green foothills

Company Outings 2024 FAQs

Green Foothills offers docent-led walks in local open space preserves to company groups of 10 or more to explore and enjoy local ecology together while learning how land development and conservation impacts our region.

Here are some frequently asked questions to help determine if a company outing is a right fit for your team.

- **1. When can the outing be held?** We host Company Outings February-November in the morning, seven days a week (except holidays), depending on the availability of our docents.
- **2. How many people can participate?** 10-50 people can participate depending on the location's accessibility and our docent's comfort level.
- **3. What is the cost?** To host a company outing, the company must sponsor <u>Nature's Inspiration</u>, Green Foothills' Annual Fundraiser, at a minimum level of \$2,500.
- **4. Where can our outing be held?** Together with your team we will develop a fun, informative outing. Your key role as host will be to get your colleagues involved. Below is a menu of potential docent-led activities for you to choose from, or we can develop a customized docent-led outing together.
 - a. Birding on the Bay, Palo Alto, San Jose, or Mountain View Explore the San Francisco Bay through salt marsh habitat. The easy walk (mileage dependent) will be on a flat, mostly paved Bay Trail. This option offers a great chance to see birds stop along the Pacific Flyway. We can explore a few different locations along the Bay, including the Palo Alto Baylands, Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge, or Shoreline Lake.
 - **b.** Laguna Seca, San Jose Explore this seasonal wetland on an easy walk at Laguna Seca, located in the North Coyote Valley Conservation Area (NCVCA). Learn about the natural and cultural history of the NCVCA, and see birds and other wildlife. Laguna Seca isn't usually open to the public, so this is a great chance to get a sneak peek behind the scenes.
 - c. Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, San Jose Learn about Coyote Valley, a 7,400-acre landscape of fields, farmlands, creeks and wetlands that provide a vital linkage for wildlife migration, flood protection for San Jose, locally grown food, and outdoor activities. This moderate 4-mile hike (700' elevation climb) takes you through open grasslands, oak savannah, oak woodland, and riparian habitats.

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- d. Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Woodside This breathtaking preserve is a field station for environmental research and is part of Stanford University. It's accessible to the public only via guided tour. Located in the eastern foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, about five miles southwest of Stanford's main campus, the 1,193 acre preserve features a variety of landscapes and wildlife, which we'll view and learn about during an easy-to-moderate 4-mile hike (600' elevation climb).
- **e. Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve, Redwood City** Trek through this 467-acre protected area of native grasslands, oak woodlands, and chaparral habitats. During this **moderate 4-mile hike** (700' elevation climb), we'll experience the park's unique biodiversity and spectacular views of Skyline Ridge, Huddart Park, the San Andreas Fault Zone, Crystal Springs Reservoir, and the San Francisco Bay.

5. How strenuous will the outing be?

- **a.** Easy option: 1-3 miles flat trail, 1-2 hrs
- **b.** Moderate option: 2-5 miles gentle rolling hills, 2-3 hrs

6. What is the general itinerary for attendees? (getting to locations x,y,z. Rough timeline if possible)

- **a.** Arrive 15 minutes before hike time for check in.
- **b.** 3-4 mins welcome from Green Foothills Representative, Company Liaison, and Docent
 - i. Company Liaison welcomes
 - ii. Green Foothills Rep shares Green Foothills programs and impact
 - iii. Docent communicates the plan for the day
- **c.** 1-2 hrs hike for easy and 2-3 hrs for moderate led by docents with a few stops
- **d.** 3 mins closing message from Green Foothills representative

7. What should I bring? What should I wear?

- **a.** Water bottle, optional to bring camera, binoculars, walking sticks
- **b.** Layered clothing and sun protection depending on the weather, sturdy shoes

Please fill out this form to express your interest in coordinating an outing for your company: greenfoothills.org/outings/

If you have any questions regarding Company Outings, please contact Justyne Schnupp, Associate Development Director, at iustyne@greenfoothills.org or 408.425.2972.