

Sunrise Meadow Creekside Trail

The Trail: The trail has four access point. One is from the east side of Kanan Road about 150 feet south of Deerhill Road. From there it extends a few hundred feet north-east and turns right 90 degrees around the southeasterly end of the subdivision. There is another access point from Oak Point Drive. Opposite Oak Springs Drive the trail forks with one branch extending south to Sunnycrest Drive just opposite Trefoil Avenue. If you go back to the fork in the trail the other branch extends northeast to Doubletree Road. Overall, the trail is approximately 0.9 miles in length - one way.

Geology: The bedrock is part of the Modelo Formation, which is of marine origin from the middle to the late Miocene in age, i.e., laid down from 9.5 to 5 million years ago. The material is white weathering, thin bedded, platy, locally brittle siliceous shale to soft punky shale.

Plant Life: The plant life along the trail is a mixture of ruderal grasslands with many forbs, exotic, non-native plants, and overall plants of the coastal sage scrub, oak woodland, and riparian species. The plants as observe (May 2, 2020) included coast live and valley oaks, arroyo willow, bulrush, Mediterranean and black mustards, horehound, red and ripgut bromes, hare barley, purple nightshade, yellow star, sow and Italian thistles, California everlasting, Mexican and California fan palms, Fremont cottonwoods, purple sage, yellow sweet clover, California buckwheat, coast golden bush, golden yarrow, California sage brush, arroyo lupine, wild oats, slender tarweed, southern California locoweed, bur clover, cliff aster, wild cucumber, coyote brush, fig, Peruvian pepper, California walnut, bunchgrass and long-beaked filaree.

Animal Life: Animals that may be observed along the trail include mammals, such as brush and cottontail rabbits, California ground squirrels, Botta's pocket gophers, many types of bats, agile kangaroo rats, ringtail cats (only active 2-3 hours of the night), striped skunks, and, perhaps, mule deer, bobcats and mountain lions. Birds, such as red-tailed hawks, barn, great horned and other kinds of owls, golden eagles, California quail, Anna's hummingbirds, mourning doves, scrub jays, black Phoebe, common ravens and crows, mockingbirds, California towhees, English and white-crowned sparrows, Brewer's blackbirds and many others. Reptiles, such as toads, southern Pacific rattlesnakes, two-stripped garter snakes, San Diego gopher snakes, Great Basin fence lizards, among others.

While mountain lions are present in the hills around Simi Valley, encounters are unlikely, but you should always be alert. It is best that you do not hike alone, and that you keep small children close at hand. Rattlesnakes may be encountered — Stay on the trail and avoid them when they are encountered — Be observant and never try to handle them. Do not handle any wildlife, including bats, even if they appear to be injured or sick. Remember, you are visitors to their homes.

**Mike Kuhn,
Executive Chair,
Rancho Simi Trail Blazers**

*Please see **Trail Safety Tips** at this trail's main page for more info.*

