

## Plant Listing

A mixed palette of native trees, drought tolerant shrubs and grasses can be found along the trail. Some of these include:

### Trees

- California Laurel
- California Sycamore
- Cottonwood
- Blue Elderberry
- Valley Oak
- Western Redbud

### Shrubs

- Butterfly Weed
- Toyon
- California Coastal Sage
- Buck Wheat
- Matilija Poppy

### Ground Cover

- Butterfly Weed
- Creeping Mahonia
- Dwarf Rosemary
- Ceanothus
- Manzanita



Elderberry flower  
with Buckeye butterfly



Ceanothus

## Habitat Along the River

The beautification and use of native trees, plants and grasses benefits nature by promoting opportunities for wildlife use.

From the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains along 56 miles to the Ocean, the river is a pathway for a multitude of birds searching for fish and other food along the way. Watch, and you'll see birds stopping to sip at the water and rest a while. Sparrow hawks, herons, and egrets with their long, beautiful necks can be seen. Ospreys create a nesting site and other animals such as squirrels and barn owls have been sighted. Butterflies and a multitude of other insects reside in the native environment.

## Regional Plan

The project is consistent with the regional plan prepared by the California Resources Agency, San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, called: "Common Ground from the Mountains to the Sea," dated October 2001. This plan is a watershed and open space plan that provides guidance and direction for the future restoration, preservation and development in and around the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers.



## Lakewood's Preservation of Open Space Along the San Gabriel River

**1967** – Monte Verde Park is built on the west side of the San Gabriel River, providing Lakewood residents a fully enclosed park for recreation opportunities including overnight camping experiences.

**1973** – Lakewood purchased a strip of property located on the east side of the San Gabriel River. Eucalyptus trees and a variety of plant material beautified this unsightly land, which was named River Park.

**1975** – Lakewood purchased the 7.5 acre Lakewood Stables, now known as the Lakewood Equestrian Center.

**1990** – Lakewood expanded River Park and developed the additional acreage on the east side of the river. The completion of Rynerson Park and the city owned Lakewood Equestrian Center brought a variety of unique outdoor recreation experiences to area residents.

**2001** – Monte Verde Park was renovated adding a 3,000 square foot Vista Lodge, improving the plant material consisting of several ecosystems representing elements of native California landscape and added a 1/4 mile nature trail.

**2003** – West San Gabriel River Parkway Nature Trail provides 17-acres of trails and open space for passive activity. The beautifying of this greenway further completes the connection of open space along the river. Funding for this project was provided by the State of California, State Resources Agency.

**2007** – The West San Gabriel River Parkway Nature Trail extension provides an additional 2.5 acres of trails and open space along the river and connects with the original trail at the south end of Monte Verde Park. Funding for this project was provided by the State of California, State Resources Agency.

**West San Gabriel River Parkway Nature Trail • Rynerson Park  
Lakewood Equestrian Center • Monte Verde Park**

**Over 82 acres now provide open space and unique recreational opportunities for all who visit the facilities along the San Gabriel River in Lakewood.**



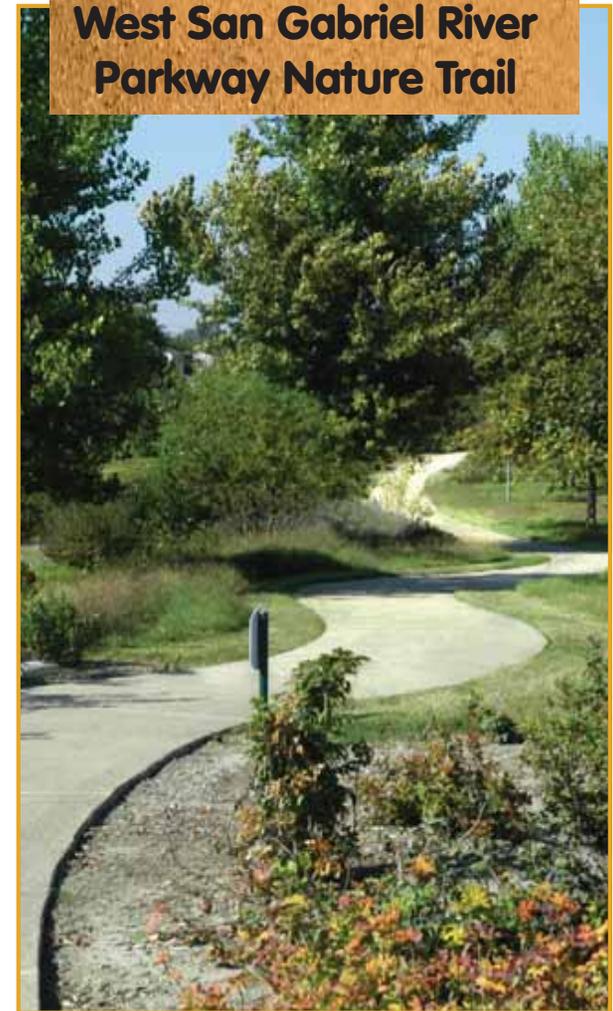
### Lakewood City Council

Larry Van Nostran, Mayor  
Diane DuBois, Vice Mayor  
Steve Croft, Council Member  
Joseph Esquivel, Council Member  
Todd Rogers, Council Member

City of Lakewood

Explore the Newly Expanded ●●●

## West San Gabriel River Parkway Nature Trail



Discover the newly expanded West San Gabriel River Parkway Nature Trail. This additional 2 ½ acres of open space is located along the river just south of Del Amo Blvd. The nearly ½ mile trail connects to the existing trail just south of Monte Verde Park offering walkers and joggers over 2 miles of trails (round trip) to enjoy. The entire project features numerous trees, shrubs and wildflowers that provide

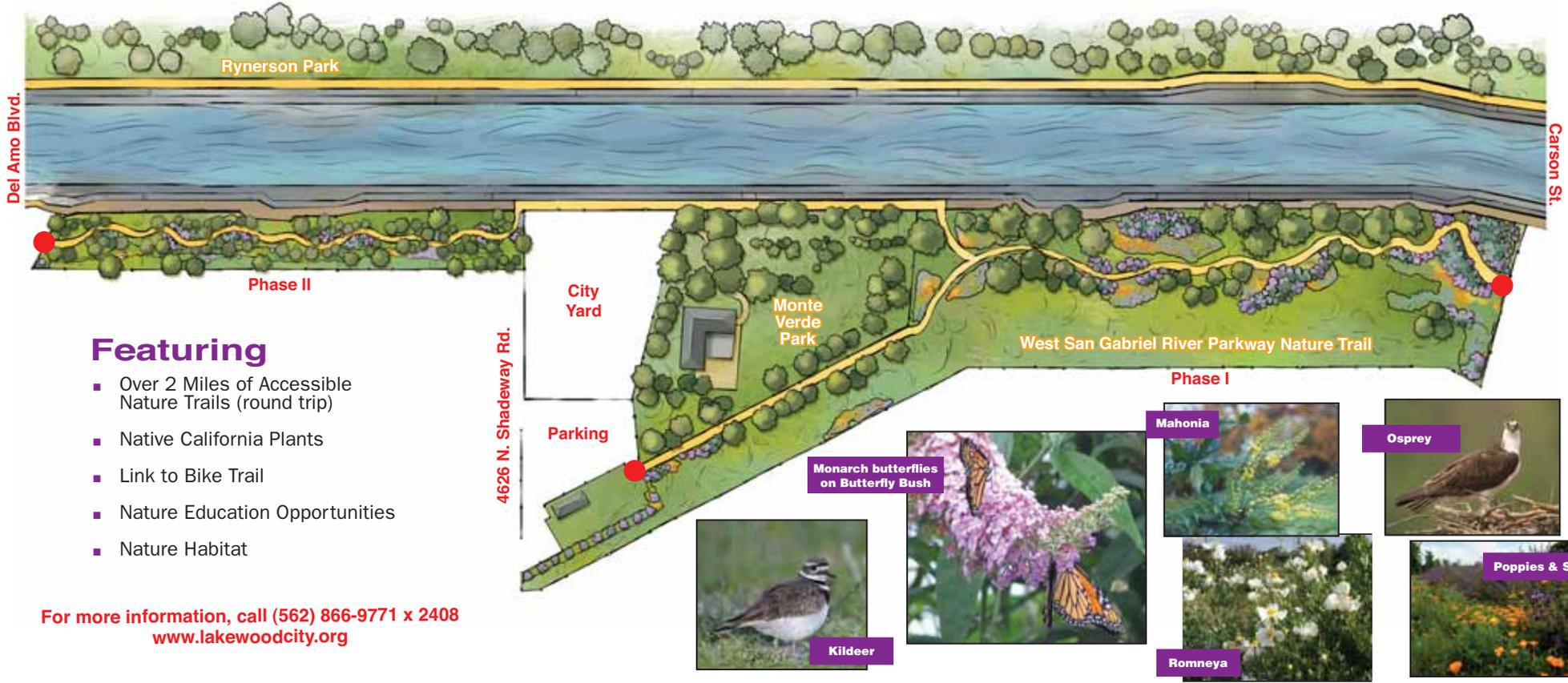
habitats for various birds and small mammals. It also provides a passive natural experience for the enjoyment and enrichment of the community.

The completion of this phase enhances public access and linkages to the river and its bike trails for thousands of individuals giving them another choice of open space and trails for fun and relaxation in an urban setting.

Walk the trail from one of three different entry points.

- Enter at Carson Street on the south end of the development
- Enter on Del Amo Blvd. at the north end of the development
- Park at Monte Verde Park, 4626 N. Shade way and enter at this trailhead.

Open from dawn to dusk.



## Featuring

- Over 2 Miles of Accessible Nature Trails (round trip)
- Native California Plants
- Link to Bike Trail
- Nature Education Opportunities
- Nature Habitat

For more information, call (562) 866-9771 x 2408  
[www.lakewoodcity.org](http://www.lakewoodcity.org)