



Joseph D. Grant

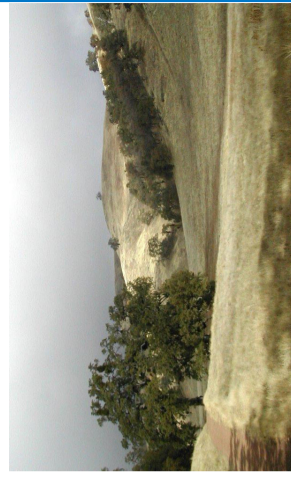
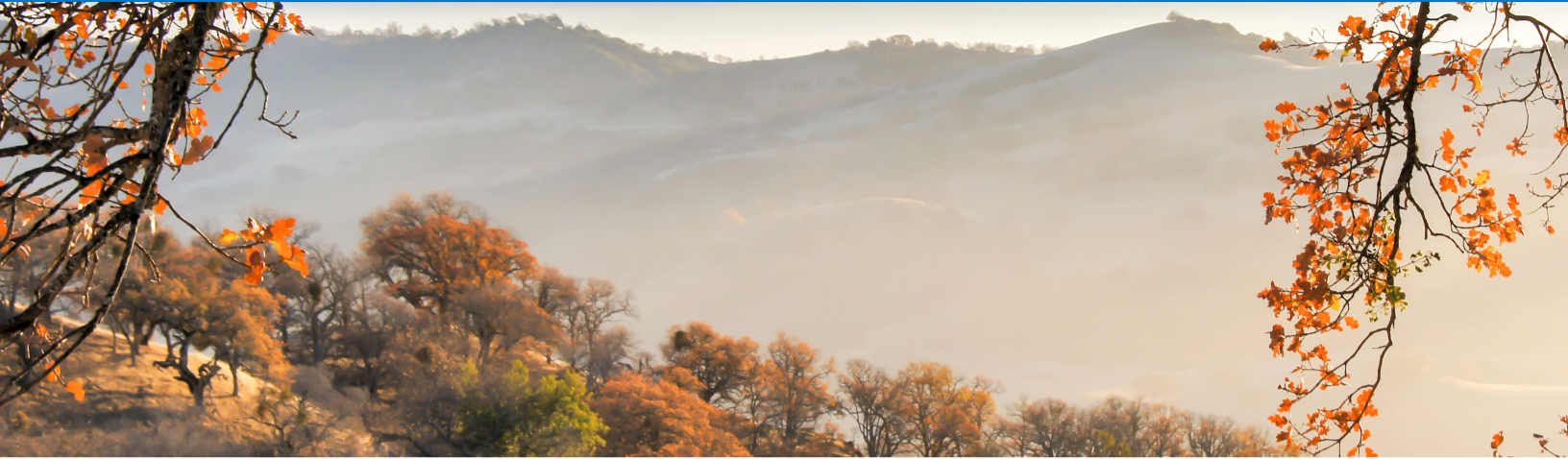


County of Santa Clara
Parks and Recreation Department
298 Garden Hill Dr
Los Gatos, California 95032-7699
(408) 355-2200
Reservations (408) 355-2201

www.parkhere.org



Use this QR code to view your GPS location on the guide map using



Accessibility

In compliance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its programs, services, or activities. The Department will make reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy our programs, services, facilities, and activities. If you need assistance with an ADA request, please contact our ADA Coordinator at: ADACoordinator@prk.sccgov.org.

**Park Charter
Funds at Work...
Thank You!**



Welcome

Welcome to Joseph D. Grant County Park, the largest of Santa Clara County's regional park and recreation areas. This 10,882 acre park is rich in wildlife, history and recreational opportunities. The landscape is characteristic of the east foothills of the Santa Clara Valley with grasslands and majestic oak trees. As part of the park's tradition and history, cattle grazing currently takes place in some areas, and is monitored under a resource management plan. Visitors may hike, camp, fish, ride their horses, picnic, bike, or just relax in nature. Enjoy your visit today, and return often to experience the many features of Joseph D. Grant County Park.

Hours and Fees

The park is open year-round from 8 am until sunset. Vehicle entry fees are collected year-round. Fees are required for camping and for use of group picnic areas, and are posted at the entrance kiosk.

Location

The main entrance to the park is located at: 18405 Mt. Hamilton Rd., San Jose, CA 95140

Activities

Hikers and equestrians have access to an extensive 51 mile trail system. Mountain bikes are permitted on over 75% of the park's trails as designated. The diverse trail system at the park makes this a popular place to stage large-scale organized trail events such as equestrian endurance rides, mountain bike events and foot races. Dogs are also allowed on the trails, picnic areas, and campgrounds as long as they are on a 6-foot leash.

Shaded picnic areas are available on a first-come first-served basis. Camping is available year-round, and campers can choose from almost forty (40) reservable family campsites. Hot showers are available with paid campsite use. Group picnic and youth camping areas are available by reservation. One large lake and several smaller ponds are accessible for fresh water fishing.

Camping

Overnight camping is a popular activity at Grant Park. Please help make this unique back-to-nature experience worthwhile for everyone by adhering to the following rules and any posted regulations:

- Campsites available to paid campers only. No campsite day use.
- Campers must check in before sunset.
- Gate closes at sunset. No re-entry after gates are closed.
- Camp at established campsites.
- All individual sites are available by reservation. Call (408) 355-2201 or visit gooutsideandplay.org to make a reservation.
- Maximum of 8 persons and 2 vehicles per site. Additional vehicles allowed for additional fee, but must park in overflow parking.
- Persons under age 18 cannot camp overnight unless accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Park closes to non-campers at sunset.

- Quiet hours are 10 pm to 7 am. No recorded music, musical instruments, or other loud noises during quiet hours.
- No hammocks.
- No wood gathering.
- Fires permitted in designated fire rings only. Extinguish fires when unattended. When posted "NO FIRES", only gas grills or gas stoves are permitted. For further questions please call the park office at (408) 274-6121.
- Maximum stay from Memorial Day to Labor Day is 14 days in any County Park(s) cumulatively. For the remainder of the year, 14 days in any one County Park within a 45 day period are allowed.

Sharing the Trails

For the safety and protection of all visitors, please adhere to the following trail etiquette guidelines:

Be Considerate: Keep speeds at a safe pace. Yield to slower trail users. Use particular caution when passing children and senior citizens. Respect everyone's right to use the trail.

Use Open Trails Only: Trails open sunrise to sunset. Trails may be closed due to environmental concerns.

Be Aware of Conditions: Riding (even on open trails) when conditions are poor, such as shortly after a rain, may cause trail damage.

Plan Ahead: Know your equipment, your ability and where you are going. Carry necessary supplies for changes in weather or other conditions.

Bicyclists: Everyone, regardless of age, is required to wear an ANSI, Snell or other state approved helmet when riding on unpaved trails in County parks. California law states all persons age under 18 years of age must wear an ANSI, Snell, or other state approved helmet for head protection while cycling.



Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

Natural Diversity

Grant Park is located at the base of Mt. Hamilton. A major landform within the park, the Halls Valley, is situated between two ridges in the Diablo Range of the Coastal Mountains, which were formed by earth movement along the still active Calaveras Fault. Oak woodland is the dominant plant community, providing habitat for over 32 species of birds and 39 species of mammals, and consists of several species of oak, including coast live oak, blue oak, valley oak, and California black oak. At one time, Grant Park was the location of a successful wildlife management plan designed to re-establish the threatened Tule Elk population. Although most of the herds have now migrated out of the park, Grant was selected because of its wildlife sanctuary status and suitable habitat. Throughout the year, visitors may see European wild pigs eating acorns or turning the soil for grass roots. During warmer months, reptiles such as the California kingsnake, rattlesnake, and coast-horned lizards may be lounging in the sun, and Bay Area blond tarantula is often spotted plodding along the ground. These spiders are not considered dangerous, but they could bite and are part of a healthy ecosystem, so please leave them be.



Cultural History

The land that is now Grant Park was first inhabited by Werwersen Ohlone Indians. In 1839, a 15,000-acre Mexican Land Grant was awarded to Jose de Jesus Bernal and was named Rancho Cañada de Pala. Jose de Jesus and his two brothers built adobes around a spring-fed pond on a ridge overlooking the Santa Clara Valley. They pastured cattle and horses on this land. Bernal's uncle, Joaquin Bernal, occupied the nearby Rancho Santa Teresa.

In 1848, the southern third of the rancho was sold to Samuel Q. Broughton for \$600. Broughton was a native of Kentucky who had served under Col. John C. Fremont. Over the years, other parts of the Rancho were also sold or deeded. When the Federal Land Act of 1851 required landowners to file land claims, Jose Bernal paid his attorney, Frederic Hall, with land for processing his claims. The "Halls Valley" area which encompasses most of the present day park, represents this payment. Other early purchasers included members of the Donner Party.

Adam Grant, the father of J.D. Grant, bought his initial holding of Cañada de Pala in 1880. Adam Grant was a founder of Murphy, Grant, & Company, a dry goods store which sold supplies to gold miners. At the age of twenty-two, Joseph D. Grant acquired his first acreage along the northeastern border of the Cañada de Pala. By 1890, he owned 2,619 acres. Eventually, he held all of the acreage which encompasses the present day park. Grant used the land for sport and pleasure, and as a retreat from the hectic demands of business.



Joseph D. Grant

Grant changed the name of Bernal Lagoon to Grant Lake, built dams and diverted streams. He remodeled the original house which was built in 1882, and added a cookhouse, servants quarters, other houses and buildings, a rose garden and a large aviary to the property. J.D. also used his influence to have Mount Hamilton Road moved one-half mile northeast of his home so it would not interfere with his privacy.

Entertainments on the ranch included swimming in the pool and horseback riding through the rambling hills.

In addition to managing his father's dry goods business, J. D. Grant founded the Columbia Steam Company, served as President of the California-Oregon Power Company, and served on the Board of Directors of the General Petroleum Company and the Central Pacific Railroad.

Grant owned mansions in San Francisco, Burlingame, and Pebble Beach. He was a member of the Bohemian Club and was a life trustee of Stanford University. Grant also belonged to the Sierra Club, and was president of the Save-the-Redwoods League for 21 years.



Joseph Grant on his Ranch

When Joseph D. Grant stayed at his ranch, he entertained guests such as Leland Stanford and Herbert Hoover. Hoover stayed at the ranch for a month after his election loss to Franklin Roosevelt.

Joseph D. Grant died in 1942, and was followed in death by his wife, Edith, in 1946. After her parents' death, their daughter, Josephine, purchased shares in the ranch from her two siblings and became sole owner of the property. Josephine became a full time resident of the ranch in 1958 and remained at the ranch until her death in 1972. Josephine Grant's will deeded half of the ranch property to the Save-the-Redwoods League and the other half to the Menninger Foundation. The property was purchased by Santa Clara County in 1975 to be preserved as a park. In 1978, Joseph D. Grant County Park, named after the man and his family who had owned the property for nearly 100 years, opened to the public.