

Yucaipa City Trail Guide

The Complete Illustrated Guide
with Online Maps



10/3/2017

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Preface

Yucaipa is fortunate to have a comprehensive multi-use city trail system. It allows residents to travel, explore, and enjoy Yucaipa on foot, bicycle, or horseback.

This e-book can be printed or viewed on a computer or portable device. It was compiled and edited by Rob Richmond, Yucaipa Trails and Open Space Committee, and Ann Richmond, Healthy Yucaipa Committee. We hope it will help make Yucaipa's trails more accessible to all. We welcome your feedback. Please email any comments to the editors at rmond@yucaipatrailsandopenspace.org.

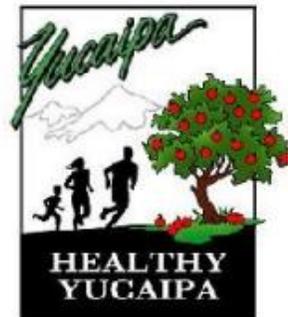


Why use the trails?

The trails offer opportunities for pleasurable and healthy outdoor activity. No matter what your age, something as simple as walking can help you live a healthier life. Regular brisk walking can help:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Prevent or manage various conditions, including heart disease, high blood pressure and type 2 diabetes
- Strengthen your bones and muscles
- Support your joints
- Improve circulation
- Improve your balance and coordination
- Improve your mood
- Improve sleep
- Slow mental decline
- Lower Alzheimer's risk
- Lead to a longer life

The faster, farther and more frequently you walk, bike, or ride, the greater the benefits.



Hikers and equestrians enjoy meandering through Yucaipa's canyon trails.

Introduction

This is a reference guide for all users of the multi-use trails in Yucaipa. From shady creek beds to windy peaks, these walking, hiking, biking, and equestrian trails provide inspirational views of Yucaipa and the natural environment. The quality of Yucaipa's trails and the unique vistas offered make these amenities an important component of the community's character. The City of Yucaipa's Trails and Open Space Committee and the Healthy Yucaipa Committee promote a lifestyle of recreation and active living through the provision of trails and open space.



Yucaipa's diverse terrain offers trails for hiking, bicycling, and equestrian uses. Multipurpose trails traverse the City and continue into the hills, where conservancy, county, state, and federal open spaces provide additional trails. Yucaipa's natural waterways meander through the community and make drainage channels and other water features a unique opportunity for trails that connect neighborhoods. The City continues to build multiuse trails as an active part of the majority of its drainage and infrastructure improvements.

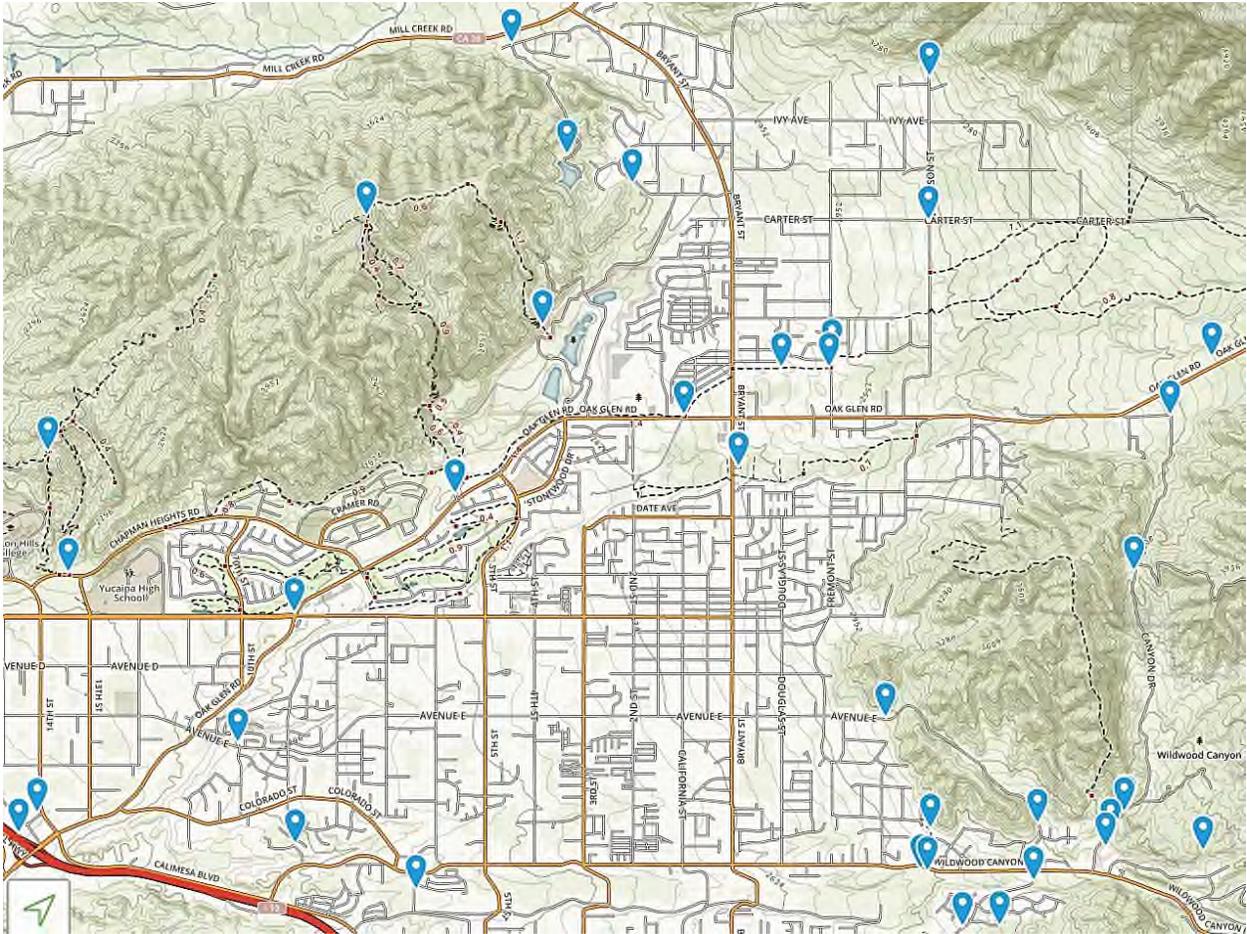
Using this Guide Online

For each trail there is a satellite map, a GPS trail recording (in red), and an online Map Link. A web browser or pdf viewer is required to view or download this guide. (The latest online guide version is at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/ttahs1ij5b0jndg/Yucaipa%20City%20Trail%20Guide.pdf?dl=0>.) Links are provided to the online interactive maps and to the other chapters within this guide. The table of contents lists the trails by name in alphabetical order for easy reference. Best results with all the link and viewing features will be obtained with a pdf viewer. When viewing this with a pdf viewer, selecting the desired entry in the Table of Contents will directly access the chapter of the trail of interest. (At this time the individual Map Links in this guide do not show the interactive maps on a smartphone.)

Finding the Trailhead

Each trail in this guide has been surveyed and mapped using GPS. These maps are provided in each description. Each GPS trail map and its elevations are also posted on the AllTrails trail map website, which may be viewed interactively online with a PC using the Map Link provided in each description. A map of the desired trail can be downloaded and printed. The Map Links can also be used to determine how to get to the trailhead.

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This online interactive map shows the location of each trail.

The Crafton Hills trails are described separately in “The Crafton Hills Trail Guide”.

An online listing of all the individual trail maps with a link to each map is at [Trailhead Online Map](#). This interactive map details the locations of the City (and Crafton Hills) trailheads.

Designated Trails

In this guide, the term “designated trail” refers to the official map of a trail as designated by the City of Yucaipa. A map of each officially designated trail (in purple) is provided in the descriptions. In order to provide more options for different users, some of the officially designated trails have been split into two or three sections (or “segments”) in this guide. In this case, the sections are given different names and are described separately.



You may find trails with the same or similar names listed elsewhere (such as on the [AllTrails](#) website) which differ from those in this guide. But the descriptions here all conform to the City trail map (even though the names may be different). The City of Yucaipa designated trail map can be seen online at [Yucaipa Designated Trails](#). Unless otherwise noted, all the City trails are considered easy to hike or bike, and are suitable for most people.

Trail and Creek Names

Some of the creeks and trails are known by two different names. The creek names on the older maps are sometimes (but not always) shown by different names on newer maps. The current creek name usage on most City maps is used here. Some trails have been designated or called by names which are not very descriptive. The more descriptive names are used here, where appropriate.

Adopt-a-Trail

The City's Adopt-a-Trail Program is an all-volunteer program that provides citizens with an opportunity to become involved in conserving and maintaining our trails. "Adopters" can participate as an individual, a family, club or an office group. All it takes is a willingness to get out and work on your trail and have fun improving and maintaining this important community amenity.

The Trails and Open Space Committee will provide orientation and training, including review of some general rules for volunteers, specifications for the trail adopted and safety training if needed. The Committee can also provide tools and field supervision for your group. This includes field visits while your work is in progress as well as additional maintenance and other post work inspection. By adopting a trail, you or your organization would provide maintenance on all or a section of one of our trails quarterly by:

- Picking up debris and trash along the trail
- Clearing the trail of rocks, sticks and debris
- Cutting brush and vegetation away from the trail
- Informing the Committee of any hazards

If you wish to be an adopter, contact mmiles@yucaipatrailsandopenspace.org.

Take-a-Hike Series

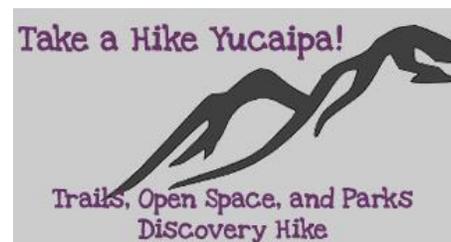
The Trails and Open Space Committee, in conjunction with the Healthy Yucaipa Committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission, sponsors a series of monthly hikes. These hikes are designed to introduce the community to trails in their own backyard. "Take-a-Hike" features a new local trail every month. Everyone is invited, and dogs are welcome.

All hikes are considered "easy". Hikers should wear walking shoes, hats, and sunscreen, and bring water.

Hikes are posted on the home page of the Yucaipa City website, <http://yucaipa.org/>.



The City installs a sign for each trail adopter.



Natural Resources

Yucaipa's Natural Land

Natural land resources are community assets that occur naturally in the environment or are derived from the environment with little disturbance. Bounded by the Crafton Hills, the San Bernardino National Forest, and rolling hills to the south, Yucaipa's natural land resources include vast open space, biological resources, and hillsides. Yucaipa is surrounded by natural features of exceptional scenic value. These open spaces provide visual relief, preserve unique flora and fauna, and offer opportunities for outdoor recreation.

The San Bernardino National Forest, an expansive area of more than 1,000 square miles, frames the northern side of the community. The forest supports both passive and active recreational activities – hiking, mountain biking, horse-back riding, fishing, camping, scenic drives, outdoor education, and skiing and other winter sports. Trails and recreational areas provide active recreational opportunities, and prominent peaks (such as the 9,137-foot San Gorgonio Peak) offer unparalleled views of the Yucaipa valley below.

Yucaipa's Biological Resources

Understanding the importance of our biological resources allows Yucaipa to protect habitats, plants, and wildlife as the community changes over time. The landscape in the lower elevations is dominated by semiarid habitats, including rolling oak savannah, grassland, chaparral, and scrub communities. These communities transition to pine and cedar forest on the slopes of the San Bernardino Mountains and eventually to alder, willow, and cottonwood woodlands at higher elevations along perennial mountain streams.

Habitat

Yucaipa and its surrounding region are home to diverse vegetation and wildlife communities. These include developed and disturbed lands as well as a variety of grassland, coastal sage scrub, chaparral, deciduous woodland, and riparian plant communities. Based on a 1992 master environment assessment prepared for the City of Yucaipa, some of the more common habitats are:

Chaparral. This includes southern mixed chaparral, chamise chaparral, and scrub oak chaparral. These plants are along lower slopes of the mountains.

Coastal Sage Scrub. Coastal sage scrub in Yucaipa is classified as riversidean sage scrub. This habitat grows on steep slopes with severely drained soils.

Oak Woodlands. Oak woodland in Yucaipa is in various areas at lower elevations (1,000 to 2,500 feet) and canyon bottoms.

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Disturbed Grasslands. Disturbed grasslands are shrubs or trees that are altered by development, grazing, or fire. They include a wide range of nonnative species.

Wetlands. The many stream channels that flow from the mountains through the valley region are populated with a year-round riparian scrub community.

Local Wildlife

The diverse vegetation of the broader region that includes Yucaipa provides habitat for more than 1,600 plant species and 440 wildlife species, including butterflies, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. The area supports many resident and migratory bird species, and the vast expanses of grassland and open, rolling oak savannah provide excellent foraging habitat for birds of prey. Protected species, such as the mountain yellow-legged frog and the California spotted owl, among many others, live in the vicinity of Yucaipa.

The open habitats surrounding Yucaipa are traversed by wildlife moving between the San Bernardino National Forest and the Badlands mountain range in Riverside County. Crafton Hills is an important wildlife corridor that connects the Live Oak-San Timoteo Canyons to the San Bernardino National Forest. The Millcreek region on Yucaipa's northern boundary and Wildwood Canyon area are also wildlife corridors into the San Bernardino National Forest.

Yucaipa's natural habitats support a wide range of wildlife. These include mule deer, desert cottontail, deer mouse, and several birds, such as California quail, red-tailed hawk, western meadowlark, Bewick's wren, Bullock's oriole, white-tailed kite, towhee, and phainopepla. The Yucaipa valley is also home to coyotes, mountain lions, and bears. To reduce potential conflicts with wildlife, the Yucaipa Animal Placement Society works with surrounding agencies to implement the Yucaipa Wildlife Corridor Program.

A broad range of organizations assist in preserving Yucaipa's natural terrain and wildlife. These include the Crafton Hills Open Space Conservancy, Inland Empire Resource Conservation District, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Wildlands Conservancy, and other local, state, and federal agencies.

Sharing Our Trails

Yucaipa’s trails are designated as multi-use. To help reduce conflicts, ensure safety, and maximize enjoyment, please follow these rules.

For everyone

- Use only the roads and trails that are designated for public use. Respect private property.
- Remember that common courtesy can go a long way in reducing conflict and ensuring everyone has fun.
- Leave the trails in good shape for the next person.



For cyclists

- Yield the right-of-way to walkers, runners, and equestrians.
- Yielding to others means stopping or slowing – never pass others over 10 mph on roads and 5 mph on single-track trails. Stop on narrow trails. Stop for horses.
- Gently alert those you approach from behind. Don’t startle them (also known as the involuntary “amygdala response”) with a sudden loud noise. Some walkers do not have the agility to jump out of your way.
- Always ride under control.
- Don’t cut the switchbacks. The destruction may be permanent and encourages others.



Trail damage caused by cutting a switchback
Fences were installed for restoration.

For hikers and runners

- Yield the right-of-way to equestrians.
- Be careful not to spook horses. Greet them with a soft hello so they know you are a person.
- Stay on the downhill side of horses.
- Hold children’s hands when a horse approaches.

For equestrians

- Don’t bring a skittish horse to these multi-use trails.
- Avoid damaging dirt trails by keeping off them when they are wet.

For dog walkers

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- All dogs must be leashed (6' leash) or physically restrained at all times.
- All dogs, with or without a chip implant, must wear a license tag at all times.
- Pick up and dispose of your dog's poop.
- Don't let your dog approach others too closely. Others don't always know your dog's intentions and may be frightened.

For motorized vehicles

- Stay off the trails! Yucaipa ORDINANCE NO. 166 forbids "off-road operation of licensed and unlicensed motorcycles and other motor-driven vehicles on private property and public property in the City". This applies even to 4WD vehicles, unless on public streets.

Yucaipa City Trails

1. Bella Vista Trail Connector

Length: .1 mile

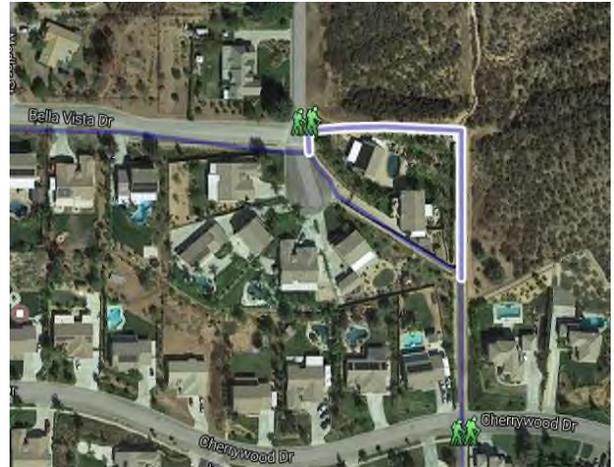
Trailhead: End of Bella Vista Dr.

Trailhead: Wildwood Canyon Road Trail

Elevation Gain: 13 feet

Map Link: [Bella Vista Trail Online Map](#)

The Bella Vista Trail Connector provides an access point to the Wildwood Canyon Road Trail. But it really is just an alternate route on the Wildwood Canyon Road Trail, as can be seen on the map. It also allows access to trails into the undeveloped hills.



Bella Vista Trail Connector

It's a slight variation along the Wildwood Canyon Road Trail



The Wildwood Canyon Road Trail is designated as a wildlife corridor.

This portion is adjacent to the Bella Vista Trail.



The Bella Vista trailhead

It can be used to access the adjacent Wildwood Canyon Road Trail.



The Bella Vista trailhead can also be used to access the trails leading into the hills.

2. Canyon Drive Trail

Length: 1.8 mile out-and-back

Trailhead: End of Chagall Road, elevation 3417 ft.

Trailhead: Pisgah Peak Spur Road, elevation 3626 ft.

Elevation Gain: 209 feet

Map Link: [Canyon Drive Trail Online Map](#)

Canyon Drive Trail is a section of the designated Wildwood Canyon State Park Trail. It ascends a well-maintained unpaved section of Canyon Drive from a point near Oak Glen Road, all the way to the high point of the trail, a spur road to Pisgah Peak. It ends before reaching the State Park, but is nonetheless a pleasant trip through the countryside. This is a very quiet road, great for solitude. As Robert Frost said, "I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference".

The trail ends at the beginning of the Water Canyon Trail. Here you can turn around, or continue on down to the State Park.



Canyon Drive Trail
"The road less traveled"



The trailhead at Chagall Road
It is reached from Oak Glen Road.



The Yucaipa Ridge is seen looking back down the trail.



After passing through fields, the road enters a canyon.



The house marks the end of the trail.
You can continue into the State Park on the Water Canyon Trail.

3. Carter Street Trail

Length: 2.0 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Carter Street and Jefferson Street, elevation 3109 ft.

Trailhead: Carter Street gate at El Dorado Ranch Trail, elevation 3465 ft.

Total Elevation Gain: 356 feet

Map Link: [Carter Street Trail Online Map](#)

Carter Street is a narrow, paved, but unmaintained road through an open area with widely scattered homes. This is a quiet country lane, but there can be a surprising number of cars zipping by. It is a part of the designated Five Winds Trail, and is contiguous with the El Dorado Ranch section of that trail.

This is a good way to access the less visited remote side of El Dorado Ranch Park, adjacent to the San Bernardino National Forest. Deer frequent this area around dusk. The paved street surface is good for runners.

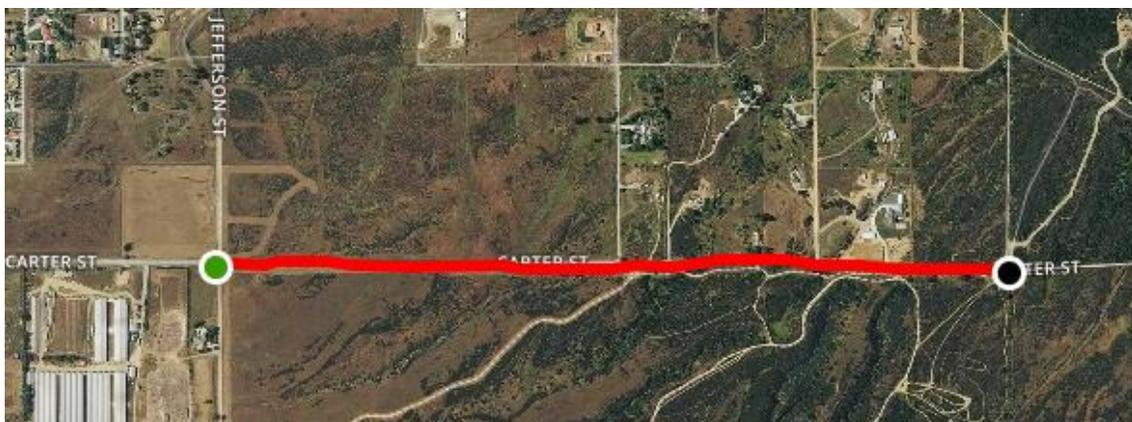
The trail terminates at Jefferson Street. Vehicle access to Carter Street at this point should not be attempted via Jefferson Street, since it is a 4WD road (use Bryant Street instead). The other trailhead, at the gated end of Carter Street, is adjacent to the entrance to the privately owned Bears Den Ranch. This area is posted as no parking, but there is parking on nearby Sprig Ave.



Carter St. is a Wildlife Corridor due to its proximity to the National Forest.



The trail starts at paved Carter St. and unpaved Jefferson St.



The Carter Street Trail

It is the paved section of the designated Five Winds Trail.

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From Jefferson St. the paved Carter St. country lane heads straight toward the Yucaipa Ridge.



It's a great place for a run.



A relic of bygone farming days



Steps and a nice stone wall are all that remain.
The dirt path is used by local equestrians. It parallels the road but is on private property.



View from Sprig Ave. toward the gated end of Carter St.
Parking is available here.



Beware of the posted area.
From here to the El Dorado Ranch Park entrance gate there is no parking, loitering, trespassing, or leaving the pavement!

Chapman Heights Trails

Total Length: 5.1 miles each way

Trailhead: Chapman Heights Road, elevation 2453 ft.

Trailhead: Wilson Creek Channel at Dunlap Blvd. & 14th St., elevation 2027 ft.

Elevation Gain: 426 feet

The designated Chapman Heights Trail is comprised of three separately described segments:

1. Chapman Heights North Trail
2. Chapman Heights South Trail
3. Wilson Creek Channel Trail

They connect contiguously into a single 5.1 mile trail which extends around Chapman Heights and runs all the way to the I10 freeway, as shown in the map. The Chapman Heights North Trail runs along the Crafton Hills. The Chapman Heights South Trail runs along Oak Glen Road. The Wilson Creek Channel Trail runs along the Wilson Creek Channel to the I10 freeway.



The entire designated Chapman Heights Trail, north, south and Wilson Creek sections, 5.1 miles total

4. Chapman Heights North Trail

Length: 4.0 miles out-and-back from either end

2 miles out-and-back from Crafton Hills Park

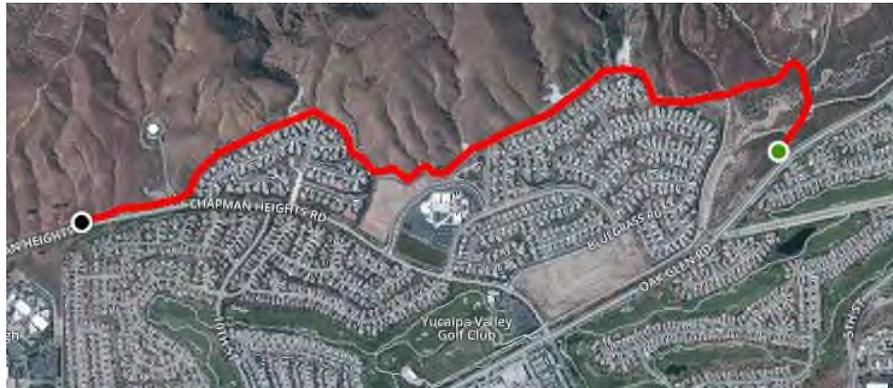
Trailhead: Chapman Heights Road, elevation 2453 ft.

Trailhead: Oak Glen Road Trailhead, elevation 2319 ft.

Elevation Gain: 134 feet

Map Link: [Chapman Heights North Trail Online Map](#)

The Chapman Heights North Trail runs along the foot of the Crafton Hills. It begins at the western boundary of the Chapman Heights community on Chapman Heights Road. It continues with the Crafton Hills on one side and the back yards of the community on the other side. At the midpoint it passes a side



GPS survey of the north segment of the Chapman Heights Trail

trail to Crafton Hills Park. You can park at the Crafton Hills Park for a hike of about 2 miles round trip in either direction. There is no nearby parking at the west end. However, there is parking down the road at 13th Street, which is to the west on Chapman Heights Road (the trail unofficially extends along Chapman Heights Road to 13th Street).

After 2.0 miles the north segment completes at the Oak Glen Road Trailhead and parking area. From here there is access to the Yucaipa Regional Park, the [Chapman Heights South Trail](#), the [Oak Glen Road Trail](#), and the Crafton Hills Conservancy trails.

The segment between the footbridge and the Oak Glen trailhead is not part of the official City trail. It was added here because of the heavy use. The footbridge was added specifically to access this portion.

This trail is used by hikers, bikers, and runners. The Yucaipa High School mountain bike team is a frequent user.

The trail is wide, fenced, and mostly surfaced with DG. It is maintained by the Chapman Heights Community Association.



The trail separates the Crafton Hills open space from the Chapman Heights Community.

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Trail head at Oak Glen Road
The sign is maintained by the Crafton Hills Conservancy.



Access to Crafton Hills trails is available from the Oak Glen Road trailhead.



The trail is popular with bike clubs.



This footbridge was built as a bike crossing.
Bikes have smooth sailing all the way.

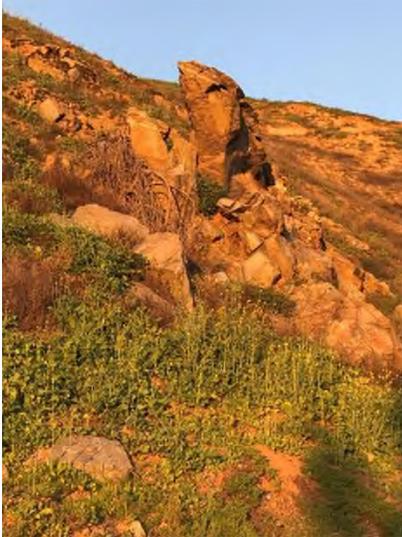


The trail borders the back yards of the Chapman Heights community.



The Crafton Hills Park provides mid-trail access.
From here it is a 2 mile round trip either way.

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The trail is bordered on one side by the Crafton Hills.



An access road provides an aerobic side trip up to a water tank.



A portion of the trail borders Chapman Heights Road. A small park provides a rest stop.



The trail terminates at the boundary of the Chapman Heights Community.

There is no parking near this trailhead. There is parking down the road at 13th Street.



The Take-a-Hike group enjoying the hills and the views



The June 2017 Take-a-Hike group

5. Chapman Heights South Trail

Length: 2.2 miles out-and-back

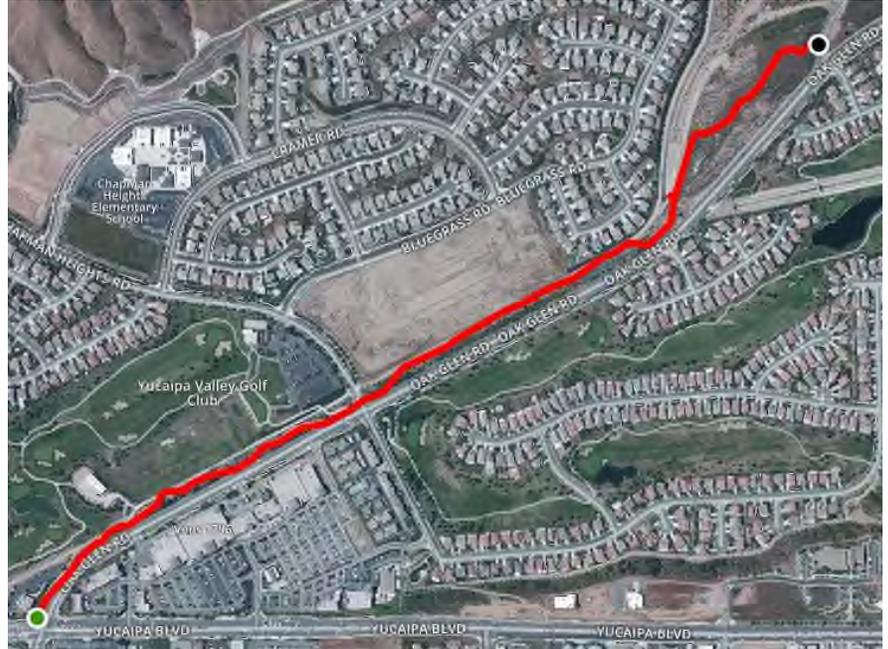
Trailhead: Yucaipa & Oak Glen Blvd. intersection, elevation 2253 ft.

Trailhead: Oak Glen Rd. trailhead, elevation 2454 ft.

Elevation Gain: 213 feet

Map Link: [Chapman Heights South Trail Online Map](#)

The Chapman Heights South Trail closely follows and is adjacent to Oak Glen Road. It joins the [Chapman Heights North Trail](#) with the [Wilson Creek Channel Trail](#) (both are described in this section). It runs along the Yucaipa Valley golf course, the Cedar Glen neighborhood, and over a small hill. It is popular with neighborhood dog walkers and bicyclists. There is parking at both ends.



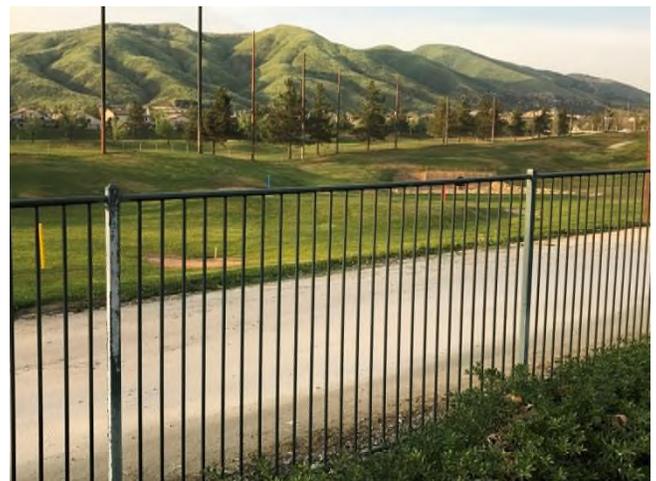
The Chapman Heights South Trail

The bare spot in the center is now the Cedar Glen development.

The end segment which runs from the Oak Glen trailhead over the hill is actually the end of the [Oak Glen Road Trail](#) (see separate description). It was added here due to the popularity of this route.



The trailhead at Yucaipa Blvd. & Oak Glen Rd.



This segment runs beside the Yucaipa Valley Golf Club.

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The golf course segment sees light use.
Here we see the occasional jogger.



Some sections are nicely landscaped.
This is the golfer's underpass at Oak Glen & Chapman Heights Road.



This segment runs behind the Cedar Glen development.
This is a popular dog walking area. The slope of the trail is visible here.



Wilson Creek runs under the steel grate.

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Bear right here to get to the Oak Glen trailhead via a hill.
Bear left for a longer route via a flatter trail.



An unimproved section goes over a hill to the trailhead.
The longer, flatter, trail is across the fenced channel.



Scenic springtime views from the top of the hill



Sun sets over the Chapman Heights community



A short descent terminates at the Oak Glen trailhead.

6. Cienaga Drive Trail

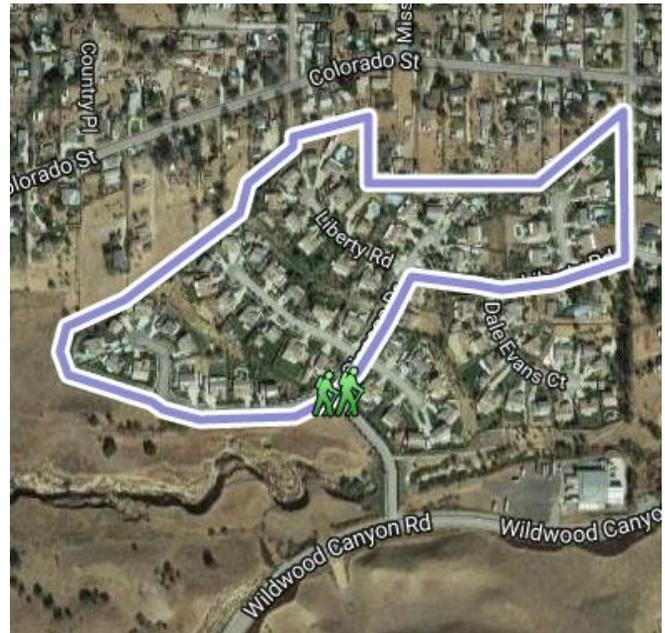
Total Length: 1.2 mile loop

Trailhead: Cienaga Dr. and John Wayne Way, elevation 2282 ft.

Elevation Gain: 75 feet

Map Link: [Cienaga Drive Trail Online Map](#)

Cienaga means desert marsh, which this area near Yucaipa Creek may have once been. This area is now Wildwood Canyon Country Estates, and the trail is a loop contained within that development. More than half of the loop is off the street, between the homes. The remainder is mostly on improved DG trails along the street bordered by impressive rosemary hedges, and suitable for horses. Once you enter the off-street portion, there is no way out until you arrive at the next street entry point.



This peaceful neighborhood trail is not without its hazards. A portion of the off-street section becomes narrow and unimproved, and has a barbed wire hazard adjacent to the path, and so should not be attempted on bike or horseback. And access to one end of this section requires overcoming a steep and slippery slope to or from the sidewalk.



The trailhead at Cienaga Dr. and John Wayne Way



Cienaga Drive loop trail is half on and half off the street.

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The street section is nicely improved.



Most sections are wide enough for horses.



Half the trail runs between homes, and is mostly improved.



How nice to be greeted by creatures that don't bark at you!



Beware the barbed wire fence near your shoulder on this unimproved section.



After the barbed wire you must scramble up this very steep slope to the sidewalk.



A distant view of the fenced trail across Wildwood Creek

7. County Line Road Trail

Length: .6 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Near end of County Line Road, elevation 2881 ft.

Trailhead: End of County Line Road, elevation 2949 ft.

Elevation Gain: 75 feet

Map Link: [County Line Road Trail Online Map](#)

This short trail runs from County Line Road into a narrow oak canyon and then back to the road again. The upper trailhead is at the end of County Line Road, adjacent to the Whisper Ranch trailhead. If you start at the lower trailhead (near Canyon View Drive), you can combine both trails for a longer 2.2 mile round trip. (This has also been called the “Canyon View Drive” trail.)



The lower trailhead



The County Line Road Trail

The higher upper trailhead is to the right, adjacent to the Whisper Ranch trailhead.



The canyon becomes quite narrow. This is the September 2017 Take-a-Hike group.



A quiet and pleasant off-road experience



The upper trailhead
It is adjacent to the Whisper Ranch trailhead.

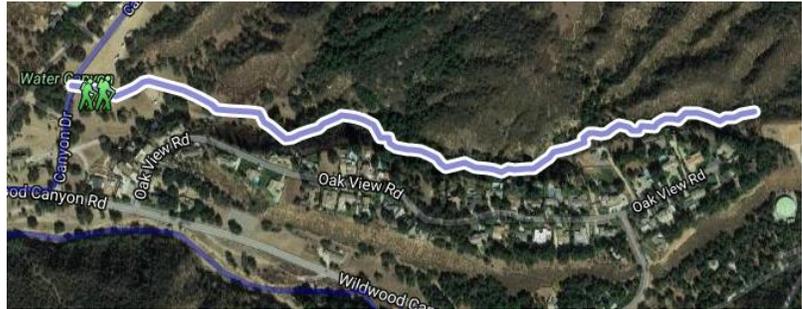
8. Dairy Road Trail

Length: 1.2 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Wildwood Canyon State Park, elevation 2999 ft.

Elevation Gain: 155 feet

Map Link: [Dairy Road Trail Online Map](#)

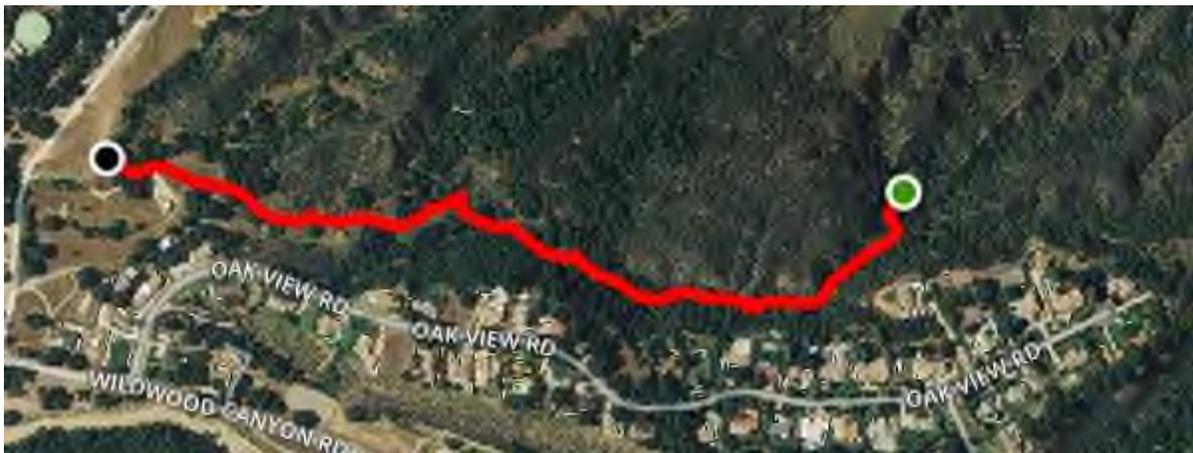


The original designated Dairy Road Trail

The Dairy Road Trail closely follows the southern boundary of the Wildwood Canyon State Park. It runs

through the bottom of a very steep, very narrow, oak tree covered canyon, parallel to Oak View Rd., high above. There is no access from the far end, so this is strictly an out-and-back trail (unless you continue out of the canyon on a side trail). The original designated trail has been shortened by brush near the end, and is now overgrown. That was probably done by a property owner at the end of the trail. While the City no longer designates this as an official trail, it is well used and has much to offer in the remaining portion that stays within the State Park boundaries. This is perhaps the most “wild” of the city trails. Watch out for the poison oak! It’s best to wear long pants on this trail.

The trail begins in Wildwood Canyon State Park off Canyon Dr. at the park’s Oak Tree Loop trailhead in the equestrian area. This was once known as Dairy Road. You pass an old house and barn that may have once been the dairy. The trail described here runs up the canyon to the now unused section at the end, and then leaves the canyon for a short distance, terminating at a State Park trail marker. From here you can return, or turn left onto the State Park’s myriad of trails (see the [Wildwood Canyon State Park brochure](#) for a partial list). If you stay on the main (but unmapped) trail, you eventually arrive at the McCullough Loop Trail, just below the Hi Up House (see the Wildwood Canyon State Park brochure for those details).



The Dairy Road Trail

A narrow shaded oak canyon that follows the boundary of the State Park.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trailhead at Wildwood Canyon State Park
It is also the start of the park's Oak Tree Loop trail.



Bear right at the sign for the Oak Tree Loop Trail.



Soon you enter the oak canopy.



The trail stays on the narrow canyon floor.
Beware of the poison oak.



The original designated trail is blocked by brush at this point.
Continue on the main trail to the left.



Go right at the next cross-trail to reach this trail marker.
The trail beyond is overgrown, so return the way you came.

9. Dunlap Channel Trail

Length: 2.0 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Yucaipa Blvd. near 14th Street, elevation 2117 ft.

Trailhead: 14th St. near Dunlap Blvd., elevation 2053 ft.

Elevation Gain: 64 feet

Map Link: [Dunlap Channel Trail Online Map](#)

The Dunlap area has a history of flooding. The Dunlap Channel drains the floodwaters all the way to the ocean via connecting channels and creeks and the Santa Ana River. The Dunlap Channel Trail runs along the bank of the Dunlap Channel. It begins on Yucaipa Blvd. adjacent to the 7-11 store. It passes through a residential district for its entire length, along the channel on one side and homes and yards on the other side. It crosses three streets, and then after one mile terminates at 14th Street. The [Wilson Creek Channel Trail](#) is just across the street.

There is little trail head parking at the trailheads, except for an unused lot at the Yucaipa Blvd. end. The trail is used primarily by neighborhood residents, runners and dog walkers. There are horse properties along the trail, resulting in occasional equestrian use. The trail is not well suited for bike use due to multiple step-overs and street crossings.

The trail is wide and mostly fenced on the channel side. Some sections have irrigated trees along the channel fence.



The trailhead at Yucaipa Blvd.



Wildflowers in February

Ducks and croaking frogs visit the channel when water is present.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trail has been split into three Adopt-A-Trail segments.



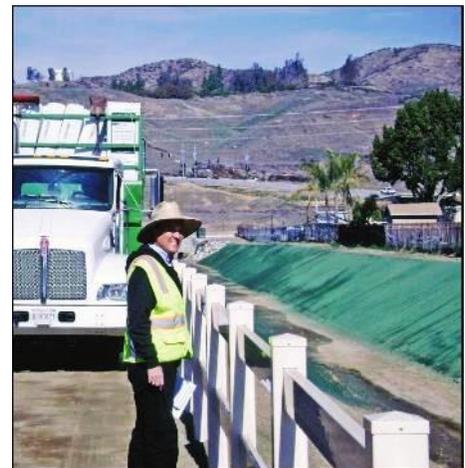
There are never enough adopters.



Another family project



GPS recording of the Dunlap Channel Trail

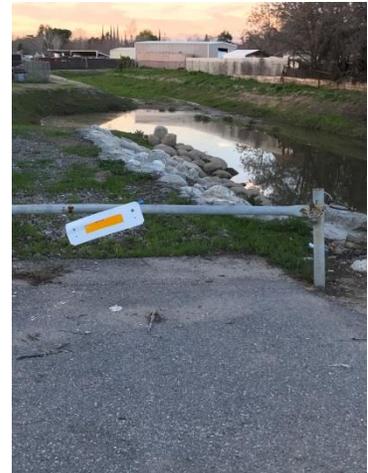


City Engineer John LaRose seeding wildflowers

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



A tree house on the channel



The trailhead at 14th Street



A water retention basin is adjacent to the trail.



Ducks after winter rains



The water and vegetation will disappear after Spring.



Horse property adjacent to the channel

10. East Avenue E Trail

Length: 2.2 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Gated end of Avenue E, elevation 2940 ft.

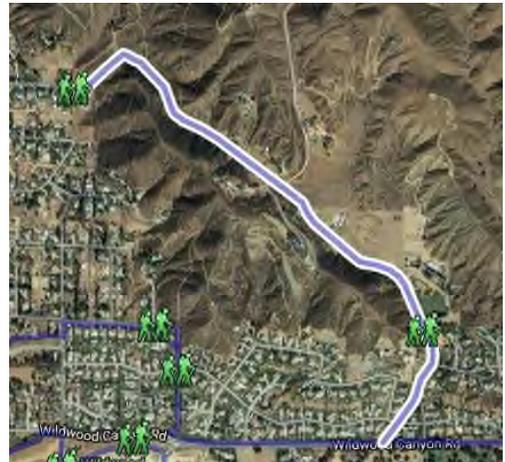
Trailhead: Gated end of Mesa Grande Dr., elevation 2926 ft.

Total Elevation Gain: 184 feet to the highpoint

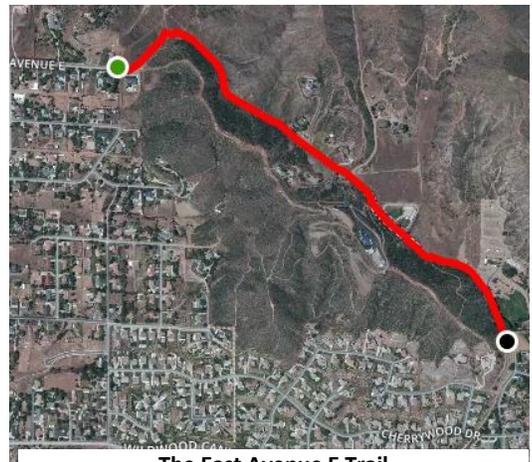
Map Link: [East Avenue E Trail Online Map](#)

This trail is divided into two contiguous segments, the East Avenue E Trail (described here) and the [Mesa Grande Trail](#) (described separately). The East Avenue E Trail, which goes through the Hidden Canyon Estates development, is an extension of Avenue E into the hills. It is gated at both ends and passes through a quiet, secluded canyon with only a few ranches. It is wide and well-suited for hiking, biking, and equestrian use. Beginning at either trailhead, the road inclines upward at an even slope until the highpoint is reached, about 180 feet up. The highpoint and the midpoint of the trail are at the same place.

There is on-street parking before the gate (in front of the homes) at the Avenue E trailhead. There is abundant parking near the gated Mesa Grande trailhead.



The combined East Avenue E and Mesa Grande trails



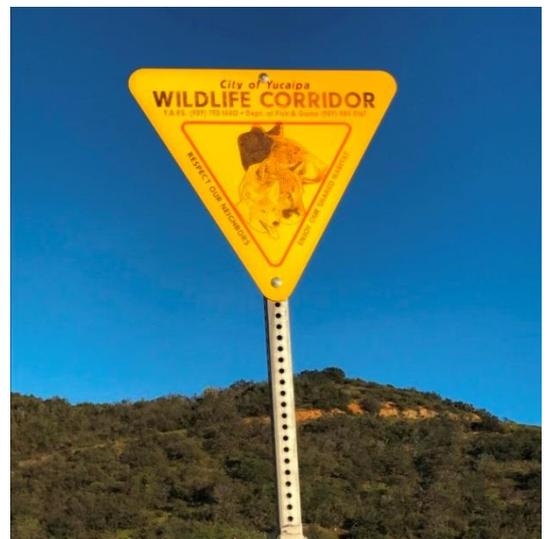
The East Avenue E Trail



Gated entrance at the end of Avenue E



The dirt road ascends through the hills.



The East Avenue E Trail is a designated wildlife corridor for coyotes, mountain lions, and bears into the San Bernardino National Forest.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



Spring wildflowers



There are a few ranches along the road.



View of Mt. San Jacinto from the trail's highpoint



An old paved road descends to the Mesa Grande Drive trailhead.



The lower Mesa Grande Drive end of the trail borders a creek.



**The gated trailhead at the end of Mesa Grande Drive (on the left)
The Mesa Grande Trail continues from here.**

11. East Schaefer Ranch Trail

Length: .4 mile out-and-back

Trailhead: End of Yunis Ct., elevation 2861 ft.

Trailhead: Junction at Wilson Creek Channel Trail, elevation 2951 ft.

Elevation Gain: 16 feet

Map Link: [East Schaefer Ranch Trail Online Map](#)

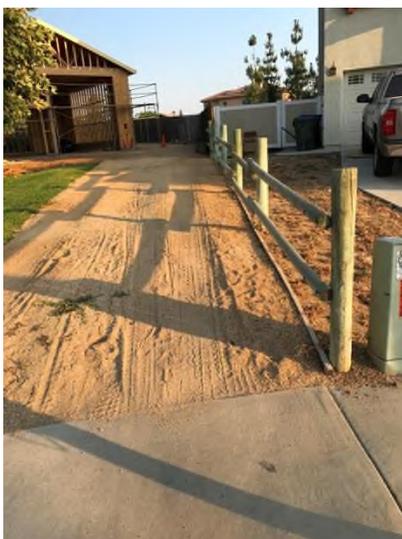
It's more of a trail connector than a trail. This short segment runs from the end of a cul-de-sac, squeezes between homes, and ends at the Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail. From here you could continue down the valley to the Oak Glen Road Trail.

Begin at the end of Yunis Ct., off Fir Ave. The entrance appears to go into somebody's back yard, but instead it enters a narrow passage. The trail continues between walls and fences for the entire length. At one point you can see one of the four Wilson Creek Retention Basins. Nearby you pass a side entrance from Schaefer Ranch Road. Then down the hill, and you enter the Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail. At this point you can neither see nor access the basins.



East Schaefer Ranch Trail

It connects to the Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail



The trailhead on Yunis Ct.
It looks like a driveway.



You are confined for the entire length.



End of trail at Wilson Creek Channel Trail
The basin is full to recharge the ground water.

12. El Dorado Ranch Trail

Length: 2.6 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Oak Glen Road, elevation 3525 ft.

Trailhead: Carter Street gate, elevation 3465 ft.

Total Elevation Gain: 131 feet

Map Link: [El Dorado Ranch Trail Online Map](#)

This section of the Five Winds Trail is entirely within the El Dorado Ranch Park. The designated trail map shows a zig-zag beginning, but that segment has not been improved and is overgrown, so the trail described here begins instead at the El Dorado Ranch Park trailhead. The trail is a wide dirt path entirely within scenic open space. It passes down through Wilson Creek as it approaches the Yucaipa Ridge and the San Bernardino National Forest boundary.

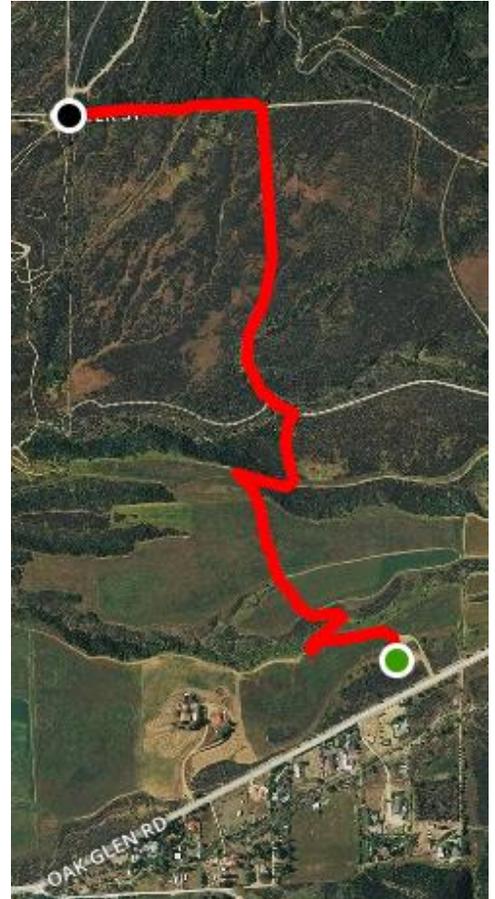
The 334 acres of protected native vegetation and habitat at El Dorado Ranch Park is home to alluvial scrub (threatened in the Inland Empire) and Oaks and Sycamores. The Wildlands Conservancy donated the land, with the stipulation that it remain preserved as open space. However, the nearby planned Wilson Creek Estates development of 184 homes threatens to encroach upon the park.

This trail offers panoramic views and is great for hiking, running, mountain biking, and equestrians. For equestrian use there is trailer parking at the Oak Glen entrance. Equestrian use via the Carter Street gated entrance is popular with local residents. There are many trails to explore in addition to the one described here. The Carter Street Trail is a continuation of this trail.

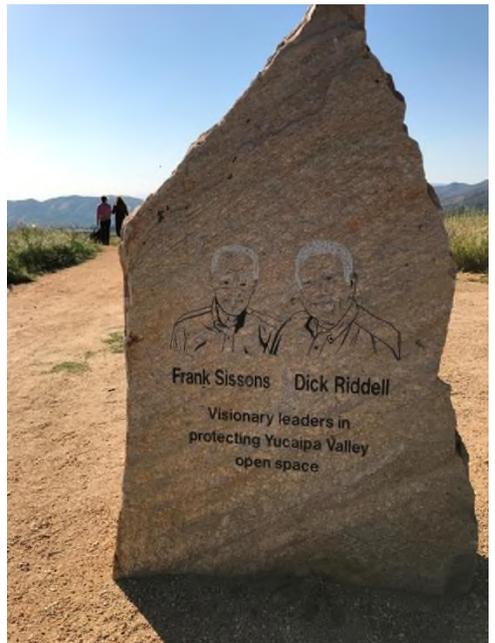
Both trailheads have access issues. The gate at the Oak Glen parking area closes automatically, but the exact closing time is not stated. So a late afternoon hike or ride may be risky. And the paved Carter Street entrance is strangely posted as no trespassing, loitering, or parking, even though Carter Street is part of the designated trail, and the street is not maintained by the City. There is parking space available nearby on Sprig Ave.



Chaparral Yucca spring blooms



The El Dorado Ranch Trail



A stone monument was placed in recognition of those whose efforts helped conserve the land.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The El Dorado Ranch Park entrance on Oak Glen Road



The trail heads out past the restrooms toward the Yucaipa Ridge.



Spring wildflowers and fragrances abound.



Wide level trails, formerly roads, entice many users.



Wilson Creek is ahead, then the National Forest boundary.



The unpaved El Dorado Ranch Trail ends where the paved Carter Street Trail begins.



The inhospitable trailhead is adjacent to the gated entrance to the 160 acre Bears Den Ranch property, which wanted space for emergency access.

13. Escena Street Trail

Length: .2 mile out-and-back

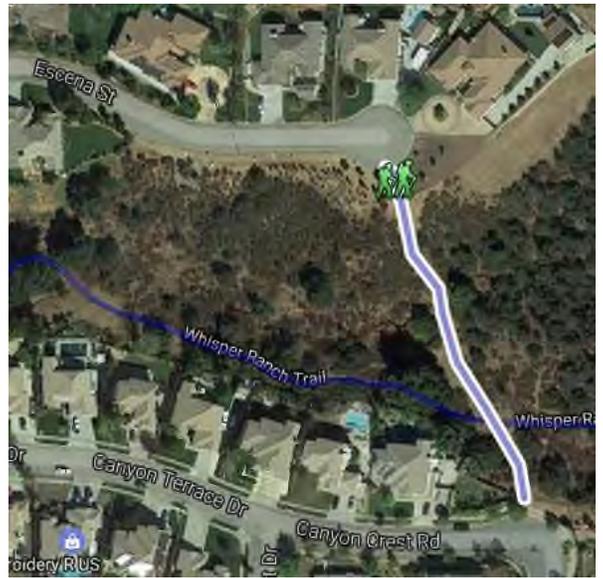
Trailhead: End of Escena St., elevation 2861 ft.

Trailhead: End of Canyon Terrace Dr., elevation 2871 ft.

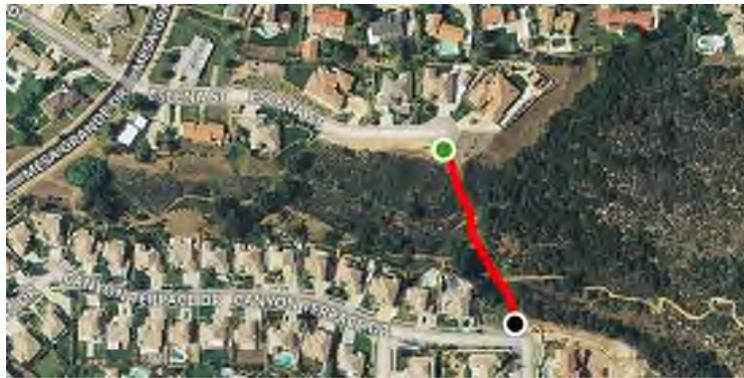
Elevation Gain from Bottom: (steep) feet

Map Link: [Escena Street Trail Online Map](#)

This connector trail provides neighborhood access and parking to the [Whisper Ranch Trail](#) from either Escena Street or Canyon Terrace Drive. The trail descends steeply to the Whisper Ranch Trail at the bottom of the canyon, and then back up the other side. Whisper Ranch Trail transitions from being a canyon trail into a hill trail at its junction with the Escena Street Trail.



The Escena Street Trail crosses the Whisper Ranch Trail.



You could construct a loop trail back to the Whisper Ranch trailhead on Mesa Grande Dr. via Escena St.



The trailhead at Escena Street



The trailhead at Canyon Terrace Drive

14. Fremont Street Trail

Length: .4 mile out-and-back

Trailhead: Fremont St. and Fir Ave., elevation 2920 ft.

Elevation Gain: 0 feet

Map Link: [Fremont Street Trail Online Map](#)

This little trail in the North Bench area seems more like a sidewalk, running between a series of front yards and Fremont Street. It is among the shortest of the City trails (excluding connector trails), but perhaps adequate for walking your dog. You can extend the walk along the sidewalk on Fir Ave., and continue around the block via Plum View Ln.

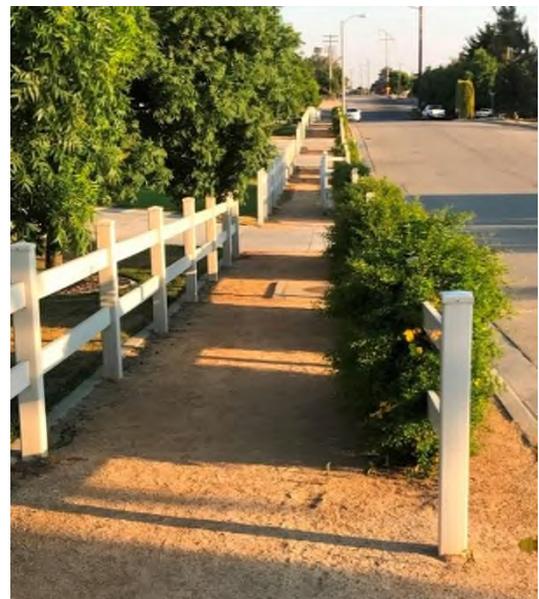
It's not far from the Wilson Creek Flood Control Basin. There are nice views of the Yucaipa Ridge in the distance. On Fir Ave. you will see one of Yucaipa's historic chicken ranches. These were once the main industry of Yucaipa. During the 1940s, Yucaipa was known as "The Egg Basket of Southern California" for its poultry operations.



The Fremont Street trail runs for two blocks along Fremont Street.



View from the trailhead facing the Yucaipa Ridge



View from the trailhead at Fir Street

Grape Avenue Trails

Total Length: 1.6 miles each way

Trailhead: Grape Avenue, elevation 2834 ft.

Trailhead: Highway 38, elevation 2594 ft.

Maximum Elevation: Reservoir, 2935 ft.

The designated Grape Avenue Trail runs along the eastern boundary of the Crafton Hills Open Space Conservancy (CHOSC) land. From Grape Avenue it goes uphill 100 feet into the Crafton Hills to the Crafton Hills Reservoir, and then continues 340 feet downhill to Highway 38. The initial portion leading up to the reservoir is actually within the CHOSC boundaries.

For convenience, the description is split into two segments, described in following sections:

1. the unpaved Grape Avenue Trail, and
2. the paved Reservoir Road Trail.

Crafton Hills Reservoir

The Crafton Hills Reservoir (formerly called the East Reservoir) supplies water from northern sources to the Yucaipa Valley. It provides a water source in case of a break in the incoming supply line due to earthquake or other event. Imported surface water from northern California travels over 400 miles in the California Aqueduct before arriving at the Crafton Hills Reservoir for groundwater recharge and treatment at the Yucaipa Valley Regional Water Filtration Facility. The original 5 acre dam and reservoir was completed in 2003. It was tripled in size with a second dam, 100 feet high, in operation since 2014, and now provides 50 to 60% of Yucaipa's water supply. Because the expansion resulted in the loss of some oak trees, the DWR (California Department of Water Resources) paid for 103 replacement oak trees. These were planted by CHOSC volunteers in 2016. Irrigation systems for the oak trees were also installed with DWR funds.



The entire designated Grape Avenue Trail
It runs over the hills from Grape Ave. to Highway 38 along the boundary of the Crafton Hills Open Space Conservancy land.



The Crafton Hills Reservoir
The reservoir is full as water is pumped in during a wet year.

15. Grape Avenue Trail

Length: 1.6 miles out-and-back

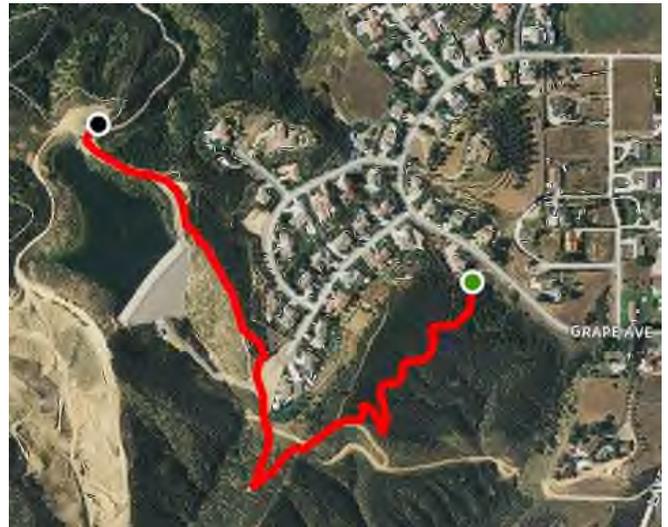
Trailhead: Grape Ave., elevation 2834 ft.

Trailhead: Crafton Hills Reservoir, elevation 2935 ft.

Total Elevation Gain: 174 feet

Map Link: [Grape Avenue Trail Online Map](#)

This section of the entire designated Grape Avenue Trail goes up into the Crafton Hills to the Crafton Hills Reservoir. The trailhead is found along an open stretch of Grape Avenue, ½ mile west of Bryant Street. From here you can travel 6 ½ miles all the way to the Crafton Hills College at the other end of the hills. But this section takes us only as far as the reservoir. We stop at the Windmill trailhead, an entry point into the Crafton Hills. This trail has varied views and gets less traffic than some of the other Crafton Hills trails. It is used for bike access into the hills. There is adequate parking space for a horse trailer on the street.



Grape Avenue to the Reservoir

The reservoir is half way to Highway 38.

From Grape Avenue, you pass through the bushes and up a ridge, then down to cross a paved road. Continue on the dirt trail (to the right of the paved road) along the reservoir, until you rejoin the paved road. There you see the kiosk for the Windmill trailhead. This is a junction point to several other trails, either into the hills or down to Highway 38 via the [Reservoir Road Trail](#).



The Grape Avenue trailhead on Grape Ave.



The trail provides access to Crafton Hills trails.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



View of the Regional Park lakes



Cross the paved road, stay on the dirt trail to the right.



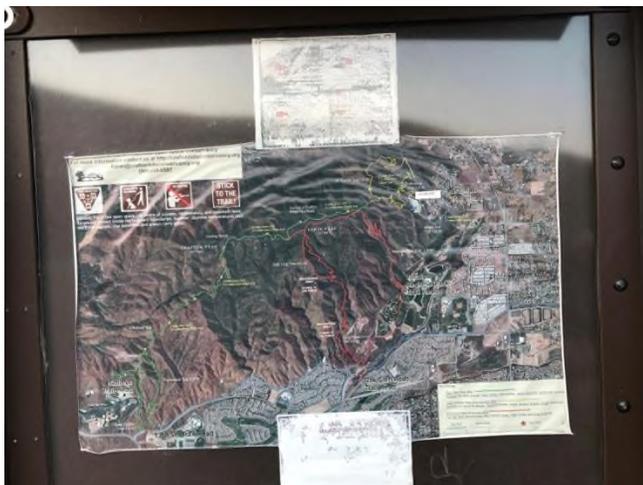
The original dam

A newer dam, added in 2014, is not visible from the trail.



The kiosk at the Windmill trailhead

This is the end of this trail section, and a major trail junction.



The kiosk has a map of all the Crafton Hills trails. Here you can find opportunities to extend your hike.



View of the North Bench, the Yucaipa Ridge, and San Bernardino Peak

16. Holmes Street Trail

Length: 1.0 mile out-and-back

Trailhead: Wildwood Creek Basin Parking Area, elevation 2770 feet

Total Elevation Gain: 23 feet

Map Link: [Holmes Street Trail Online Map](#)

The designated Holmes Street Trail goes around two sides of a housing development which has not yet been completed. As a result, the trail was not improved, and now lies unused and overgrown. An improved connector to the [Wildwood Creek Basin](#) trailhead, complete with step-over, was added, but will be of little use until the rest of the trail is improved. Except for the improved section, this is a trail for the future. At this time it is of interest mainly to the explorer.



This shows the Holmes Street and the Wildwood Creek Basin trails combined.

The two trails are linked by a connector trail. There is a separate description for the Wildwood Creek Basin Trail.



A stepover marks the beginning of the connector to the Wildwood Creek Basin trailhead.



A portion of the unimproved trail runs above a riparian canyon. Another portion runs along Wildwood Canyon Road.



The Holmes Street Trail

This description begins at the Wildwood Creek Basin parking area.

17. Jefferson Street Trail

Length: 3.8 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Oak Glen Rd. and Cherry Croft Dr., elevation 3025 ft.

Trailhead: End of Jefferson St. (near Ivy Ave.), elevation 3247 ft.

Elevation Gain: 222 feet

Map Link: [Jefferson Street Trail Online Map](#)

Jefferson Street is a rugged dirt road which runs from Oak Glen Road directly toward Spoor Canyon in the hills of Yucaipa Ridge. It passes through upper Wilson Creek, which is dry except when rainfall washes down from the nearby hills. Much of the road passes through open space; a portion runs adjacent to neighborhoods. Near the midpoint it crosses [Carter Street](#), a designated paved trail leading to [El Dorado Ranch Park](#).

This open space environment will diminish with the planned Wilson Creek Estates development of 184 homes. Jefferson Street will then become a major paved access road.

Jefferson Street, while suitable for mountain biking and other uses, is perhaps best suited as a fun 4WD driving experience, and one of the few which are legal in Yucaipa. But don't attempt it in a passenger car, as high clearance is a must. Some sections are steep and rutted. This is one of the few trails in this guide that allows vehicles.

There is parking on Cherry Croft Drive at the Oak Glen Road trailhead.



Jefferson Street Trail and trailhead on Oak Glen Road

The nearby trailhead shown is for Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail.



Jefferson Street Trail

It begins as Cherry Croft Drive.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trailhead at Cherry Croft Drive and Oak Glen Road
It's an enjoyable 4WD road to the hills in the distance.



The road is a designated wildlife corridor
The nearby Yucaipa Ridge is in the San Bernardino National Forest.



The road runs down through Wilson Creek.
Future site of the 236 acre Wilson Creek estates



A remnant of cattle ranching days
The Jackson Ranch was in the foothills.



Portions of the road are rugged.



The road is paved near the end.
The road ends just ahead.



Travel near the end of the designated trail is discouraged by the residents.

18. Mesa Grande Trail

Length: .6 mile out-and-back

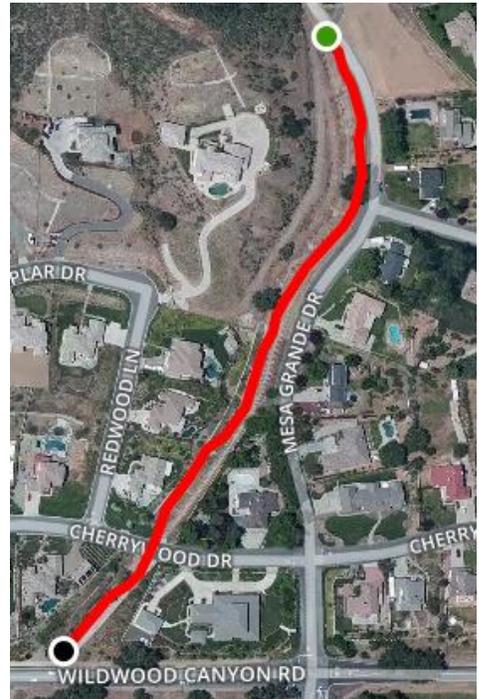
Trailhead: Wildwood Canyon Road, East of Mesa Grande Dr., elevation 2864 ft.

Trailhead: Gated end of Mesa Grande Dr., elevation 2926 ft.

Elevation Gain: 62 feet

Map Link: [Mesa Grande Trail Online Map](#)

This is a short, improved, fenced trail with a neighborhood character. It runs between a creek on one side and the Parkview community on the other side. It can be combined with the [East Avenue E Trail](#) (described separately) for a 2.8 mile out-and-back trip. It also connects with the [Wildwood Canyon Road Trail](#). There is parking at the nearby Wildwood City Park. (This trail has also been called the Cherrywood Trail, but it is better named as the Mesa Grande Trail since it follows Mesa Grande Drive and only crosses Cherrywood Drive.)



The Mesa Grande Trail

It is a section of the designated East Avenue E Trail.



The Mesa Grande Trail trailhead at the junction with the East Avenue E Trail



One stately oak tree shades the trail.

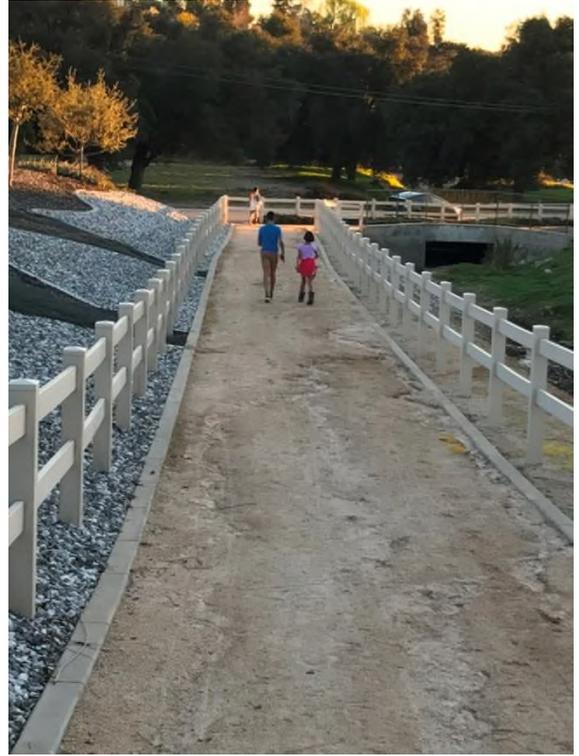


The trail crosses Cherrywood Drive.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trail follows a creek down to Wildwood Canyon Road.



Wildwood City Park can be seen in the distance.



Hershey McChesney was an Adopt-a-Trail volunteer for seven years.



The Mesa Grande Trail trailhead at Wildwood Canyon Road

19. Oak Glen Creek Basins Trail

Length: 1.2 mile loop

Trailhead: Bryant St., elevation 2758 ft.

Elevation Gain: 118 feet

Map Link: [Oak Glen Creek Basins Trail Online Map](#)

The three Oak Glen Creek water retention basins, built in 2008 for six million dollars, were constructed for flood protection and groundwater recharge. Runoff from mountain slopes arrives here via Oak Glen Creek. The basins protect the Yucaipa Valley from major storms, such as the last one in 1969 which did extensive damage. Basin water percolates into the water table and can be withdrawn later from existing wells. Thanks to the foresight of the City, a loop trail with three developed “rest areas” and a parking lot was installed.

The trail seems lightly used, with the occasional dog walker and biker. Parking was not designed for a horse trailer, so there is no equestrian use. The trails extending beyond the basins to rest areas #2 and #3 appear to not be used at all, and the amenities provided there are now overgrown. The basins are usually empty of water. Some of the trail is concrete, other sections are dirt. The loop road is ADA-compliant. A side trail leads to the Mousley Museum of Yucaipa Valley History (open Saturday and Wednesday). The adventurous can explore the riparian trails farther up the creek (not described here). Hawks and Yucaipa’s resident parrots have been sighted there.

The loop trail including rest stops is described here. Shorter loops are possible by skipping the rest areas or crossing on the levees between the basins.



Oak Glen Creek Basins Trails

Crossings between the basins allow trail options.



The trail entrance at the first basin



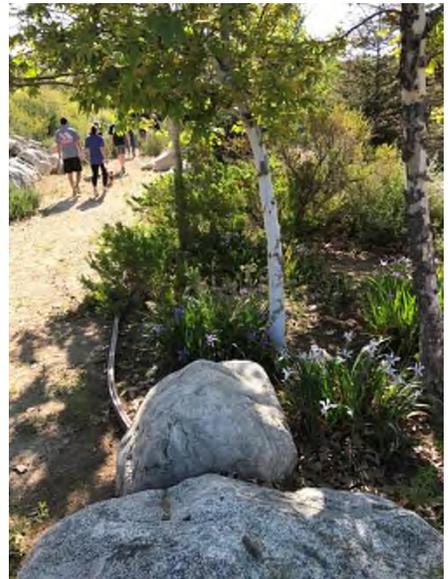
Oak Glen Creek Basins Trail

This loop passes through Rest Areas #1, #2, and #3.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



Interpretive signs at the trailhead parking area



Rest Area #1 with Iris in bloom



The Yucaipa Valley Water District's Crystal Creek facility
A modern filtration plant and an irrigation weather station are located here.



Rest Area #1 is on the main loop trail.



The trail continues to the left above the basins to Rest Area #2.



Rest Area #2 with a wall and signs overlooks the basins.
Intended as a picnic area but little used.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



Unused hitching posts are provided at the rest areas.
They are not needed since there is no parking for horse trailers.



An organized hike led by the Trails and Open Space Committee
(Some of the April 15, 2017 hikers are not in this photo.)



Rest Area #3



The trail continues along the basins.
The trail is concrete near the spillways.



A side trail leads to the Mousley Museum of Yucaipa History.
Stop in on Saturdays or Wednesdays to see the displays.



The loop returns to the trailhead and parking lot on Bryant Street.
The tall catwalk provides access to control valves during floods.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The May 27, 2017 "Take a Hike" group, led by the Trails and Open Space Committee



Dave Miller, Yucaipa Valley Conservancy President, gives an interesting talk about Oak Glen Creek to the hikers.

Oak Glen Road Trails

Length: 4.8 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Oak Glen Road Trailhead, elevation 2453 ft.

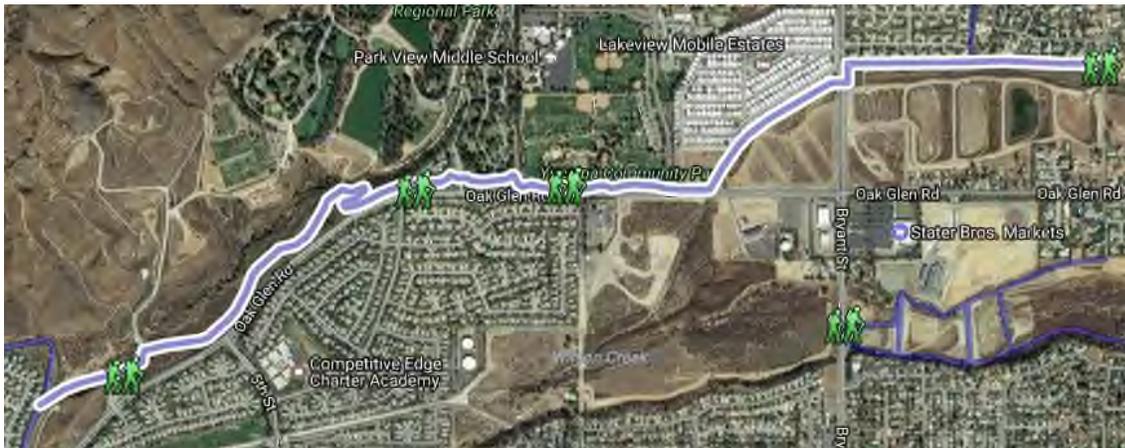
Trailhead: Fremont Street Trailhead, elevation 2894 ft.

Elevation Gain: 441 feet

Map Link: [Entire Oak Glen Road Trail Online Map](#)

The entire designated Oak Glen Road trail may be seen with the Map Link above. For convenience, it is described as two contiguous segments with much different characteristics.

1. the very popular [Oak Glen Road Trail](#), and
2. the seldom visited [Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail](#).



The entire designated Oak Glen Road Trail

The description has been split into two sections, Oak Glen Road and Wilson Upper Creek Channel.

20. Oak Glen Road Trail

Length: 3.0 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Oak Glen Road Trailhead, elevation 2453 ft.

Trailhead: Channel entrance near Sunnyside Dr., elevation 2713 ft.

Elevation Gain: 260 feet

Map Link: [Oak Glen Road Trail Online Map](#)

The Oak Glen Road Trail has two segments with much different characteristics. From the Oak Glen Road trailhead, it runs along a riparian creek emanating from the Yucaipa Regional Park, and is sheltered from the road. At the Regional Park it rises sharply and switchbacks up to street level. Here it continues along busy Oak Glen Road, where it passes in front of the Regional Park and the Yucaipa Community Center and Park. This is a very popular trail for hikers, runners, and dog walkers. But it is not well-suited for bikers because of sandy portions and the steep switchbacks.

The designated City trail includes a segment which runs from the Oak Glen Road trailhead over the hill to connect with the Chapman Heights trails. This segment is described in the [Chapman Heights North Trail](#) description. (This was done because the Oak Glen Road trailhead is the most popular starting point for these trails.) The Oak Glen Road Trail also connects with the [Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail](#).



The Oak Glen Road Trail as described here
The Wilson Creek Upper Channel portion is described separately.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



Fifty Oak trees were planted near the trailhead by CHOSC volunteers in January 2017.
One can be seen in the foreground.



Trees line the creek running out of the Regional Park



After ascending switchbacks, the soccer field can be seen across the creek.



Views of the Regional Park can be seen in the opposite direction.



The Yucaipa Regional Park entrance



Next door is the Yucaipa City Park and Community Center.
The trail continues on to the nearby Wilson Creek Channel entrance.

21. Pisgah Peak Trail

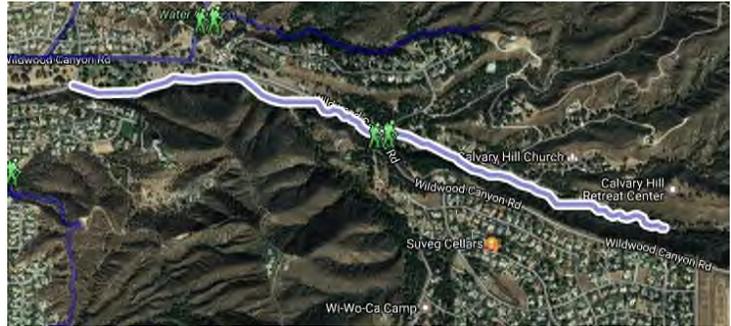
Length: .8 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Wildwood City Park at Mesa Grande Dr., elevation 2907 ft.

Trailhead: Wildwood Canyon Rd., elevation 2977 ft.

Elevation Gain: 79 feet

Map Link: [Pisgah Peak Trail Online Map](#)



The designated Pisgah Peak Trail
Most of it has not been constructed.

The designated Pisgah Peak Trail runs along a length of the upper Wildwood Creek and a tributary. But, except for a short section behind Wildwood Park, the trail was never constructed and is impassable. The trailhead to the developed section is behind the Wildwood City Park on Mesa Grande Drive. You can continue behind the park as far as Wildwood Canyon Road. There the trail ends. You have a view of Wildwood Creek below. The creek bottom is sandy and rocky and seasonally wet, not suitable for hiking or even horseback (although some have tried). There is access to the equestrian area of the park from this trail.

There is no trail along or within the upstream creek farther up the road. It is overgrown with natural vegetation and impassable. The “Pisgah Peak Trail” name seems fanciful. While Pisgah Peak is in the hills above the canyon, and Pisgah Peak Road is nearby, the trail goes to neither.



The Pisgah Peak trailhead
Enter on Mesa Grande Drive.



The creek bottom is far below the trail.



The upstream creek is overgrown and not passable.



The passable portion of the Pisgah Peak Trail

22. Reservoir Road Trail

Length: 1.6 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Highway 38, elevation 2594 ft.

Trailhead: Crafton Hills Reservoir, elevation 2935 ft.

Total Elevation Gain: 325 feet

Map Link: [Reservoir Road Trail Online Map](#)

This section of the designated Grape Avenue Trail goes up into the Crafton Hills to the Crafton Hills Reservoir from busy Highway 38. The trail is a paved and gated access road to the reservoir. The underground pipeline supplying water to the reservoir follows along the side of the road. The road is the same length as the connecting [Grape Avenue Trail](#), but has more than twice the elevation gain (or loss). It joins the segment down to Grape Avenue at the Windmill trailhead, adjacent to the reservoir.

This eastern end of the Crafton Hills is much less frequented than the western (college) and central (Oak Glen Road) sections. You pass quiet side canyons with oak-forested hillsides. Ancient switchbacks used for gold mining can be seen engraved on some hillsides. The paved trail ascends continuously from Highway 38, and steepens considerably as you near the top (be prepared for an aerobic workout). It may be paved, but you do feel immersed in the ambience of the hills.

The Windmill Trail provides a longer, less steep way up to the reservoir. The trailhead is on the right about half way (.4 miles) up. This trail is described in the separate "Crafton Hills Trail Guide".



The Reservoir Road Trail

Park in the unfinished development on Highway 38, .4 miles away and 80 feet below.



Trailhead access may be gated.

The unfinished housing development has been awaiting completion since the recession of 2008.



This gate restricts vehicle access to the trail.
The trail is paved all the way to the top.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



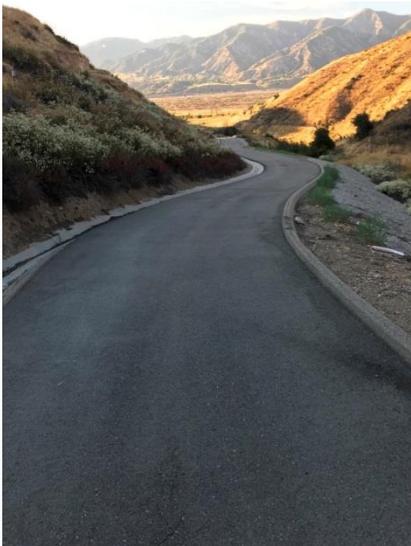
You pass the start of the 38 Special Trail into the Crafton Hills.
See the "Crafton Hills Trail Guide" for a description.



Next you pass the Windmill trailhead.
It rejoins the paved trail at the reservoir, and is less steep.



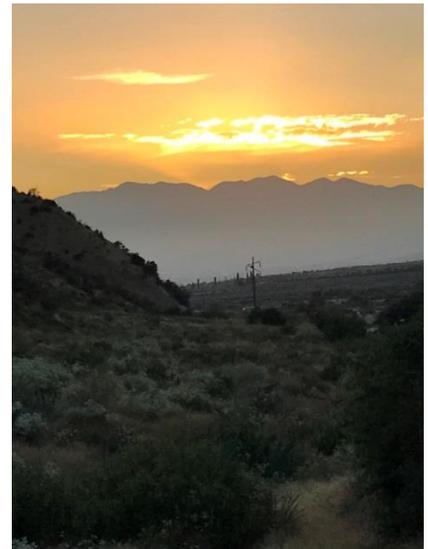
Near the top is a hillside oak forest.
Many trees have been stressed by drought.



The trail parallels a narrow side canyon and becomes quite steep near the top.



A spillway dumps water into the side canyon if the reservoir overflows.



Sunset over the San Bernardino Mountains provides a grand finale on the return.

23. Water Canyon Trail

Length: 2.6 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Wildwood Canyon State Park Entrance, elevation 3074 ft.

Trailhead: Pisgah Peak Spur Road, elevation 3626 ft.

Elevation Gain: 552 feet

Map Link: [Water Canyon Trail Online Map](#)

Water Canyon Trail follows the unpaved Canyon Drive which runs from the bottom park entrance to the top of Wildwood Canyon State Park. The trail exits the top of the park and ends at the high point, a spur road to Pisgah Peak. From the park entrance, it is uphill all the way. The scenery makes it worth the effort to climb over 500 feet to the top. As you ascend, stay to the left at every trail junction. You pass remnants of early ranching and farming. At one point you can see the Hi Up house in the distance, and eventually you pass by the Hunt Ranch. A myriad of park trails can be accessed from the road, but they are not described in this guide (see the [Wildwood Canyon State Park brochure](#)).

This is a section of the designated [Wildwood Canyon State Park Trail](#). The [Canyon Drive Trail](#) section continues down the other side from the end of this trail at the high point. Bikers and runners get smooth sailing (or fly-ing) down to the bottom, and a workout going back up.



The Water Canyon Trail



Entrance to the State Park

Parking is .1 mile away and 36 feet below the entrance. The Canyon Drive and trail begins on the left.



The road within the park is wide and great for biking.

The ascent is even all the way.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



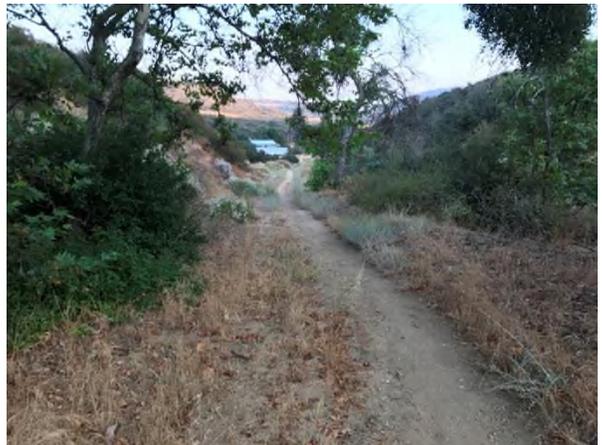
Follow the road up to the Hunt Ranch.



The road continues into the narrow canyon on the left.



**A gate marks the upper park boundary.
The canyon narrows from here.**



**The trail continues its ascent.
Here we are looking back down the trail at the Hunt Ranch.**



**Outside the park the old Canyon Drive is no longer used by
vehicles.**



**The house and side road mark the end of the trail.
Turn around here, or you can continue on down the Canyon
Drive Trail.**

24. West Avenue E Trail

Length: 1.4 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Avenue E near 7th Street, elevation 2347 ft.

Trailhead: Avenue E and 10th Street, elevation 2242 ft.

Elevation Gain: 138 feet

Map Link: [West Avenue E Trail Online](#)

Map



West Avenue E Trail is a short sidewalk-style trail which runs along neighborhood walls on one side and busy Avenue E on the other side. One end begins a short distance from the City's 7th Street Park. The section between 10th Street and 8th Street is lined with a weathered post-and-rail wood fence (not the usual slat fence). After 8th Street, the trail is unimproved and unmaintained. It is necessary to travel in the street near traffic here where the path is overgrown.

The trail appears to be used by neighborhood walkers and equestrians. (While the trail was being surveyed for this description, a loose horse galloped down the street amid heavy traffic, and eventually escaped into a neighborhood!) Parking is available on the side streets.



West Avenue E Trail

It starts at 10th Street and ends between 8th and 7th Streets, near the 7th Street Park.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The 10th Street area
This section of Avenue E has fast moving traffic.



A runaway horse is herded by traffic into a side street.
Loose horses are not uncommon in Yucaipa.



A block wall and wood rail fence line most of the trail.



The improved path ends at 8th Street.



An unimproved section of the designated trail crosses an open area between 8th and 7th Streets.



Travel in the street is necessary in the unimproved area.

25. Whisper Ranch Trail

Length: 1.6 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Mesa Grande Drive, elevation 2863 feet

Trailhead: End of County Line Rd., elevation 2962 feet

Elevation Gain: 230 feet

Map Link: [Whisper Ranch Trail Online Map](#)

This trail has it all. Oak covered canyons, open hills, wilderness, and scenic views into two counties. The section of the trail beginning at Mesa Grande Drive runs through a narrow canyon separating neighborhoods. After you cross the junction with the [Escena Street Trail](#), the Whisper Ranch Trail changes character and climbs up into the hills. The Escena Street cross trail provides an option out, to travel just the canyon section or just the hill section. Prepare for an aerobic workout in the hills; there is a significant elevation gain. The hill section terminates at the trailhead at the very end of County Line Road.

If you want to keep going, you can continue on the nearby [County Line Road Trail](#), which makes the round trip total 2.2 miles. Another option in the hills is to get on the higher ridge trail (visible on the map below). It runs to the peak, and then you must backtrack to the Whisper Ridge Trail. (That side excursion is not a City trail and is not described here.)



This designated map combines the Whisper Ranch and County Line Road trails. (The zig-zag shown is an error.)



Mark Miles has been the trail adopter for nine years.



The Whisper Ranch Trail
The hill section runs just below the ridge trail.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trailhead on Mesa Grande Drive
You can park on nearby Escena Street.



The canyon section runs through California Buckwheat and numerous oaks.



The junction with the Escena Trail (from Mesa Grande Dr.)
Here you can continue straight into the hills, or exit via Escena St. (left) or Canyon Terrace Dr. (right)



The hills provide scenic views.
Here you see the upper Yucaipa Valley and the Crafton Hills.



The approach to County Line Road is quite steep.



The County Line Road trailhead
It is at the very end of County Line Road.

26. Wildwood Canyon Road Trail

Length: 3.4 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Wildwood Canyon State Park Entrance, elevation 3062 feet

Trailhead: Bella Vista Dr. & Holmes St., elevation 2785 feet

Elevation Gain: 69 feet

Map Link: [Wildwood Canyon Road Trail Online Map](#)

The Wildwood Canyon Road trail runs from the Wildwood State Park entrance away from the park, along Wildwood Canyon Road,



The entire designated Wildwood Canyon Road Trail

The west end between Holmes and Douglas streets remains undeveloped.

and then leaves the road via a switchback to travel through a neighborhood. (It has also been called the “West Cherrywood Drive” trail, because it has a trailhead on Cherrywood Drive.) (The Wildwood Canyon Road, which runs through Wildwood Canyon, was originally called “East Avenue F”.) The [Bella Vista Trail Connector](#) (described separately) provides an alternate access point.

The improved trail ends at the Holmes Street trailhead. The City has designated a trail which continues on from here through a new housing development. But the development remains a victim of the Great Recession, and so the trail was never built.

The segment along the heavily trafficked Wildwood Canyon Road is fenced. The segment through the neighborhood cuts between fenced back yards, many with resident dogs. There appears to be light equestrian and foot use. There is a switchback up a hill as the trail leaves the main road. This switchback is crossed by a series of railroad ties which act as a barrier to bicycles. A distant view emerges at the high point of the trail.

There is parking at the Wildwood State Park or at the city park on Wildwood Canyon Road. At the other end, there is on-street parking on Holmes St. and Bella Vista Dr.



The Wildwood Canyon Road Trail

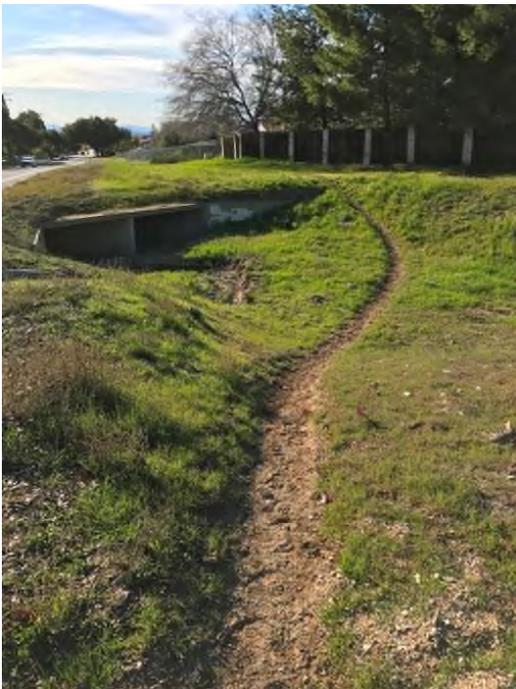
Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trailhead at the Wildwood State Park Entrance
The trail starts at this point and does not enter the park.



The designated State Park parking area
It is .1 mile before and 36 feet below the designated trailhead.



The first section of the trail is unimproved.



One majestic oak tree graces the trail.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trail runs along Wildwood Canyon Rd.



A switchback leads up into a neighborhood
Not well suited for bikes



View of Orange County peaks from the trail's highpoint



The trail cuts through a neighborhood.



The trailhead at Bella Vista Dr. & Holmes St.

Wildwood Canyon State Park Trails

Total Length: 2.2 miles each way

Trailhead: Wildwood Canyon State Park, elevation 3099 ft.

Trailhead: Chagall Road, elevation 3419 ft.

Maximum Elevation: Pisgah Peak Spur Road, 3629 ft.

Map Link: [Entire Wildwood Canyon State Park Trail Online Map](#)

This designated trail follows Canyon Drive through the Wildwood Canyon State Park, essentially connecting Wildwood Canyon Road with Oak Glen Road. From either trailhead, it is a steady climb to the Pisgah Peak Spur Road, and then it descends to the opposite trailhead.

The description is split into two segments with separate descriptions:

1. [Water Canyon Trail](#), within the State Park, and
2. [Canyon Drive Trail](#), outside the State Park.



The designated Wildwood Canyon State Park Trail

Wildwood Canyon State Park

Above the hills of Yucaipa, Wildwood Canyon offers panoramic views of the surrounding hills and valleys. This park in the eastern foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains features broad grasslands and canopies of centuries-old interior live oak. The property's box canyon is home to hundreds of species of wildlife and native plants, some of them rare and endangered.

Wildwood Canyon State Park includes 900 acres. Ranchers and miners staked claims in the area and it was called Hog Cañon (Spanish word for canyon) until the 1920s. To protect the area from future development, the Wildland Conservancy was instrumental in the establishment of the Wildwood Canyon State Park in 2003. The Yucaipa Valley Conservancy is working with the California State Parks to add 3,500 acres to Wildwood Canyon State Park. Today, Wildwood Canyon offers recreational opportunities for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, sightseeing, and cultural events.



Mountain Lions in Wildwood Canyon State Park
In the early morning hours of May, 27, 2017, a game camera captured photos of a mountain lion mother and her cubs quenching their thirst at a watering hole.

Home to hundreds of species of flora and fauna, Wildwood Canyon preserves ancient oak woodlands and hosts diverse wildlife, including multiple species of birds, mice, and snakes. Mule deer and desert cottontail share Wildwood Canyon with bobcats, black bears, gray foxes, and skunks. Mountain lions use the canyon as a travel corridor from the San Bernardino Mountains.

27. Wildwood Creek Basin Trail

Length: 1.0 mile out-and-back

Trailhead: Wildwood Creek Basin parking area, elevation 2770 feet

Elevation Gain: 62 feet

Map Link: [Wildwood Creek Basin Trail Online Map](#)

Wildwood Creek Basin is a major channel and basin improvement to control storm water flows and sediment transport through the creeks (in addition to Oak Glen Creek Basins and Wilson Creek Basins). The basins capture water which seeps into the soil to recharge the aquifer and benefit the water supply. While this has replaced the natural habitat of alluvial shrubs, new plantings, trails, and a parking area have been provided for community use. There is heavy equestrian use from the nearby horse stables, but there is no parking for visiting horse trailers. The trail is also popular with walkers and bikers.

The trail described here goes behind the basins and ends at the horse stables. At that point you can return the same way, or return via the [Wildwood Creek Basin No. 1 Loop Trail](#) (described below). You can also extend your hike with the adjacent but partially undeveloped [Holmes Street Trail](#).



This shows the Wildwood Creek Basin and the Holmes Street trails combined.

The two trails are linked by a connector trail. There is a separate description for the Holmes Street Trail.



The Wildwood Creek Basin Trail



The trail is popular with equestrians from the nearby Midnight Dawn Stables.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The parking area is accessed from Wildwood Canyon Road.



Wildwood Creek Basin trailhead
There are several interesting interpretive signs.



A trailside project by the Wildwood Elementary Student Council, the trail adopters



Portions of the trail are concrete.



An off-trail biker attempts the channel wall.



Looking back toward the trailhead

28. Wildwood Creek Basin No. 1 Loop Trail

Length: 0.4 mile loop

Trailhead: Wildwood Creek Basin parking area, elevation 2770 feet

Elevation Gain: 16 feet

Map Link: [Wildwood Creek Basin No. 1 Loop Trail Online Map](#)

This short trail begins and ends at the Wildwood Creek Basin trailhead. It is an alternative to the [Wildwood Creek Basin Trail](#) described above, or it can be combined with it for a variation. This loop around basin #1 from the parking lot could be handy for a quick dog walk.



This is a short loop trail around water retention basin #1.



The trail loops around basin #1, behind the stone retaining wall.
The trailhead is in the distance.

29. Wildwood Creek Channel Trail

Length: 3.2 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Yucaipa Equestrian Center, elevation 2547 feet

Trailhead: 6th Pl., elevation 2339 feet

Elevation Gain: 220 feet

Map Link: [Wildwood Creek Channel Trail Online Map](#)

Wildwood Creek is channeled to parallel Wildwood Canyon Road, and passes through the Yucaipa Equestrian Center. The end of the trail above the equestrian center is behind locked gates, so it will not be included here.



The east end locked portion of the designated trail is not included here.

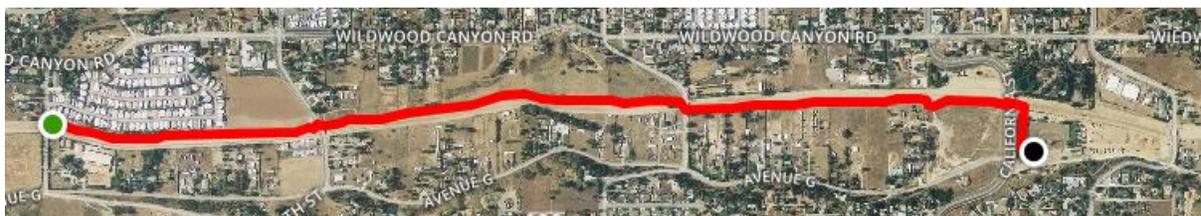
Instead the equestrian center is used as a convenient trailhead (with ample parking). The trail proceeds alongside the creek downstream to 6th Place.

“Yucaipa Creek” is the original name assigned to the creek by the United States Geological Survey. It is now more commonly known as Wildwood Creek, all the way through the Yucaipa Valley past the I10 freeway and into Live Oak Canyon. (The Wildwood Creek Channel Trail described here is called the “Wildwood Canyon Trail” on the City’s designated trail map, but is not actually in the canyon.)

From the equestrian center, you must cross California Street and begin on the left side of the creek. The trail on top of the channel has been covered with soft and deep sand for most of its length, making it very tedious to walk on. It may be a good surface for equestrian use, but is not well suited for walking (unless you want to burn some extra calories), and is unsuitable for biking.

The trail is lined with horse properties. (You may notice the odor of horse stalls on the breeze for much of the length of the trail.) Equestrians have the option of riding down in the sandy creek bed and under the street crossings; otherwise you will have to cross over 3rd Street. At this point you must switch over to the other side of the creek. Continue on this side when you cross 5th Street. The last section between 5th Street and 6th Place runs behind a mobile home park and is bare dirt, not covered with sand (quite a relief if you are walking).

From 6th Place back to the equestrian center there is a surprising elevation gain of 220 feet. This adds to the health benefits if you are walking! There is little shade on this trail.



The Wildwood Creek Channel Trail

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trailhead at the Yucaipa Equestrian Center



The trail crosses busy California and 5th Streets.
It also crosses less-busy 3rd Street.



The sand is soft on the trail and in the creek bed.
Many equestrians use the creek bed.



A step-over you can step-around



The trail is the back yard for some mobile home residents.



A solitary Oak tree provides contrast to an otherwise bare trail.



Go early or late to avoid the sun.

30. Wilson Creek Channel Trail

Length: 4.0 miles out-and-back

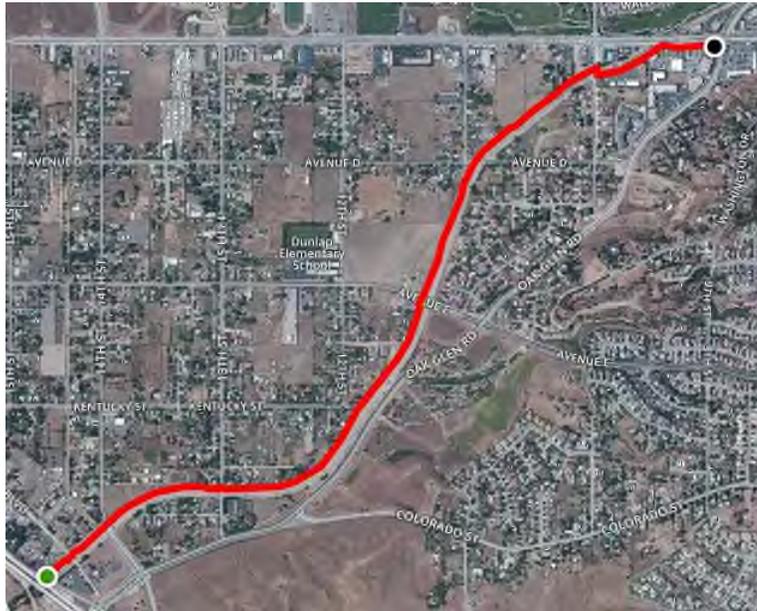
Trailhead: Wilson Creek Channel at Dunlap Blvd. & 14th St., elevation 2027 ft.

Trailhead: Yucaipa & Oak Glen Blvd. intersection, elevation 2257 ft.

Elevation Gain: 213 feet

Map Link: [Wilson Creek Channel Trail](#)

[Online Map](#)



The Wilson Creek Channel Trail

This trail follows the Wilson Creek drainage channel, which drains water all the way to the ocean via connecting channels and creeks and the Santa Ana River. The [Dunlap Channel and trail](#) (see separate description) terminate in the Wilson Creek Channel. The Wilson Creek follows busy Oak Glen Road, but is well set back and isolated from traffic. The north end continues as the [Chapman Heights South Trail](#). There is parking at both ends.

This was formerly called Oak Glen Creek, and still is on some maps. “Oak Glen Creek” is the original name assigned by the United States Geological Survey. It joins with Wilson Creek farther upstream. It is now more generally known as Wilson Creek for the entire length.



The trail ends where the channel goes under the I10 freeway. This last section is currently not used (“The trail to nowhere”). It will lead to a trailhead in the proposed “Dunlap Park” in a few years.



It appears the county would like to discourage trail users. These county signs actually do not prohibit access to the designated trails.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



The trailhead at Dunlap Blvd.

This section does not appear to be used by anybody.



There are a few horse ranches along the trail.



The city has recently completed a few new street crossings. The trail crosses six streets.



The trail stays on the far side of the channel from busy Oak Glen Blvd., away from traffic.



There are four different Adopt-a-Trail adopters.



The section between Avenues E and D is popular with dog walkers and bicycles.

Yucaipa City Trail Guide



An open field provides a colorful Spring view.



This is a quiet trail, despite the proximity of roads. The main drawback is running the gauntlet of barking dogs defending their property.



The channel goes underground at Yucaipa Blvd.



The channel entrance near the Yucaipa & Oak Glen Blvd. trailhead

31. Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail

Length: 1.8 miles out-and-back

Trailhead: Fremont Street Trailhead, elevation 2894 ft.

Trailhead: Channel entrance on Oak Glen Rd. near Sunnyside Dr., elevation 2713 ft.

Elevation Gain: 181 feet

Map Link: [Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail Online Map](#)

This portion of the Wilson Creek Upper Channel runs along a water retention basin in the upper end of the Yucaipa Valley. One segment of the trail runs behind the Lakeview Mobile Estates trailer park and another segment runs between two high chain link fences (instead of the usual rail fences). The two segments are separated by a treacherous crossing at Bryant Street. It seems to get little use, perhaps because it invites only the adventurous explorer. There is no shade (except in the tunnel). A series of flood control basins are adjacent to the trail, but are not visible from the trail.

This is a continuation of the designated [Oak Glen Road Trail](#), described separately. The [East Schaefer Ranch Trail](#) is an alternate way to access this trail.



The Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail

It runs along a series of water retention basins. The preferred path is across the channel from the trailer park.



Channel entrance on Oak Glen Rd. near Sunnyside Dr.



This segment runs behind Lakeview Mobile Estates on the opposite side of the channel.



A tunnel provides a way to cross under busy Bryant Street.
But the channel sides present a steep and slippery slope to the entrance.



"Riders Must Dismount. Use Only When Dry."



The Bryant Street tunnel
An alternative to dodging high speed traffic



Most of the trail is enclosed by a tall chain link fence.



The fence prevents viewing of the retention basins.
The only way out is at the trail ends or the East Schaefer Ranch access trail.



The trailhead at Fremont Street
One of the four flood basins may be viewed a short distance up the road.

Yucaipa City Trail Summary

Trail	Length One-Way	Connects With	Online Map Link
Bella Vista Trail Connector	.1	Wildwood Canyon Road Trail	Bella Vista Trail Online Map
Canyon Drive Trail	.9	Water Canyon Trail	Canyon Drive Trail Online Map
Carter Street Trail	1.0	El Dorado Ranch Trail Jefferson Street Trail	Carter Street Trail Online Map
Chapman Heights North Trail	2.0	Chapman Heights South Trail Oak Glen Road Trail	Chapman Heights North Trail Online Map
Chapman Heights South Trail	1.1	Chapman Heights North Trail Wilson Creek Channel Trail Oak Glen Road Trail	Chapman Heights South Trail Online Map
Cienaga Drive Trail	1.2		Cienaga Drive Trail Online Map
County Line Road Trail	.3	Whisper Ranch Trail	County Line Road Trail Online Map
Dairy Road Trail	.6		Dairy Road Trail Online Map
Dunlap Channel Trail	1.0	Wilson Creek Channel Trail	Dunlap Channel Trail Online Map
East Avenue E Trail	1.1	Mesa Grande Trail	East Avenue E Trail Online Map
East Schaefer Ranch Trail	.2	Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail	East Schaefer Ranch Trail Online Map
El Dorado Ranch Trail	1.3	Carter Street Trail	El Dorado Ranch Trail Online Map
Escena Street Trail	.1	Whisper Ranch Trail	Escena Street Trail Online Map
Fremont Street Trail	.2		Fremont Street Trail Online Map

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Grape Avenue Trail	.8	Reservoir Road Trail	Grape Avenue Trail Online Map
Holmes Street Trail	.5	Wildwood Creek Basin Trail Wildwood Creek Basin No. 1 Loop Trail	Holmes Street Trail Online Map
Jefferson Street Trail	1.9	Carter Street Trail	Jefferson Street Trail Online Map
Mesa Grande Trail	.3	East Avenue E Trail Wildwood Canyon Road Trail	Mesa Grande Trail Online Map
Oak Glen Creek Basins Trail	.6		Oak Glen Creek Basins Trail Online Map
Oak Glen Road Trail	1.5	Chapman Heights North Trail Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail	Oak Glen Road Trail Online Map
Pisgah Peak Trail	.4		Pisgah Peak Trail Online Map
Reservoir Road Trail	.8	Grape Avenue Trail	Reservoir Road Trail Online Map
Water Canyon Trail	1.3	Canyon Drive Trail	Water Canyon Trail Online Map
West Avenue E Trail	.7		West Avenue E Trail Online Map
Whisper Ranch Trail	.8	Escena Street Trail County Line Road Trail	Whisper Ranch Trail Online Map
Wildwood Canyon Road Trail	1.7	Bella Vista Trail Connector Mesa Grande Trail	Wildwood Canyon Road Trail Online Map
Wildwood Creek Basin Trail	.5	Holmes Street Trail Wildwood Creek Basin No. 1 Loop Trail	Wildwood Creek Basin Trail Online Map
Wildwood Creek Basin No. 1 Loop Trail	.4	Wildwood Creek Basin Trail	Wildwood Creek Basin No. 1 Loop Trail Online Map

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		Holmes Street Trail	
Wildwood Creek Channel Trail	1.6		Wildwood Creek Channel Trail Online Map
Wilson Creek Channel Trail	2.0	Chapman Heights South Trail Dunlap Channel Trail	Wilson Creek Channel Trail Online Map
Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail	.9	Oak Glen Road Trail East Schaefer Ranch Trail	Wilson Creek Upper Channel Trail Online Map
	27.8		

Revision History

1. All trails surveyed, 8/7/2017