

Volunteers are needed to build, repair and maintain trails, lead hikes, and to assist with education and restoration projects. Contact Solano Land Trust at (707) 432-0150 x 200 or www.solanolandtrust.org for more information.



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Lynch Canyon Open Space

This land is our land

*Solano County and Solano Land Trust
welcome you and your family to
Lynch Canyon Open Space*

Solano Land Trust
1001 Texas Street, Suite C
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 432-0150 x200
www.solanolandtrust.org

Solano County Parks
675 Texas Street, Suite 2500
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 374-2097 (Park Ranger)
www.solanocounty.com

Emergencies – 911

A daily parking fee is required as posted. Annual parking passes are also available through County Parks. Call (707) 784-7905 for details.



Effective July 2009:

**Open Saturday thru Monday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(closed Tuesday - Friday)**

Enter into Lynch Canyon's 1,039 acres to explore rolling grasslands, spring wildflowers, oak woodlands and spectacular views. Explore nearly ten miles of multi-use trails designed for hikers, horse-back riders and cyclists. Traversing the northern edge of the property is a section of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, a 580-mile trail that will eventually form a continuous ring around Bay Area ridges. Shaded picnic tables dot the trails of this pastoral landscape.

Wildlife

Some of the grassland species found at Lynch Canyon include western meadowlark, horned lark, meadow vole, pocket gopher, California ground squirrel, black-tailed jackrabbit, coyote, gray fox, raccoon, and gopher snakes.

Birds of prey include red-tailed hawks, golden eagles, black-shouldered kites and American kestrels. Soaring turkey vultures are also a familiar sight. Riparian species include western bluebirds, barn owls, great horned owls, northern flickers, ruby-crowned kinglets and California newts. Muskrats and American coots may be seen year-round at the reservoir, with waterfowl arriving in winter.

Cattle at Lynch Canyon

For thousands of years, both wild and domesticated animals have grazed Lynch Canyon. Solano Land Trust continues this historic land-use tradition by using controlled grazing as a resource-management tool. In addition to providing income, grazing minimizes the risk of uncontrolled wildfires, controls invasive plants and encourages native plant growth.

Cows are not aggressive by nature. If you encounter cattle, keep your distance and walk around groups of cows. Never approach a calf and its mother. Cows are protective of their young.

Cultural History

The first inhabitants of Lynch Canyon were the Patwin Suisunes, the southernmost group of the Wintuns. The Suisunes likely hunted deer, elk and bear on the property and gathered acorns in late summer. When General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo acquired the property in 1844, he began a long history of sheep and cattle grazing on the land. When the title of his land grant was disputed in 1863, the Supreme Court ruled against him and sold the land for \$1.25 an acre.

Several families have owned the land since Vallejo. In the early 1980s, a company purchased the property to build a landfill, but voters rejected the proposal. Solano Land Trust acquired the property in two parcels, completing the transfer in 1996. Lynch Canyon Open Space now serves as an important buffer zone between the cities of Fairfield and Vallejo, providing recreational opportunities and a welcome refuge to the residents and visitors of Solano County.



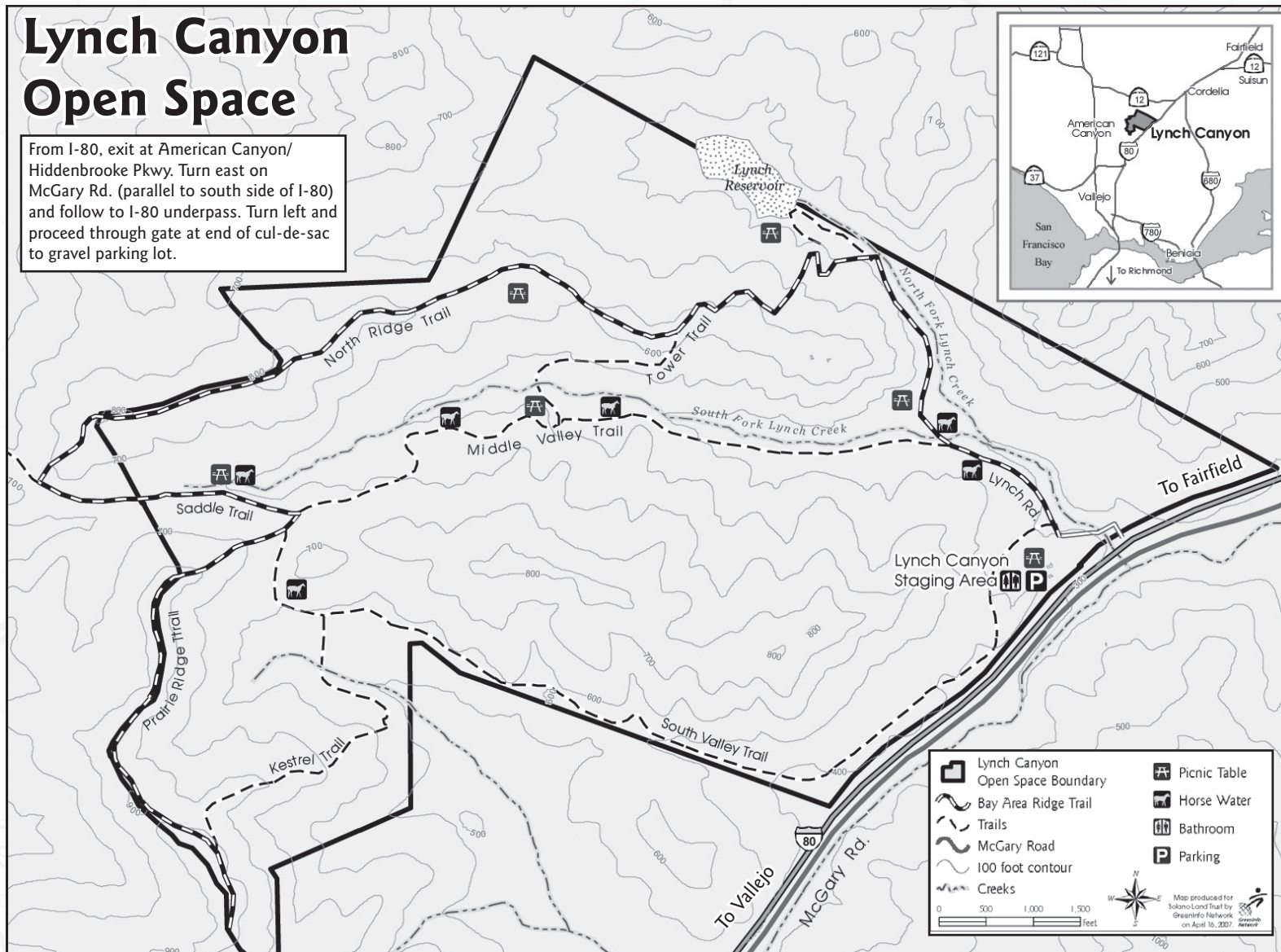
The Partnership

Lynch Canyon is owned by Solano Land Trust, a nonprofit organization that has protected agricultural lands and open space in Solano County since 1986. In a historic agreement, Solano County has partnered with Solano Land Trust to open Lynch Canyon to the public. The County provides ranger services, including public safety and maintenance of the park facilities. Solano Land Trust supervises cattle grazing, habitat restoration and volunteer activities, including docent training.



Lynch Canyon Open Space

From I-80, exit at American Canyon/
Hiddenbrooke Pkwy. Turn east on
McGary Rd. (parallel to south side of I-80)
and follow to I-80 underpass. Turn left and
proceed through gate at end of cul-de-sac
to gravel parking lot.



Kestrel Trail

(0.8 miles – difficult) passes through a eucalyptus grove before climbing steeply to Prairie Ridge.

Lynch Road

(0.7 miles – easy) parallels Lynch Creek to the reservoir overlook.

Middle Valley Trail

(1.5 miles – moderate) follows the south fork of Lynch Creek with short, but steep climbs. Shade is frequent and a picnic site is located about halfway.

North Ridge Trail

(1.6 miles – difficult) traces the ridge top with steep climbs and great views. A shaded picnic site along the way provides a secluded rest.

Prairie Ridge Trail

(1.7 miles – difficult) provides fantastic views after a difficult climb, but is fairly level atop the ridge. The wind is severe on the exposed ridge as evidenced by the leaning trees.

Saddle Trail

(0.3 miles – easy) provides a loop for the Bay Area Ridge Trail.

South Valley Trail

(2.2 miles – moderate) slowly increases in elevation with little shade.

Tower Trail

(1.0 miles – difficult) climbs steeply to the North Ridge Trail with no shade. Great views.

Potable drinking water is currently unavailable. Please bring your own.

Take Only Pictures & Leave Only Footprints

Help protect Lynch Canyon Open Space and ensure an enjoyable visit for everyone by complying with these rules and posted regulations.

- Dogs are not allowed within Lynch Canyon boundaries, for the protection of wildlife and livestock.
- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted within Lynch Canyon boundaries.
- All trails are multiple use. Speed limit is 15 MPH. Reckless riding will result in a citation. Bicyclists shall reduce speed and call out or ring bell before passing. Bicyclists yield to hikers. Bicyclists and hikers yield to equestrians.
- Removing or collecting artifacts, plants, rocks or wildlife is prohibited by law.
- Camping, fishing and hunting are not permitted.
- Firearms, archery equipment, slingshots, air pistols, rifles, paintball guns and other weapons are not permitted.
- Due to high fire risk, smoking, campfires, barbecues and fireworks are not permitted.
- Deposit all trash in receptacles, or carry it out with you.
- Do not leave designated trails or climb fences. Obey no trespassing signs.
- Trail construction is not allowed unless under the supervision of authorized personnel.
- State law requires that a helmet be worn by all persons under 18 years of age using a bicycle, non-motorized scooter, skateboard or in-line or roller skates. Solano County Regional Parks also strongly recommends that all adults wear a helmet while biking to reduce or prevent the risk of serious head injury or death.
- No swimming or wading.
- No feeding wild animals or harassing livestock.
- Motor vehicles are allowed only inside the staging area.