

Title – Hard Hike

Date of hike - April 27, 2021

Name & location of hike - Shell Ridge - Walnut Creek Open Space

Hike Description –

We will hike the Shell Ridge on April 27 (Last Tuesday of the month). It is going to be a loop of 5.5 miles of dirt tracks with a total elevation gain of 750 ft. and will take about 2 and 1/2 hours. We will start from the trail head at the end of Marshall Drive (310 ft. elevation) and hike the Briones to Mt. Diablo Regional Trail, Indian Creek Trail, Coyote Pond Trail. We will return by taking the Ridge Top Trail which has a high elevation of about 870 ft. and follows the top of the ridge with some ups and downs and moderate slopes. There are a few vista points on our way with magnificent views of rolling hills and all cities along the I-24 and I-680 corridors to as far as the Delta.

The Briones to Mount Diablo Trail (approximately 1.3 mile) is a fire Road and mostly exposed. The Indian Creek Trail and the Coyote Pond Trail (Approximately 1.5 miles) are single track trails and mostly shaded with lots of Oak trees. The Ridge Top Trail (Approximately 2.5 miles) is also a single track trail with some shade.

We will start at the trail head at the end of Marshall Drive at 10:00 AM. We have to wear masks and maintain social distancing. Bring your hiking poles if you normally use them and a lot of water on a hot day. There are no toilet facilities at the trail head but have plenty of trees and bushes on our way.

Driving directions to Trail Head -

Ygnacio Valley Road towards Concord, turn right at Homestead Avenue, turn left at Marshall Road

Drive 1.1 miles to end of the road and park at roadside. Parking is not a problem on weekdays.

Ride Sharing – not at this time (may change)

Lunch post hike – not at this time (may change)

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