



# WELCOME NEW NEIGHBOR

WHITING WOODS  
PROPERTY OWNERS, INC.

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# WHITING WOODS NEIGHBORHOOD WELCOME PACKAGE

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# I. WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the Whiting Woods Property Owners, Inc. (WWPO), its Board Members and general membership, welcome to Glendale, welcome to the Crescenta Valley and, in particular, welcome to Whiting Woods.

This Neighborhood Welcome Package has been prepared for you by WWPO. It is intended to provide you with some basic historical information about the area and about the WWPO. In addition, it will provide you with a few addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and email addresses of persons and locations that may be of interest to you during your stay in the Woods.

We sincerely believe that Whiting Woods is one of the best places in the Los Angeles area to live, to raise and educate children, and to simply enjoy the surroundings. We hope you will meet and greet your neighbors. We hope you will take part in the many available activities in the area, and join as an active member of your Association.

Again, we welcome you as our neighbor and hope this package provides you with some useful information. Any suggestions you may have to make this a more informative package are welcomed. Please call any member of the Association or contact your Block Director with your suggestions. (See page 6.)

Also please visit our website: [www.whitingwoods.org](http://www.whitingwoods.org)



## II. HISTORY OF WHITING WOODS

A Welcome Package to Whiting Woods would certainly not be complete without some discussion of the history of the Woods itself. At least one member of your Association is in possession of a First Edition book entitled “PERRY Experiences of a Pioneer” written by Perry Whiting. The book has a copyright of 1930. All items shown in quote below are excerpts taken from this book. Anyone wishing to browse or read this book should contact an Association Officer or Board Member.

Perry Whiting was born in Michigan on April 21, 1868. As an adult, he co-owned the Whiting-Mead Company specialized in building material merchandising and lived at “3150 Honolulu Avenue, La Crescenta (Los Angeles), California.” In 1915, Mr. Whiting learned his company “had a lien on the Pasadena Mountain Club” for \$2500. He also learned that the property was “about one and one-half miles west of Montrose, on Honolulu Avenue, situated in a canyon in the Verdugo Mountains” and it consisted of “44 acres of mountain land all except about 10 acres of which was too steep for any practical use.” The Club consisted of a few stockholders who paid \$0.25 or \$0.50 for a membership card. This prevented the owner for being arrested for selling liquor to the members. The Club also consisted “of a small club house and ten small one-room cabins used for bedrooms, which the rented out for assignation purposes.” When looking at the property, Mr. Whiting said, “It pleased me very much, from the fact that there were a great many Live Oak and Sycamore trees. Such places as this are not plentiful in Southern California.” Whiting-Mead bought the property for \$7,000 and Mr. Whiting subsequently purchased the property from the Company for \$9,000. He remodeled the Pasadena Mountain Club clubhouse and used it for his private residence.

In the fall of 1916, Mr. Whiting read in the Los Angeles Times, “For Sale, 415 acres in the Verdugo Hills, in La Crescenta Valley.” He contacted the owner who lived in Wisconsin and found that the property in question was in fact “part of the canyon adjoining my property” and that “this land was very beautiful, having a regular forest on many parts.” After negotiating for several months, Mr. Whiting bought the property for \$14,000.

In early 1921, Mr. Whiting’s ranch home “burned to the ground, furniture and all.” However, late in that same year, he purchased “260 acres up in the canyon for \$20,000 from a Chinaman who pretended to raise vegetables for a living, but I believed he made his money selling opium, as I found afterwards to be a fact.” He now owned 670 acres in the Verdugo Mountains. Finally, in late 1926, Mr. Whiting remarried and planned to build a new home on the “La Crescenta Ranch across the valley from the fire-scarred foundation of the old abode.”

Today, Whiting Woods is a peaceful enclave that consists of 170 homes occupied by approximately 374 residents. Its major and only entrance and exit is on Whiting Woods Road. Its other major streets are El Lado Drive and Mesa Lila Road. The Woods still contain an abundance of Live Oak and Sycamore trees (both of which are protected by the City of Glendale), and wildlife, such as deer, rabbits, coyotes, snakes, bobcats, etc., can frequently be seen. There are hiking trails at the top of Whiting Woods and Mesa Lila roads and there is a seasonal stream that runs through the area. Truly, Whiting Woods is one of the best places to live in the Los Angeles Basin.



### III. HISTORY & ORGANIZATION OF WHITING WOODS PROPERTY OWNERS, INC.

The Whiting Woods Property Owners Inc. (WWPO) was begun in May 1960 when a group of residents held the first Board Meeting. The organizational By-Laws were drafted and approved on May 20, 1961 and on September 18, 1961, the WWPO became “official” by adopting its Articles of Incorporation. The WWPO leadership is comprised of a Board of Directors (called Officers), a team of Block Directors, one of more Directors at Large, and a representative to the Glendale Homeowner’s Coordinating Council (GHCC). All of these positions are for two-year terms and vacant positions are filled by election every year.

The Board of Directors consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary and a Treasurer, and their duties are not unlike similar positions in industry. The Block Directors are chosen to represent geographical sections of Whiting Woods such as El Lado Drive East, Mesa Lila Lane, Hillway Drive, etc., and there are currently nine of three positions. The Directors at Large are usually but not always ex-Officers or Block Directors, and are chosen to fill various positions as needed by the Board. There are currently two of three positions. The sole GHCC representative serves as a liaison between the WWPO and the GHCC (Glendale Homeowners Coordinating Council). (See page 6)

The purpose of the WWPO is to interact with and represent the residents of the Woods with regard to all issues of importance to the area. In keeping with that purpose, the WWPO has been involved in many issues in recent years. It was heavily involved, along with the Small Wilderness Area Preservation (SWAP) organization and concerned homeowners, in the 1980 purchase of Henderson Canyon (which begins at the foot of Whiting Woods Road and continues to the top of the visible ridgeline) for recreational use. More recently, the WWPO, along with the Volunteers Organized in Conserving the Environment (VOICE) organization, was aggressively involved in the reduction in the number of homes to be built at the top of Deerpass Road. While the original number stood at over 25, the current plan is for only two homes to be built in that area. The WWPO was also actively involved, again with the VOICE, in the review of the Environmental impact Report regarding the proposed 572 units Oakmont View V development just around the corner from the Woods.

The WWPO continues to co-sponsor City Council candidate forums, to conduct the Annual Meeting, to host the Annual Summer Party, and to sponsor several Subcommittees that deal with the issues relevant to the security, safety and education of Whiting Woods Residents.

All work performed by WWPO is done within the financial confines of the annual dues. Those dues from 1960 to 1999 were \$5.00 per year, the lowest of any homeowners association in the area. Today dues are \$20.00 per year.



## IV. MAJOR EVENTS

### **Annual Residents Meeting**

This event occurs each June and all residents are invited to attend. The primary purpose of this meeting is for residents to meet and greet their neighbors in a social environment. It is also at this meeting where the election of new Block Directors is conducted and where residents vote on any By-Law changes that may be pending. In addition, each year, the WWPO invites a prominent person to speak at the meeting. In the past years, speakers have included City Council members, the Glendale City Manager, the Fire Chief, the Director of Neighborhood Services, the Superintendent of Schools, and the president of VOICE. This meeting is also used to update the residents on any major issues affecting the Woods, such as street maintenance schedules, new city legislation (Hillside Ordinance), etc. Last but not last, the Annual Residents Meeting is used as a place to distribute information from the various subcommittees and to invite any interested residents to volunteer their services on these committees.

### **Annual Neighborhood Party**

These are fun events that are held each year and all residents of Whiting Woods, past and present, are invited to attend. The major purpose of this party is simply to meet and greet your neighbors in a relaxed environment. Some years (typically alternating) a major block party is held. Food and drink are provided by WWPO and the party usually includes games and activities for the children. In other years, a less formal adult cocktail party is held, with a no-host bar.

### **Annual Dues Collection**

This is an event that begins in January of each year and is conducted by each Block Director. Its purpose is to solicit the membership of each resident through the payment of a \$20.00 voluntary annual fee. These fees are used to pay for WWPO involvement in community matters (such as the Oakmont and Deerpass developments), food and drink at the Annual Neighborhood Party, lights at the entrance to Whiting Woods, and for the administration costs associated with maintaining the WWPO, such as printing, website and mailing.



# VI. IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

## **Federal & State Representatives**

Congress (District 28): Adam Schiff, U.S. Representative, United States House of Representatives

2372 Rayburn House

Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Phone: (202) 225-4176

FAX: (202) 225-5828

245 E. Olive Avenue, #200

Burbank, California 91502

Phone: (818) 450-2900

Phone: (323) 315-5555

FAX: (818) 450-2928

State Senate (District 25): Anthony Portantino, State Senator

State Capitol, Room 3086

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone: (916) 651-4025

FAX: (916) 651-4925

116 East Broadway Suite 204

Glendale, CA 91205

Phone: (818) 409-0400

FAX: (818) 409-1256

State Assembly (District 43): Laura Friedman, Assemblymember

State Capitol, Room 4140

Sacramento, CA 94249-0043

Phone: (916) 319-2043

300 E. Magnolia, Suite 504

Burbank, CA 91502

Phone: (818) 558-3043

LA County Board of Supervisors (District 5): Kathryn Barger, Supervisor

500 West Temple Street, Room 869

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 974-5555

FAX: (213) 974-1010

215 N. Marengo, Suite 120

Pasadena, CA 91101

Phone: (626) 356-5407

## **City of Glendale**

City Council Members

Vartan Gharpetian, [vgharpetian@glendaleca.gov](mailto:vgharpetian@glendaleca.gov)

Ara Najarian, [anajarian@glendaleca.gov](mailto:anajarian@glendaleca.gov)

Paula Devine, [pdevine@glendaleca.gov](mailto:pdevine@glendaleca.gov)

Zareh Sinanyan, [zsinanyan@glendaleca.gov](mailto:zsinanyan@glendaleca.gov)

Members may be reached by telephone at 818-548-4844 or by FAX at 818-547-6740.

City Hall General Info.: 818-548-4000 City Attorney: 818-548-2080 City Manager General: 818-548-4844

Police Department Emergencies: 911 Non-Emergencies: 818-548-4840 COPPS: 818-548-4015

Fire Department Emergencies: 911 Non-Emergencies: 818-548-4814

Neighborhood Services: 818-548-3700

Public Service Department: 818-548-3300

Emergency Water & Power: 818-548-2011

Public Works: 818-548-3900

Animal Control - Pasadena Humane Society 626-792-7151

## **Civic Organizations**

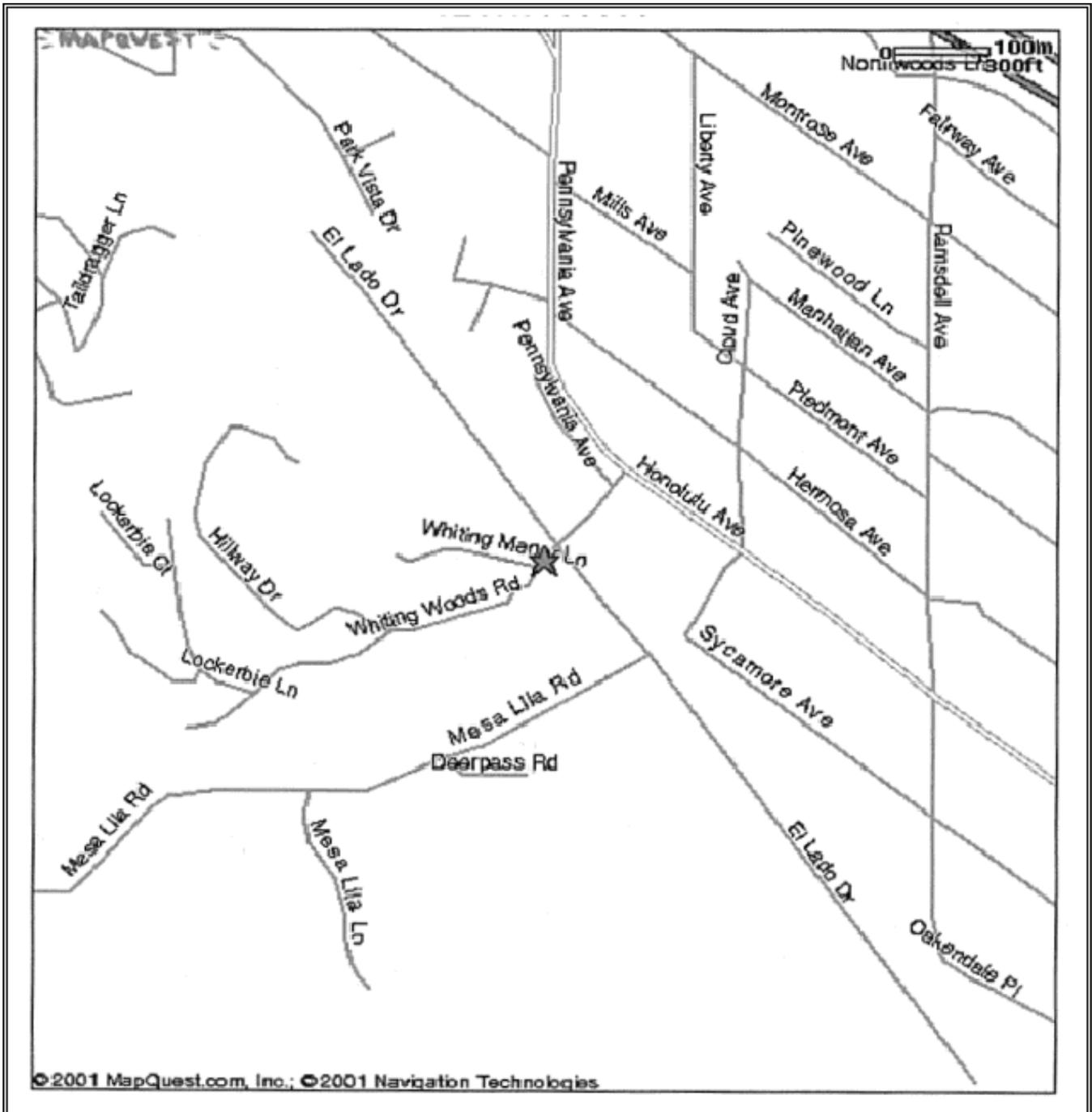
Glendale Chamber of Commerce: 818- 240-7870

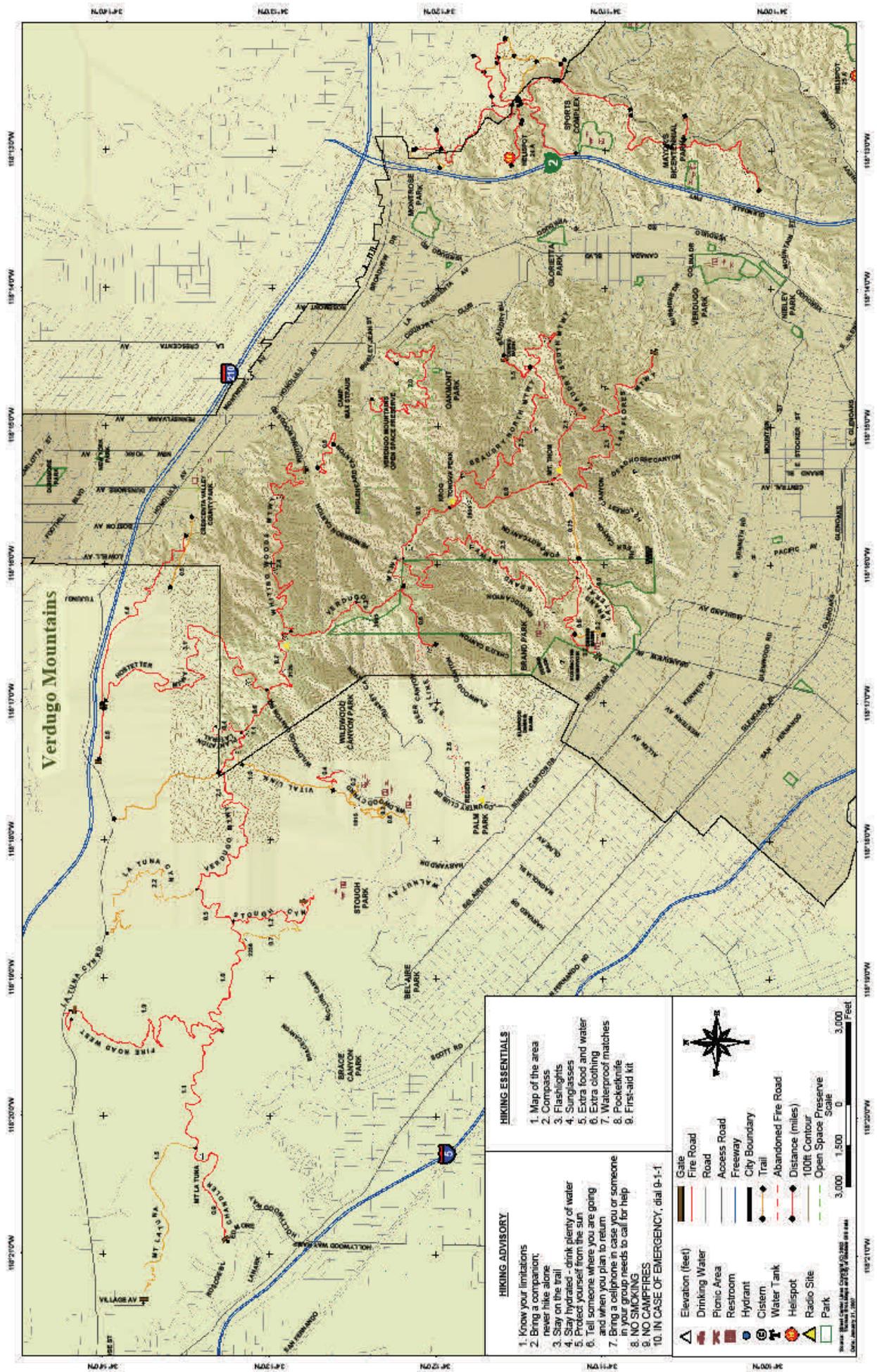
Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce: 818-249-7171

Crescenta Valley Town Council: 818-248-9387



# VI. MAP OF WHITING WOODS SURROUNDING STREETS AND HIKING TRAILS





- HIKING ADVISORY**
1. Know your limitations
  2. Bring a companion; never hike alone
  3. Stay on the trail
  4. Stay hydrated - drink plenty of water
  5. Protect yourself from the sun
  6. Tell someone where you are going and when you plan to return
  7. Bring a cellphone in case you or someone in your group needs to call for help
  8. **NO SMOKING**
  9. **NO CAMPFIRES**
  10. **IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, dial 9-1-1**

**HIKING ESSENTIALS**

1. Map of the area
2. Compass
3. Flashlights
4. Sunglasses
5. Extra food and water
6. Extra clothing
7. Waterproof matches
8. Pocketknife
9. First-aid kit

**Legend:**

- Elevation (feet): 3,000, 1,500, 0
- Gate
- Fire Road
- Road
- Drinking Water
- Picnic Area
- Restroom
- Hydrant
- Cistern
- Water Tank
- Helispot
- Radio Site
- Park
- Trail
- Abandoned Fire Road
- Distance (miles)
- 100m Contour
- Open Space Preserve
- Site

Scale: 0 to 3,000 Feet

Source: United States Geological Survey, 1988  
Data current to 1997