

# About Hiller Park

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Hiller Park is located at the west end of Hiller Road, just off the Hammond Trail. The park is a 36 acre natural area with 1.5 miles of gravel trails, meadows and woods. There is a large meadow area that is a popular destination for dog owners.

In the late fall of 2012, MCSD staff began to work with community members and businesses to install a botanical garden, just west of the playground area. The garden will be open to the public in March or April 2014. Currently there are three large flower beds with Rhododendrons and other plants and trees. MCSD staff is in the process of implementing an "Adopt a Bed" program where businesses and organizations can sponsor a flower bed at the botanical garden.

The restrooms at Hiller Park are located adjacent to the Hammond Trail, serving the day users and the cyclists, hikers and riders using the trail. Hiller Park also has a group barbecue area including picnic tables, and two tot lot playgrounds for kids ages 2-12. Currently, dogs are permitted off-leash in the park anywhere west of the split rail fence (approximately 800 feet from the parking lot).

The McKinleyville Land Trust owns and maintains a 74 acre property directly to the west of Hiller Park. The Mad River Bluffs, which is a natural area of coastal dunes, estuarine, wetland, forest and grassland habitats saved from housing development in 2001 when the California Coastal Conservancy generously purchased the site and turned it over to the McKinleyville Land Trust for preservation and public access.

The Mad River Bluffs offer spectacular views of the Mad River and Pacific Ocean and contains many species of native plants and trees, offering visitors the experience of a unique native coastal forest. Notable in the property are the native coastal pines along with large Sitka spruce trees that represent the southernmost distribution of the locally declining Sitka spruce range.