

# Metcalf Motorcycle



Hay bale transport in the Santa Teresa Hills.

## 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 Metcalf Motorcycle County Park.. This 459 acre park is located in the grass covered hills of southeast Santa Clara Valley. Metcalf Motorcycle County Park offers trails and tracks for ATV and dirt bike riders with skill levels ranging from beginner to advanced. In addition to the 20 miles of dirt trails, there are picnic areas, restroom facilities, and four different types of tracks.

## Park Location

300 Metcalf Rd, San Jose, CA 95138  
Park Office: (408) 226-5223

## Activities

Motorcycle Park's 459 acres contains over twenty miles of OHV (off highway vehicle) trail and tracks. Straddling a thousand foot high ridge, these park trails afford riders vistas ranging from Gilroy to San Francisco. The park facilities include:

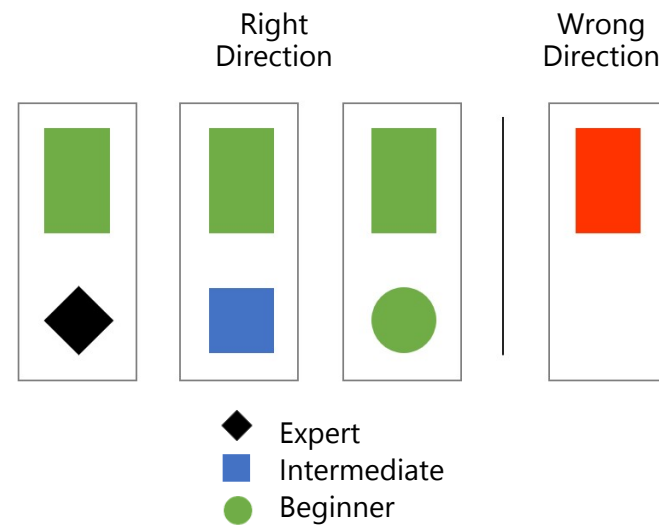
- Motocross competition track and ATV track.
- Mini-motocross track (100cc two stroke engine size or 150cc four stroke engine size or less).
- Beginner's oval and 12 miles of main trails (beginners/intermediate).
- 8 miles of single track enduro (expert) trails
- One hill climb area.
- 1/20th mile paved oval track operated by the Baylands Quarter Midget Racing Association, for quarter midget racing and practice.
- Shaded picnic areas (some with barbecues), restrooms, and drink vending machines.

## Fees

Fees are subject to change, call park office at (408) 226-5223 to confirm current fee rates. (note: Annual passes may be available. For more information, inquire at the park office or call the park office at the number noted above).

## Trail Markings

All trails are one way. Proper direction of travel and trail difficulty will be indicated on Carsonite posts and will appear as follows:



## Cultural History

The Ohlone people lived around Coyote Creek and the surrounding hills for more than 3,000 years prior to the arrival of the Spanish in the late 18th century. Most of the park falls within the historic boundaries of the Rancho Refugio de la Laguna Seca (Refuge of the Dry Lagoon), which consisted of almost 20,000 acres, ranging from today's Metcalf Road south to Morgan Hill. The rancho was granted Juan Alvarez in 1834 by Governor Figueroa, the

Mexican governor of Alta California. William Fisher, born in England in 1810, arrived in Massachusetts as a young man and left for Baja California in 1830 as a mate on a sailing vessel. He settled in San Jose, Baja California, where he owned a vessel and navigated upon the Gulf of California. William Fisher married Liberata Cesena in Mexico and eventually raised four sons and two daughters. At a public auction in April of 1842, he purchased Rancho Laguna Seca for \$6,000 and four years later built an adobe on the current site of Coyote Ranch (part of Santa Clara County Park's Coyote Creek Parkway) near Metcalf Road and Monterey Highway. He raised cattle at the Rancho until his death in 1850. By 1876 much of the ranch had been divided into parcels. The Thompson and West Atlas of Santa Clara County from that year shows a man named Dan Rola owning 1,865 acres in the Metcalf Motorcycle Park area.

In 1917 the Metcalf Motorcycle Park area was deeded from Oliver and Amy Blanchard to Maria Ramelli which became the Ramelli Ranch Company. Fifty-one years later, 914 acres were acquired by the County from Roland Ramelli. In 1974, the County transferred 227 acres to the County Parks Department for the establishment of Motorcycle Park. In 1982, an additional 215 acres were added.

The Central County Safety Committee operated the park and subleased it to the South County Micro Midget Racing Association, and later the Baylands Quarter Midget Racing Association. In 1988, the Safety Council declared bankruptcy, and the park was temporarily closed due to insurance problems. In the same year, the County Parks Department secured funding from a State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Grant which was used to make major improvements including a parking lot, signage and fencing. The park reopened under the auspices of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department in 1990.

## Natural Diversity

Metcalf Motorcycle County Park is situated on rolling to steeply sloping hills, with elevations between 285 to 1357 feet above sea level. Soils are mainly clay loam with igneous

or serpentine parent material. The park receives an average of sixteen inches of rain per year.

There are three dominant plant communities within the park which include grassland, chaparral and riparian oak woodland. Grassland comprises about 60% of the park and contains mainly exotic grasses such as wild oats. Grassland species include some native perennial grasses such as purple needlegrass, the grassland habitat supports an amazing assortment of wildflowers which may be seen in the spring and summer. Some of the more prominent species include the Mariposa lily, goldfields, yarrow, and California poppy. Chaparral, consisting primarily of chamise and sage species, covers about 26% of the park. The riparian oak woodland is found in the drainage swales and seasonal creeks, comprising roughly 13% of the park area.

Metcalf Motorcycle County Park may be home to several species of endangered plant and animal species including the California red-legged frog, Bay checkerspot butterfly, Metcalf Canyon jewel flower, Santa Clara dudleya, and Mt. Hamilton thistle. Most of the endangered plant species are found in the serpentine soil habitats. Locations of these habitats have been identified and the Parks Department is committed to preserving these areas by restricting new trail development. Additionally, the department has closed some trails for habitat rehabilitation and continues an ongoing erosion and sedimentation control program to protect the watershed and preserve the landscape.

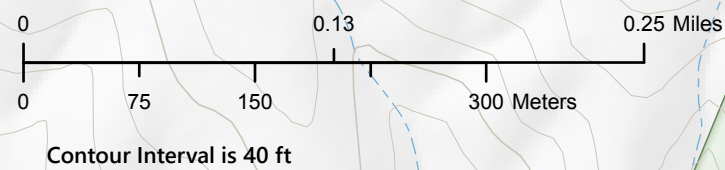
A Micro Midget speeds down the back stretch on the Metcalf Raceway Park clay oval, 1986.



**Metcalfe Motorcycle Park Regulations:**

1. All OHV's (off-highway vehicles) must have a current off-highway or street legal registration. All OHV's must also have a U.S. Forest Service approved spark arrestor and meet sound regulations.
2. All riders must wear a helmet while starting, sitting on, or operating any OHV. Goggles, boots, knee/elbow guards and chest protectors are highly recommended.
3. Persons under age 18 operating an ATV/ATC must be in possession of a current ATV Training Certificate. Other regulations apply for riders under age 14 and for riders between the ages of 14 and 17. For more information, contact the park office.
4. Riders may operate on designated trails and OHV facilities only. All trails and track traffic are one-way.
5. The speed limit in the parking area is 5 MPH.
6. No stopping on trails. If you must stop, move off to one side of the trail and select a stopping point where you are clearly visible to other riders.
7. Motorcycles under 125cc (2 stroke) or 250cc (4 stroke) are not allowed on the main Motocross Track.
8. ATV's are allowed on the main trails (not black diamond) and on the Hillside & ATV Track.
9. Red sticker riding regulations will apply accordingly.

To Hwy 101 (0.7 miles)



# Motorcycle County Park

**Park Hours:** 8 am until 30 minutes before sunset  
**MX Track Hours:** Subject to change  
**Park Office:** (408) 226-5223  
 In an emergency call 911.

Fees are collected for vehicles. Entry fees are posted at the entrance station.

- Helmets:** To be worn at all times while vehicle is in motion.
- Dogs/Pets:** Prohibited except in designated area and must be controlled with a 6-foot (or less) leash.
- Fires:** Permitted in designated barbeque pits. Charcoal & fires only.
- Weapons:** Firearms, air guns, archery equipment and paintball guns are prohibited
- Alcohol:** **Prohibited in the Park**
- Plants & Wildlife:** Collecting of plant specimens or animals is not permitted.

### Legend

	Visitor Center		Motocross		Stream
	Trailhead w/ Parking Lot		Easy		Minor Stream
	Picnic Area		Moderate		Lake
	Restroom		Strenuous		Building
	Geographic Site		Extremely Difficult		Parking Lot
	Rest Site		Road		Santa Clara County Park
	Trail Junction		Service Road		Other Park or Protected Land
	Two-way Travel				

