

Rules and Regulations

Last Updated Friday, 24 October 2014 13:33

All Reserve visitors are responsible for reading and understanding the following:

- The Reserve opens each day at 8:00 a.m. The Reserve is closed on days affected by rain or inclement weather, and on December 25.
- **Please check the main entrance signs for current closing time.** Closing time is approximately 30-45 minutes before sunset. Parking lot gates are locked at closing time. Use of the Reserve outside of posted hours is considered trespassing P.C. 602.

- The only permitted sites to enter and exit the Reserve are via the Harmony Grove staging area or the Del Dios Highlands County Preserve.
- **No collecting allowed.** All natural resources and wildlife are protected.
- Firearms and hunting are prohibited. **All fires, smoking and fireworks are prohibited. Alcohol is prohibited.**

- Motorized vehicles and equipment are prohibited beyond parking area.
- Hiking, biking and equestrian use is limited to existing designated trails. **All off-trail travel is prohibited** (this includes dogs).

- Please travel at a **safe speed** at all times. In addition, **bicyclists must dismount** their bicycles in the immediate vicinity of horses.

- California leash law is enforced. **Please pick up after your dog.**

- **Monday – Friday:** Dogs under **effective voice command** are permitted off leash but only at the top of the “Way Up” Trail (point marked with sign).

- **Saturday, Sunday and Holidays:** Dogs are required to remain on leash at all times throughout the Reserve.
- **“Way Up” Trail and Lower Trails:** Dogs must remain on leash at all times.
- Additionally, dogs must be held on leash in parking, picnic, and overlook areas or any time they become a nuisance to people, property, and wild or domestic animals.

- A **Special Use Permit**, available free of charge from a park ranger or by telephone, is required for group use of the Reserve. A group is defined as:
 - 8 or more people
 - 8 or more horses
 - 4 or more vehicles

Many natural hazards exist in backcountry areas; please see information at the trailhead. To schedule group use and obtain a Special Use Permit, please fill out and submit the [application form](#)

For copies of the full text of these and other regulations relating to Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, call Olivenhain Municipal Water District's ranger staff at 760-632-4212.

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- Interested in hosting an event at the Reserve? See our [Special Event Policy and Fee Schedule](#)
- Geocaches at the Reserve must be registered in accordance with our [Geocaching Policy](#)