

Description

Discover the natural diversity of California in the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve. The Reserve's 700 acres of riparian habitat, majestic oak woodlands, and hills covered with coastal sage scrub and mixed chaparral provide a pristine environment for hikers, nature watchers, and anyone looking for quiet reflection in a natural and undisturbed setting. We only ask for your help in maintaining this protected habitat for rare native plants and animals.

Open to the public year-round during daylight hours, Blue Sky offers free docent-led hikes every weekend, as well as special community events throughout the year. School, scouts, and other group tours are available upon request.

Located just outside Blue Sky Reserve, at the base of Lake Poway dam, is a day-use Wilderness Picnic Area. Oak trees, native chaparral, and coastal sage scrub surround this heavily shaded 4-acre parcel. There are several picnic tables, permanent restrooms and horse tie-ups.

Be Safe & Considerate

- Stay on designated trails! This is a natural habitat and includes rattlesnakes, ticks and mountain lions, all of which are essential parts of a fragile ecosystem.
- Potable water is available in the parking lot. Take adequate water to drink for you and any accompanying pets.
- Do not hike alone. Use the buddy system.
- Carry a cell phone, and whistle, if possible.
- Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings. We recommend that you do not wear headphones.
- Wear sturdy shoes.
- Glass is prohibited in all indoor and outdoor areas of City facilities and parks.
- Smoking is prohibited in Blue Sky, Blue Sky parking lot and the Wilderness Picnic Area.
- Watch out for poison oak. Remember, "Leaves of three, let it be!"



COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Blue Sky Ecological Reserve

16275 Espola Rd, Poway CA 92064 (858) 668-4781

Facility rules and regulations are established by resolution of the Poway City Council. If you would like to view the full set of regulations, contact the Community Services Department at (858) 668-4595.

Welcome to...



A pristine environment for hikers, nature watchers, and anyone looking for a natural setting for quiet reflection.



Reserve Information

Wildlife

Trails

Reserve Hours

Year-round Daily Sunrise to Sunset

Parking Lot Hours

Nov to May Daily Sunrise to Sunset
June to Oct Daily 6:30AM to Sunset

The Green Valley Truck Trail (GVTT), Blue Sky's primary trail, stretches for approximately 1.2 miles before you are directed to make a left turn. This is the start of an uphill ascent to Lake Ramona, a distance of 2.4 miles from the trailhead.

The Torreto Outlook Trail can be accessed to the left of the bus shelter in the parking lot. This short trail drops into Blue Sky approximately 130 yards from the main trailhead.

The Creekside Trail begins at 0.2 miles. This narrow footpath runs parallel with the GVTT, and winds through the riparian habitat for a quarter of a mile.

Lake Poway Trails can be accessed from a southbound side trail at 0.9 miles on the GVTT.

- Restroom facilities are positioned at two locations. A portable toilet is available in the parking lot, with another approximately 1 mile from the trailhead.
- Information kiosks in the parking lot and on the trail display interpretive bulletins, posters, and current information on hikes, programs and special events.

Special Events are held throughout the year, such as Stargazing, Junior Nature Ranger, and our wildly popular Hoot, Howl and Prowl in October.



FOR THE SAFETY OF WILDLIFE

- Always keep your dog on a leash (maximum of 6 feet) and remember to clean up after your pet. Plastic bags are available in the parking lot, at the trailhead and at the GVTT – Lake Poway trail crossing.
- Take nothing from the Reserve and leave nothing behind. Receptacles are provided for your litter.
- Do not feed the wildlife.
- Firearms or hunting equipment are not permitted.
- Motor vehicles and bicycles are not permitted.
- Glass containers are prohibited.
- Dogs and horses are not permitted on the Creekside Trail or in the Oak Grove.



The Blue Sky Ecological Reserve is owned by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation and City of Poway.

If you have an emergency, call 911 for assistance.

For more information about Blue Sky visit our website at www.poway.org/bluesky or call (858) 668-4781

