



Livermore Area  
Recreation & Park District  
*An independent special district*

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **LARPD February Nature Programs**

*LIVERMORE* — The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District ranger staff is offering the following programs during the month of February. There is a \$5 per vehicle parking fee at either entrance to Sycamore Grove Park, and a \$2 donation is requested to help support the programs unless other fees are specified. Participants may call 925-960-2400 for more information.

#### **Mushroom Madness**

Sunday, Feb. 5

1 p.m.

Join Ranger Amy and Debbie Veiss of the Bay Area Mycological Society for the annual mushroom hunt in Sycamore Grove Park. Join this program to crawl around under trees, wander through meadows and look at rotting logs to see how many different types of fungi can be found. In 2011 there were more than 25. Wear clothes that can get dirty. Please be aware that mushrooms may not be removed from the park – you can take lots of photos but the fungi needs to remain in its habitat. Call 925-960-2400 for directions to the reserved picnic area.

Ranger Amy Wolitzer

Sycamore Grove Park  
Reserved Picnic Area

#### **Cats**

Saturday, Feb. 11

10 a.m.

North America is home to a surprising number of cats – and not just “Fluffy” the pet kitty. Join this program to learn about the different types of wildcats that share this continent with us. There will be particular attention given to local wildcats.

Ranger Dawn Soles

Sycamore Grove Park  
Arroyo Road Entrance  
5049 Arroyo Road

#### **Red Planet Rising**

Saturday, Feb. 18

6:30 p.m.

Just in time for this nature program, Mars will be at opposition – as close as it ever gets to Earth and shines most brightly in the night sky. Come out to Sycamore Grove for a walk into the hills to watch Mars rise in the eastern sky after sunset. Please dress warmly and wear comfortable walking shoes. The hike will be approximately two miles; canceled if raining.

Ranger Glen Florey

Sycamore Grove Park  
Wetmore Road Entrance

1051 Wetmore Road

**Hike to the Cattail Pond**

Sunday, Feb. 26

1 p.m.

A lot of work has been going on in upper Sycamore Grove Park over the past several months. A wetlands area has been restored, a new section of trail has been completed, hundreds of native plant seeds have been planted and the previously cattail-choked pond has been rebuilt. A very different scene now exists, and it will be fun to watch it change as plants develop, critters return and the associated habitats and ecosystems flourish over time. The hike to the Cattail Pond is approximately three miles round-trip with a couple of moderately strenuous, but short, hills.

Bring drinking water, binoculars and dress for the weather. Canceled if raining.

Ranger Patti Cole

Sycamore Grove Park  
Wetmore Road Entrance  
1051 Wetmore Road

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