## May 13th, 2025 Easy Hike: Pine Canyon to Castle Rock, Walnut Creek – 10:00 a.m.

**Hike Description -** An easy, mostly flat, out and back hike along the route of the old stage road up Mount Diablo. The hike is on pavement through the Castle Rock Recreation Area, gravel to the dam, then sandstone most of the rest of the way, so not a problem if wet. The hike is woodsy with views of the hills surrounding the valley. These build to the sandstone crags of Castle Rock.

We will go 1.4 miles to the State Park boundary with a couple of fairly dry stream crossings toward the end (so 2.8 miles round trip). Elevation gain is 200 feet, mostly in the climb around the dam.

There are restrooms  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile into the hike.

**Directions**: Take Ygnacio Valley Road east to Oak Grove Road. Turn right (south) and go 1 mile to the roundabout. Continue straight which becomes Castle Rock Road and follow it 1.7 miles to the end. Hike leaves from the trailhead at **10:00 a.m.** 

**Optional lunch** will be at the Burger Lounge, Orchards Shopping Center, 2920 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

**Hike Leader:** Martin Simmons 925-586-2704 <u>martin@infinitylane.com</u> **Hike Chairman:** Carl Ludwig 415-350-7372 <u>cludwig171@gmail.com</u>

**Photos Below** 



Park Entrance

Through Oaks



Past Ranchlands

On Gravel up to the Dam



**Rocks Getting Close** 

Castle Rock view from bench