



Open Space and Regional Parks Commission Meeting March 2023

SOUTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- Bartley Ranch Regional Park was a site for the KTMB Christmas tree recycling event. Over 3000 trees along with storm green waste were received and chipped or went into green waste dumpsters.
- The Come In from the Cold concert series hosted by Bartley Ranch Regional Park concluded on March 11th. It was another successful season with average attendance of 80. Attendance would have been larger, but storms on many of the Saturdays impacted attendance.
- The Gardening in Nevada series hosted by Bartley Ranch in partnership with University of Nevada Extension Master Gardeners complete the series on March 28th. Their average attendance has been 90.
- Interviews for the new Park Ranger position at Bowers Mansion were conducted in January and a candidate is in the hiring process with a projected starting date of March 28th.
- Crystal Peak Park was closed temporarily due to storm damages to trees. An arborist has been contracted to eliminate the dangerous limbs and the work will be completed once access to the park is possible with their large equipment. The work should be completed in late March.

SOUTH REGION UPCOMING EVENTS

- The Programs on the Porch at Bowers Mansion will start on Friday May 19th and will occur Friday evenings through June 23rd.
- Bowers Mansion will have a living history event on May 20th and be open for tours on weekends through October 29th.
- Bowers swimming pool will open for the season on May 27th.



NORTH REGION HIGHLIGHTS

- On February 8th Jesse Kraus presented "Migration" at Lazy 5 Regional Park to give an interesting background and perspective as to the how and why of bird migration.
- Lots of time has been spent by all park staff removing snow and trying to mitigate damage from flooding.
- Staff at Rancho San Rafael has been working with multiple volunteer organizations and student groups to prepare the Pollinator Garden and the Community Garden for the upcoming growing season.

NORTH REGION UPCOMING EVENTS

- Park Staff will be working with Washoe County Leadership Academy to lead a volunteer effort to build beds for the Community Garden at Rancho San Rafael and offer hands on instruction for successful Gardening in Nevada from the University of Nevada Reno Cooperative extension on April 8th
- Jen Ballard from the Great Basin Bird Observatory will be doing a presentation on "Nevada Birds in Historical Perspective" which will look at the bird populations in Nevada and how they have changed over time. The program will be held at Lazy 5 Regional Park on April 12th
- Farm Day at Rancho San Rafael will be held on April 16th and will feature live animals from Valley Amigos Ranch and Turkey Scavenger Hunt and many other fun educational opportunities with our local partners.
- KTMB will host the Great Community Clean up on April 29th at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, Swan Lake Nature Study Area, Redhill Open Space and Lockwood Trailhead will all be sites for the cleanup.
- Rachel McClure will present "Gardening for Birds" at Lazy 5 Regional Park on May 10th. Participants will learn how to support our local bird populations by planting native plant species in your garden areas.