



**Community
Services
Department**
Connecting People to Opportunities

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cachuma Lake Recreation Area Activities January 2014

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Cachuma Lake Recreation Area is a beautiful outdoor destination set amidst oak woodlands in the picturesque Santa Ynez Valley in Santa Barbara County. For easy trip planning, Cachuma Lake now takes online reservations for all campsites at www.sbparks.org. At Cachuma Lake you will find practically everything you need for a relaxing lakeside getaway in the great outdoors: Year-round cabin, tent, yurt, and RV camping, boating, boat and kayak rentals, fishing, wildlife cruises on the lake, the Neal Taylor Nature Center, bird watching, hiking, photography, picnics, and a general store. Mild temperatures, typically sunny skies, and celebrated fishing conditions make year-round camping here exceptionally rewarding. Located off scenic Highway 154 in the Santa Ynez Valley, Cachuma Lake is midway between the coast of Santa Barbara, area wineries, and the Danish community of Solvang. Visit the Parks website at www.sbparks.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Trout Plants at Cachuma Lake – The next one will be **Thursday, January 9** and plants will continue through spring. There will be six plants total (4 more remaining), and each load will include at least 4000lbs of rainbows. Most of the plants will be triploid rainbow trout, which can reach trophy size. Each plant will include 300lbs of 9-lb fish or better, with a balance of 1.5- to 8-lb fish. Trout plant dates are as follows:

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Wednesday, November 6, 2013 | Full load Triploid Trout |
| 2. Thursday, December 12, 2013 | Full load Triploid Trout |
| 3. Thursday, January 9, 2014 | Full load Rainbow Trout |
| 4. Thursday, March 20, 2014 | Full load Triploid Trout |
| 5. Wednesday, April 2, 2014 | Full load Triploid Trout |
| 6. Thursday, April 10, 2014 | Full load Triploid Trout |

Cachuma Lake Discovery Table – Saturday, January 4, 2014, 10am-12pm. Meet outside the Neal Taylor Nature Center for a hands-on opportunity to learn about local, natural treasures. Great for the whole family!

YEAR-ROUND NATURE PROGRAMS:

Cachuma Lake 2-Hour Eagle Cruises – Offered mornings 10am – noon Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, and afternoons 2pm - 4pm Fridays and Saturdays. Santa Barbara County Park Naturalists lead 2-hour cruises that focus on Bald Eagles, local birds and migratory birds, local wildlife, flora, geology, and Native American and settler history. \$15/adults \$7/kids (**4-12 years old; please, no children under 4**).

Reservations: (805) 686-5050 weekdays, (805) 686-5055 weekends. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call the naturalists' office at (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit www.sbparks.org and click on "Nature Cruises".

Cachuma Lake Nature Walk – Every Saturday, 10-11:30 am; meet at the Nature Center. Santa Barbara County Park Naturalists and interpretive guides lead an easy paced ½-mile walk on the Don Wimpres Nature Trail. Free with \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Large groups are encouraged to call in advance, (805) 688-4515.

Cachuma Lake Junior Ranger Program – Every Saturday, 12:30-1:30 pm; meet at the Nature Center. Kids earn a badge with the help of a Cachuma Park Naturalist as they learn about wildlife and care of the natural environment. \$2 per child in addition to the \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit the Calendar of Events at www.sbparks.org.

NEAL TAYLOR NATURE CENTER AT CACHUMA LAKE:

Neal Taylor Nature Center – Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, and Sunday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Please note closure for maintenance, below. Exhibits and hands-on displays for all ages feature local wildlife, birds, plant life, geology, local history, as well as a gift and book shop. Free admission with \$10 per vehicle Park day use fee. For more information call (805) 693-0691, see park bulletin boards, or visit www.clnaturecenter.org.

Neal Taylor Nature Center short CLOSURE for maintenance – Monday, December 16 through January 7. The Nature Center is going to have major maintenance work done over the holidays and will be closed from Monday, December 16, 2013 through Monday, January 7, 2014. The Nature Center will reopen to the public on Tuesday, January 8, 2014.

OUTDOOR RECREATION AT CACHUMA LAKE:

Cachuma Lake Hiking – There are four miles of trails for self-guided hikes within the Park. Pick up a trail guide at the front gate. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle. Call (805) 688-4515 for more information or visit www.sbparks.org. Also, within a 15 minute drive of Cachuma, you can access multiple hiking trailheads in Los Padres National Forest.

Cachuma Lake Fishing – Fishing from shore in the campground or from a boat is open all year with a valid fishing license. The lake supports healthy populations of rainbow trout, large- and smallmouth bass, crappie, and channel catfish. **Monthly trout plants have already started! The next one is Thursday, January 9.** 4000 pounds will be planted, including several hundred pounds of triploid rainbow trophies. See www.sbparks.org for the trout planting schedule, the Weekly Fishing Report, and for strict boat inspection and launch requirements to control invasive plants and animals.

Cachuma Lake Marina & Boat Rentals – Open daily. (January 1-31, 7am-5:00pm) Boat rentals, party boats, pontoon boats, kayak rentals, slip rentals, 1-day fishing licenses and a full bait and tackle are available. Call (805) 688-4040 for prices and specific times. \$10 Park Admission per vehicle.

Bow Fishing for Carp – Bow fishing is permitted at Cachuma Lake. Permits are free and obtained at the lake. See Carp Bow Fishing at Cachuma Lake at www.sbparks.org for completed information and regulations.

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