

## **Pacheco State Park and San Luis Reservoir SRA Annual Events**

All the following events are open to the public and the only cost is the \$10 day-use parking fee per car. For more information see [www.parks.ca.gov/events](http://www.parks.ca.gov/events), or call (209) 826-1196/1197 (\*Path of the Padres has an additional reservation fee of \$20/person.)

### **PATH OF THE PADRES HIKES**

**Mid-February -- Mid-April**

**Los Banos Creek, San Luis Reservoir** Our popular "Path of the Padres" hikes have been offered to the public for over 30 years now. They occur on most Saturdays and Sundays from mid-February through mid-April. These hikes are open to hikers ages 6 years and older, by advance reservation only. (School group hikes may be arranged for weekdays.)

The hike begins at the Los Banos Creek Reservoir boat launch ramp at 8:00 A.M. and returns to the ramp about 3:30 P.M. A pontoon boat carries passengers for about 30 minutes to the west end of the reservoir where the group disembarks for the 5 ½ mile round-trip hike, classed as moderately strenuous. Here they see the beautiful wilderness area where, in the early 1800's, the Spanish padres from Mission San Juan Bautista traveled on their way to the Central Valley. A trained Naturalist leads the hike and makes numerous stops to discuss the local flora, fauna, and history of the area.

### **WILDFLOWER DAY**

**March 31, 2018 (the last Saturday in March)**

**Pacheco State Park** March 2018 brings our 15th Annual Wildflower Day. Come view fields of colorful wildflowers and talk with volunteers who share their knowledge of the local flora and fauna including the Central Valley Bird Club, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, the California Native Plant Society, and more. Sign up for a Naturalist-led hike or take the free Self-Guided Trail pamphlet and hike at your own speed. Join us anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. (No drinking water is available at the park.)

### **NATURE HIKE & WALKS**

**Saturdays in April from 10 a.m. - noon**

**Pacheco State Park** Join Naturalist Jennifer for a lovely 2 mile springtime hike out to a beautiful view of San Luis Reservoir and the Central Valley. Local history as well as the Native American uses of plants are highlighted. The hike is classed as moderately strenuous.

**Sundays in April from 10 a.m. - noon**

**Pacheco State Park** Join Naturalist Jennifer for an informative 1+ mile walk up to the site of the original adobe house built by Francisco Pacheco and his son in the 1800s. The history of the Pacheco family and Pacheco Pass is highlighted as well as the Native American uses of

plants. You'll also see an original "Line Cabin" built by Henry Miller in 1860. This walk is on a graded dirt road with a gradual slope up hill and we'll stop often.

**For the Hikes and Walks:** Bring drinking water (no water is available at the park), a hat and/or sunscreen, sturdy shoes, and layered clothing as it may be windy and cool or sunny and very hot. There is no need to make a reservation, but if you'd like to bring a group, please call in advance at (209) 826-1196/1197.

### **STUDENT CLASS FIELD TRIPS TO PACHECO STATE PARK**

Teachers are invited to bring their classes to explore this beautiful wilderness state park which is at the top of the Coast Range. We'll take them on the Wildflower Hike and History Walk as well as play Indian Games. Students will learn about the natural and cultural history of this famous area including the animals that call it home.

There is no fee charged for school field trips and all ages are welcome. Spring is the best time to visit Pacheco State Park. We look forward to discussing your class visit.

### **KITE DAY**

**Saturday June 16, 2018 (the day before Father's Day)**

**Pacheco State Park** Come fly a kite and join our 17<sup>th</sup> celebration of the wind, talk with local experts, and also enter fun contests. Bring the family for an entertaining afternoon. There will be a "Make Your Own Kite Free" table and free face painting, as well as free crafts and free Pie Eating Contests and Bubble Gum Blowing Contests for various ages.

Representatives from California Department of Fish & Wildlife, State Parks, and more will be on hand to answer questions. Join us any time between 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., listen to the music, and watch the sky dance with colorful and unusual kites. Bring drinking water (no water is available at the park) and your own picnic lunch.

Once you pay the \$10 day-use fee per vehicle you are welcome to spend the rest of the afternoon down at San Luis Reservoir's 'San Luis Creek' area and swim in O'Neill Forebay.