



# THE NATURE TRAIL HISTORY

The development of the Nature Trail spanned nearly a decade and a half, from design and concept stages in 2001 to the completion of the final phase in 2015. This serene, riparian setting traverses one and a half lineal miles and includes over 25 square acres of land that was once unsightly, overgrown and environmentally unfriendly with regard to wildlife and water runoff into the West San Gabriel River. Primarily utilizing state and county grant funds, the City of Lakewood restored this nature trail in three phases, with each phase offering a half mile of decomposed granite walking trail.

Phase I begins at Carson Street at Lakewood's southern border and heads north culminating at Monte Verde Park. From there a quick jaunt to the east will take trail-users along the riverbed until the terminus of the second phase at Del Amo Boulevard. The third and final phase continues the last half-mile from Mae Boyar Park with a gentle turn to the west where the trail ends at Candlewood Street.

Transforming this space, the City of Lakewood has created an accessible, meandering walking trail through re-established California-native trees, plants and grasses. The picturesque and peaceful environment has also welcomed back many of the local fauna which had fled the area due to lack of natural habitat prior to The Nature Trail development. The Nature Trail offers walkers, runners and nature enthusiasts alike, a nature retreat right in the heart of Lakewood's suburban design.



# TRAIL RULES



**MANAGE YOUR DOG**  
All dogs must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet for their protection and that of other visitors and wildlife. Please pick up after your dog.



**LEAVE IT AS YOU FIND IT**  
Keep the trail beautiful by picking up after yourself and disposing of litter properly. Do not disturb the wildlife.



**STAY ON THE TRAIL**  
For your safety please stay on the designated trails.



City of Lakewood  
Recreation & Community  
Services Department



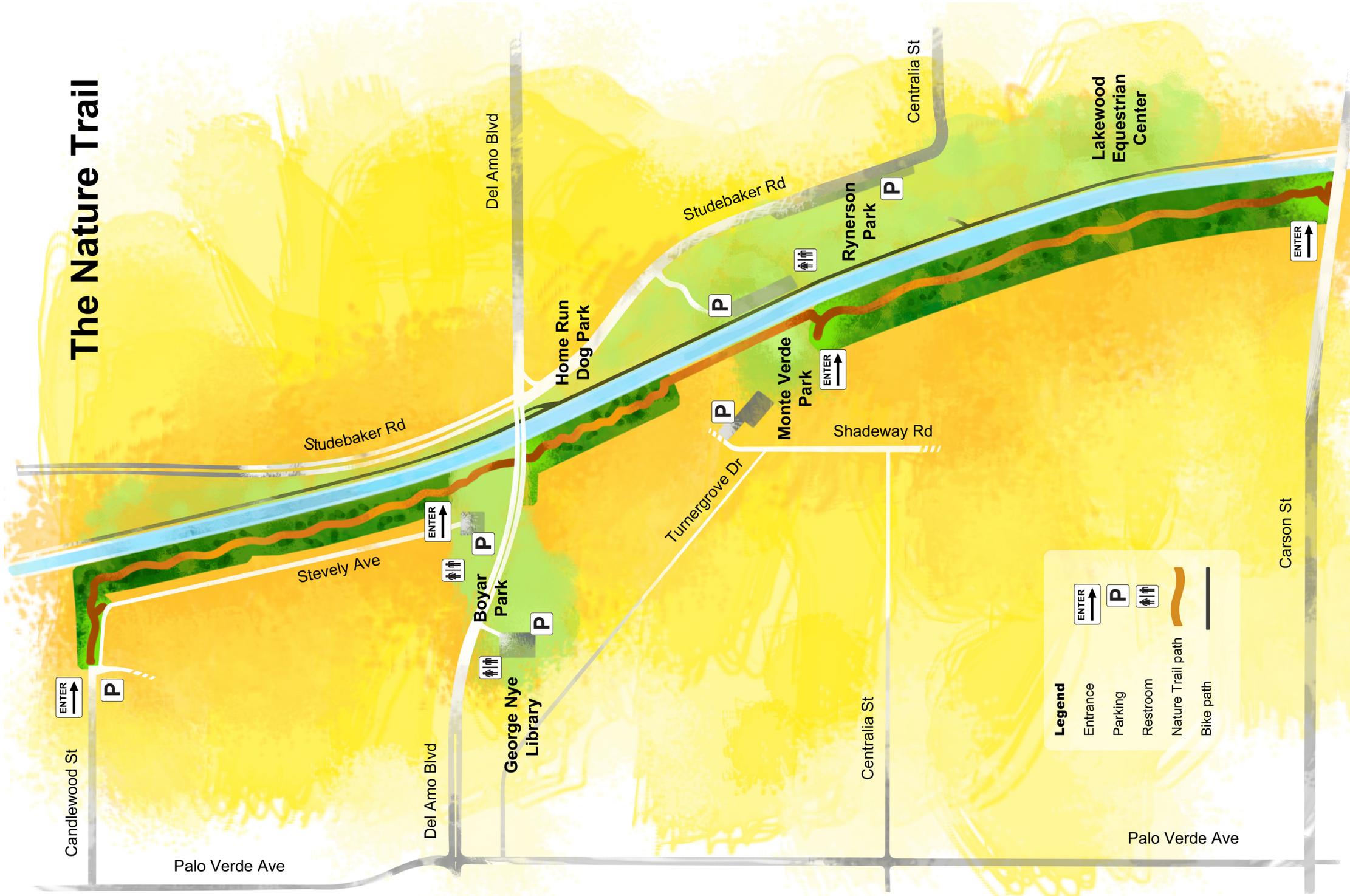
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# The Nature Trail



**Legend**

- ENTRANCE ↑
- P
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- Nature Trail path
- Bike path

- A mixed palette of native trees, drought tolerant shrubs and native grasses can be found along the trail.
- The native environment benefits nature by promoting opportunities for wildlife use.
- The San Gabriel River is a pathway for a multitude of birds searching for fish and other food along the way.
- Matilija Poppy, California Coastal Sage, Butterfly Bush, California poppy and other wildflowers beautify the trail. Also keep an eye out for the Showy Pestemon, which is a very colorful Shrub.

- Animals such as squirrels and bats have been sighted.
- Hummingbirds, butterflies and a multitude of other insects reside in the native environment.
- Native trees such as the California Laurel, California Sycamore, Cottonwood, Blue Elderberry, Valley Oak, California Ironwood and Western Redbud provide shade along the trail.
- Keep an eye out for sparrow hawks, Red Tail Hawks, herons, egrets and ospreys.