



Vasona & Los Gatos Creek



County of Santa Clara
Parks and Recreation Department
5965 Silver Creek Valley Road
San José, California 95138
(408) 355-2200
Reservations (408) 355-2201

Los Gatos
Creek Park

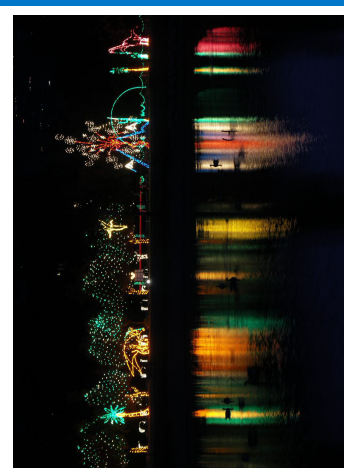


Vasona
Lake



www.parkhere.org

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



Festival of lights is a regional attraction and occurs every winter at Vasona County Park

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 Vasona Lake and Los Gatos Creek County Parks. The 151-acre and 110-acre parks, respectively, are connected by the Los Gatos Creek Trail, and are among the most popular of Santa Clara County's regional park and recreation areas.

Location

Vasona Lake County Park:

333 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos, CA 95032

Los Gatos Creek County Park:

1250 Dell Ave, Campbell, CA 95008

Hours and Fees

The park is open year round from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. Vehicle entry fees are collected year round.

Activities

Hikers, runners, bicyclists, and skaters enjoy the Los Gatos Creek multiple-use trail which begins at Lexington Reservoir and follows the Los Gatos Creek for nearly 16 miles through the Town of Los Gatos, Vasona Lake County Park, Los Gatos Creek County Park and the cities of Campbell and San Jose.

Vasona:

- Eight reservable group areas are placed at scenic locations throughout the park. Call (408) 355-2201 for reservations.
- Paddle boats and row boats are available for rental from early spring through early fall.
- Lake fishing for trout, black bass, crappie, catfish, carp and blue gill.
- The Youth Science institute, located at the park's north end, offers programs and outings for science education and appreciation of nature.
- Miniature train rides on the Billy Jones Wildcat Railroad originate in Los Gatos' Oak Meadow Park and run through Vasona Park. Call (408) 399-5770 for more information.

Los Gatos Creek County Park:

- This park features six percolation ponds that can be used for fishing. Only the northern pond is stocked. Fishing in the Los Gatos Creek itself downstream of Vasona Lake is open from last Saturday in April through November 15. Must use barb-less hooks and scentless artificial bait.
- Casting ponds are also available and open to the public daily from

8:00 a.m. to sunset for fly and plug casting. Targets are available for accuracy practice. No hooks or dogs allowed within the casting area. Use caution when walking in the "back cast" area.

- An off-leash dog enclosure is located near fly casting ponds.
- Pond 2 is designated for model boaters - must be a club member or have a permit.

Picnicking

- Reservations are recommended for groups larger than twenty. A designated group picnic site is required for groups of 30 or more. Please call (408) 355-2201.
- Family picnic tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis. An adult must be present in order to hold a picnic table.
- Parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis only. Parking stalls cannot be saved. Reservations at group areas do not include reserved parking.
- Do not drive into picnic areas or onto lawns, paths, or landscaping.
- Fifteen minutes is the maximum time allowed for parking in the yellow zone for unloading and loading of picnic supplies.
- Post directions to group areas in designated areas only. Please remove signs at end of event.
- No tacks, nails, or staples on park signs, tables, or trees.
- Allow fires in barbecue pits to burn out. Water will damage the grill and pit.
- Generators & jump houses are allowed in all reservable group areas only with written approval obtained in advance from the Parks Reservations Department.
- Amplified music & dunk tanks allowed in Circle & Gateway group areas only with written approval obtained in advance from the Parks Reservations Department.

On the Water

Paddle boating and other non-power boating are some of the most unique recreational opportunities available at Vasona Lake. To ensure the safety and enjoyment of all visitors, please adhere to the following rules and any posted regulations:

- No swimming or wading.
- Children under the age of 13 must wear life jackets at all times while on board a vessel.
- Model boating allowed by permit only at the Los Gatos County Park middle pond (Pond 2).

Share the Trails

The Los Gatos Creek multiple use trail offers recreational opportunities for walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and skaters. The trail is operated and maintained by the County Parks Department, City of Campbell, City of San Jose, and Town of Los Gatos. For the safety and protection of all visitors, please adhere to the following trail guidelines:

- Stay on designated trail.
- Keep to the right
- Keep dogs on leash and clean up after pets.
- Pick up litter
- No fires
- No motor or battery powered vehicles, skateboards or scooters
- Alcohol prohibited.

Bicyclists:

- Yield to pedestrians.
- Ride cautiously.
- Observe 15 mph speed limit, 5mph when passing.
- Helmets required for children 17 years old or younger.

How Vasona got its Name

The origin of the name "Vasona" has its roots in local folklore. Frazier O. Reed II, great-grandson of the co-leader of the Donner Party, said his maternal grandfather, Albert August Vollmer, was the man who put the name on the area before the turn of the century, long before there was a Vasona Lake County Park.

Albert Vollmer moved his family from Michigan in 1887, and brought them to the Santa Clara Valley. The Vollmers settled on a 46-acre prune ranch on Pollard Road about three miles from Los Gatos. The oldest of the Vollmer children, Agnes, worked in San Jose for the Sunset Telephone and Telegraph Company (which became the Pacific Telephone Company in 1907) and she commuted by train from Los Gatos. Every morning her father took Agnes to Los Gatos in his buggy and every evening he picked her up. Since the train passed about a mile from the ranch, he asked the Southern Pacific Railroad if a flag stop could be established. The Southern Pacific agreed, telling Vollmer he could name the stop because he had requested it. That stop became the "Vasona", named after a pony Albert August Vollmer had as a child.

