



JPL HIKING +

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JPL TRAILBUILDERS

TRAIL MAINTENANCE Saturdays

Optional outing on Lower Merrill
CALIFORNIA TRAIL DAYS

March 26 (note date change)

April 9 (note date change)

March 12

April 16, 2005

A separate flyer will follow

(Rain cancels any outing)

LEADERS: Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL) 626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

CLASSIFICATION: Easy to strenuous, up to you. **COST:** none **TRIP LIMIT:** none

DESCRIPTION: WHAT HAPPENED:

We were rained out in January and February. With all the potential trail damage due to the heavy rains, the Forest Service wanted the volunteer trail groups to concentrate on surveying trails for damage so they could be prioritized. Since our adopted trails had already been surveyed, we surveyed the Valley Forge Trail and Kenyon DeVore Trail. They were in pretty good shape, mostly down trees and some slides but both were passable as long as the water at the stream crossings doesn't rise much higher. Some trails will need major repair work above and beyond what volunteers can do, like the Lower Merrill Trail. But until the heavy rains stop, they cannot schedule any contractors in to do the work for fear of that work washing away before completed.

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

We will get back to maintaining our adopted trails - Mt Lowe East to start. If the Mt Lowe fire road becomes drivable again (it has some serious slides), we will make a pass of the Muir Peak Trail before the Sierra Club has their annual hike there. Or the Forest Service could soon be notifying groups of what trails urgently need work.

Some other trail volunteers will be working the Lower Merrill Trail on March 12. Be at the trail head at the top of Lake Avenue at 7:50 am.

BRING: Dayhike gear (daypack, lunch, lots of water), sun screen, bug repellent, hat, sturdy shoes, and work gloves. You can bring your own tools or are welcome to use those from our group supply.

MEET: Meet at 8:15 AM on March 26 and April 9 at ball diamonds parking lot in the lower part of Hahamonga Park. Get off the 210 freeway at the Berkshire off-ramp and follow the signs for JPL and Hahamonga Park. Once you turn into the park, go down the driveway, make a right at the bottom and look for us in the parking lot by the ball diamonds. . We will sign in and form carpools, leaving at 8:30 sharp, returning around 4 PM. The leaders always take passengers, but make sure you have plenty of gas in case we need more drivers (riders can give drivers \$1 towards gas). If you need to leave early, notify the leaders at sign-in time.

Next tentative dates May 7 and National Trail Days June 4