Welcome
Welcome to Joseph D. Grant County Park, the largest of Santa Clara County’s regional park and recreation areas. This 10,882 acre park is rich in wildlife, history and recreational opportunities. The landscape is characteristic of the east foothills of the Santa Clara Valley with grasslands and majestic oak trees. As part of the park’s tradition and history, cattle grazing currently takes place in some areas, and is monitored under a resource management plan. Visitors may hike, camp, fish, ride their horses, picnic, bike, or just relax in nature. Enjoy your visit today, and return often to experience the many features of Joseph D. Grant County Park.

Hours and Fees
The park is open year-round from 8 am until sunset. Vehicle entry fees are collected year-round. Fees are required for camping and for use of group picnic areas, and are posted at the entrance kiosk.

Location
The main entrance to the park is located at: 18405 Mt. Hamilton Rd., San Jose, CA 95140

Activities
Hikers and equestrians have access to an extensive 51 mile trail system. Mountain bikes are permitted on over 75% of the park’s trails as designated. The diverse trail system at the park makes this a popular place to stage large-scale organized trail events such as equestrian endurance rides, mountain bike events and foot races. Dogs are also allowed on the trails, picnic areas, and campgrounds as long as they are on a 6-foot leash.

Camping
Overnight camping is a popular activity at Grant Park. Please help keep this unique back-to-nature experience worthwhile by everyone by adhering to the following rules and any posted regulations:

- Quiet hours are 10 pm to 7 am. No recorded music, musical instruments, or other loud noises during quiet hours.
- No hammocks.
- No wood gathering.
- Fires permitted in designated fire rings only. Extinguish fires when unattended. When posted “NO FIRES”, only gas grills or gas stoves are permitted. For further questions please call the park office at (408) 274-6121.
- Maximum stay from Memorial Day to Labor Day is 14 days in any County Park(s) cumulatively. For the remainder of the year, 14 days in any one County Park within a 45 day period are allowed.

Natural Diversity
Grant Park is located at the base of Mt. Hamilton, a major landform within the park, the Halls Valley, is situated between two ridges in the Diablo Range of the Coastal Mountains, which were formed by earth movement along the still active Calaveras Fault. Oak woodland is the dominant plant community, providing habitat for over 32 species of birds and 39 species of mammals, and consists of several species of oak, including coast live oak, blue oak, valley oak, and California black oak. At one time, Grant Park was the location of a successful wildlife management plan designed to re-establish the threatened Tule Elk population. Although most of the herds have now migrated out of the park, Grant was selected because of its wildlife sanctuary status and suitable habitat.

Cultural History
The land that is now Grant Park was first inhabited by Wewersen Ohlone Indians. In 1839, a 15,000-acre Mexican Land Grant was awarded to Jose de Jesus Bernal and was named Rancho Cañada de Pala. Jose de Jesus and his two brothers built adobes around a spring-fed pond on a ridge overlooking the Santa Clara Valley. They pastured cattle and horseback riding through the rambling hills.

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Joseph D. Grant died in 1942, and was followed in death by his wife, Edith, in 1946. After her parents’ death, their two siblings and became sole owner of the property. Josephine became a full time resident of the ranch in 1958 and remained at the ranch until her death in 1972. Josephine Grant’s will deeded half of the ranch property to the Save-the-Redwoods League and the other half to the Menninger Foundation. The property was purchased by Santa Clara County in 1975 to be preserved as a park. In 1978, Joseph D. Grant died in 1942, and was followed in death by his wife, Edith, in 1946. After her parents’ death, their two siblings and became sole owner of the property. Josephine became a full time resident of the ranch in 1958 and remained at the ranch until her death in 1972. Josephine Grant’s will deeded half of the ranch property to the Save-the-Redwoods League and the other half to the Menninger Foundation. The property was purchased by Santa Clara County in 1975 to be preserved as a park. In 1978, Joseph D. Grant County Park, named after the man and his family who had owned the property for nearly 100 years, opened to the public.

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Joseph D. Grant on his Ranch
When Joseph D. Grant stayed at his ranch, he entertained guests such as Leland Stanford and Herbert Hoover. Hoover stayed at the ranch for a month after his election loss to Franklin Roosevelt.

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Golden Eagle (Aquila chrysaetos)