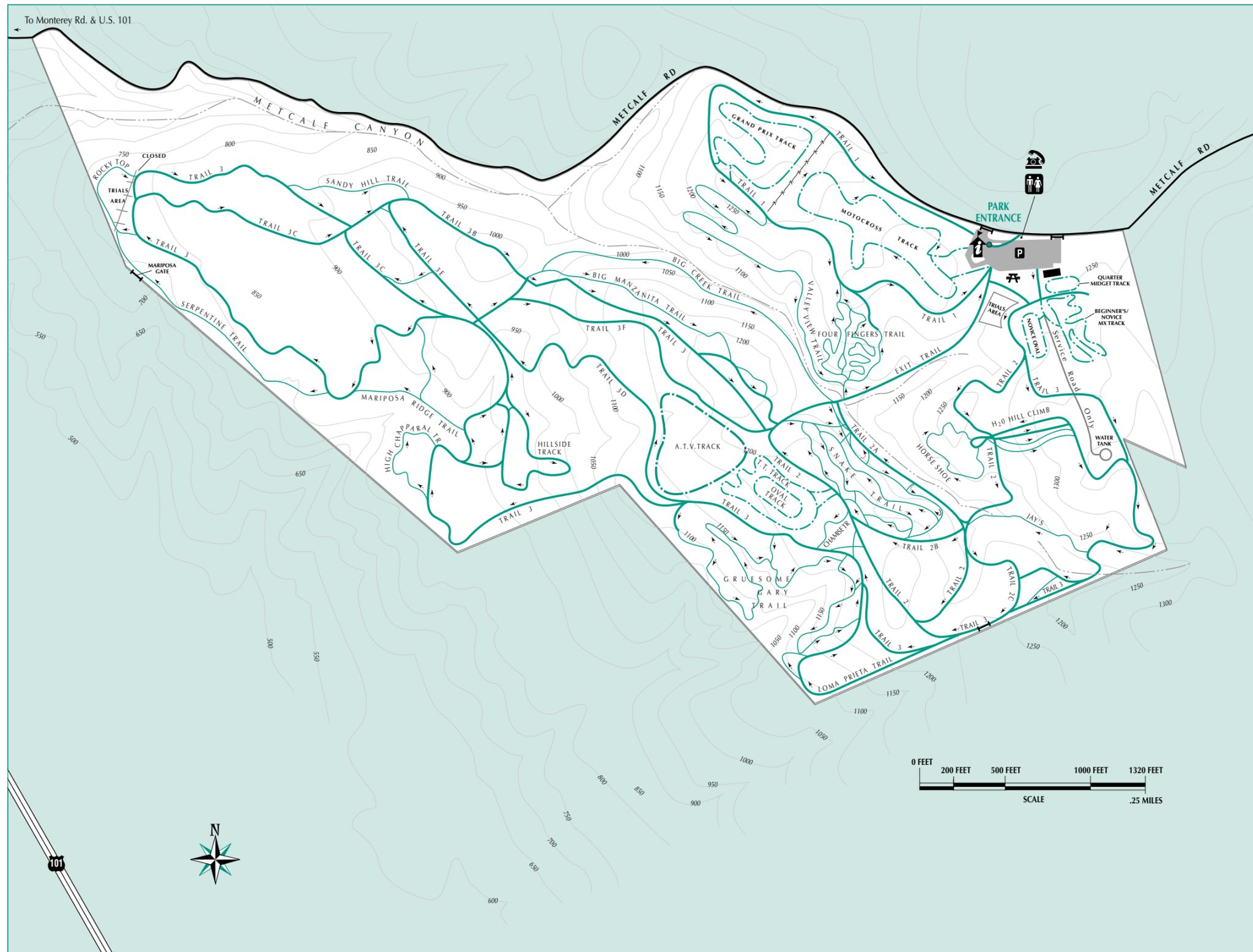


Motorcycle

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
Regional Parks and Recreation Areas



LEGEND

	Ranger Station/Visitor Center Phone: (408) 226-5223		Service Road
	Restrooms		Beginning/Intermediate Trail
	Public Telephone		Expert Trails (Motorcycles Only)
	Parking		Tracks
	Picnic Area		Elevation Contours (feet)
	Gate		Creek
	Fence		Private Property
	Two Lane Paved Road		Direction of One-way Traffic

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.

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 arrestor and meet sound regulations.
2. All riders must wear a helmet while starting, sitting on, or operating any OHV. Goggles, boots, knee/elbow guards and chest protectors are highly recommended.
3. 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.
4. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on park premises.
5. Riders may operate on designated trails and OHV facilities only. All trails and track traffic 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 Track.
10. Red sticker riding regulations will apply accordingly.

RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK AND WEAR REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

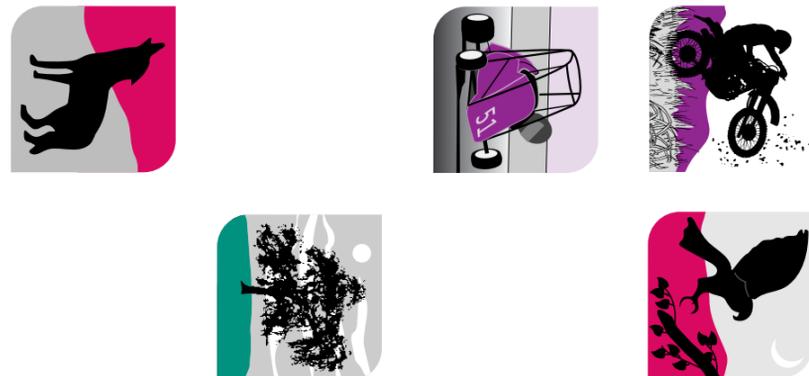
Off-highway vehicle use may be hazardous. Use of protective apparel, skill levels, vehicle condition, terrain, weather, common sense and following the park rules, all affect your safety.



Motorcycle



County of Santa Clara
Parks and Recreation Department
 298 Garden Hill Drive
 Los Gatos, California 95032-7669
 (408) 355-2200
 Reservations: (408) 355-2201



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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 motorcyclist 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 300 Metcalf Road in San Jose. The park may be accessed from the Bernal Road exit off Highways 101 and 85. From the Bernal Road exit, proceed west about 0.2 miles 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 trail and tracks. Straddling a thousand foot high ridge, these park trails afford riders vistas ranging from Gilroy to San Francisco. The park facilities include:

- Motocross competition 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 picnic 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 tools will be loaned from the office.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Marathons, Hare Scrambles and MX races have been held at the park by promoters in the past. Any person interested in holding a special event, please contact the County Parks Administration Office at 355-2200.

FEES

Fees are subject to change, call park office at (408) 226-5223 to confirm current fee 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).

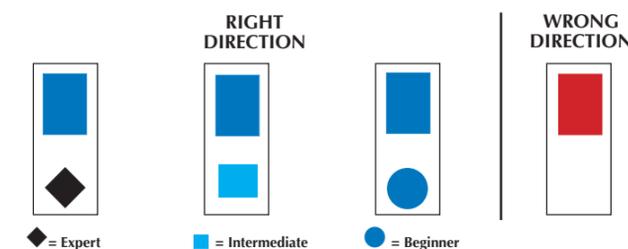
PARK RULES

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, motorists 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:** Permitted in designated fire and barbecue pits only. No fires on open ground. No wood fires. No wood gathering.
- Weapons:** Firearms, air guns, archery equipment and paintball guns are prohibited.
- Alcohol:** Prohibited in the park.
- Helmets:** To be worn at all times while on vehicle.
- 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 carsonite posts and will appear as follows:



Trail Difficulty Symbols

NATURAL DIVERSITY

Motorcycle County Park is sited on rolling to steeply sloping hills, with elevations between 285 to 1357 feet above sea level. Soils are mainly clay loam with igneous or serpentine parent 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, chaparral and oak riparian woodland. The grassland comprises about 60% of the park and contains mainly 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, blow wives, goldfields, yarrow and California poppy. Chaparral, which is primarily comprised of chamise and sage species, covers about 26% of the park. The oak riparian 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 checkerspot butterfly, Metcalf Canyon jewelflower, Santa Clara dudleya, 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 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 Rancho Refugio de la Laguna Seca, with small portions fall within the Rancho Yerba Buena y Socare and Pueblo Tract III. Rancho Laguna Seca, meaning "dry lake" included almost 20,000 acres, ranging from today's Metcalf Road south to Morgan Hill, incorporating the valley and surrounding foothills. The rancho was granted to Juan Alvarez in 1834 by Governor Figueroa, the Mexican governor of Alta California. William Fisher, born in England in 1810, arrived in Massachusetts as a young man and left for Baja California in 1830 as a mate on a sailing vessel. He settled in San Jose, Baja California, where he owned a vessel and navigated upon the Gulf of California. William Fisher married Liberata Cesena in Mexico and eventually raised four sons and two daughters. At a public auction in April of 1842, he purchased Rancho Laguna Seca for \$6,000 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 rancho, Fisher engaged in cattle and stockraising until his death in 1850.

One of William's sons, Fiacro 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 parcelized, with the Fishers retaining most of the northern portion of the original rancho 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.

Fiacro Fisher received 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. Fiacro also ran the family ranch while, in 1877, taking charge of the Hill and Murphy ranches in 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 park property, currently leased for catered group picnics.

In 1917 the Motorcycle Park area was deeded from Oliver and Amy Blanchard to Maria Ramelli which became the Ramelli Ranch Company. The land which would eventually include Motorcycle Park was acquired by the County in 1971 from Roland Ramelli, 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 subleased it to the South County Micro Midget Racing Association and then the Baylands Quarter 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 Off-Highway Vehicle Grant which was used to make major improvements, including a parking lot, signage and fencing. The park reopened 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, 1986.

