LOCAL NEWS • News

Palos Verdes Peninsula experiencing its own superbloom

The California bush sunflower and more wild flowers are brighting up the Palos Verdes Peninsula.



The hills of the Palos Verdes Peninsula are alive with wildflowers after all of the recent rains. (Photo by contributing photographer Chuck Bennett)

By **MICHAEL HIXON** | mhixon@scng.com | The Beach Reporter PUBLISHED: April 24, 2023 at 3:29 p.m. | UPDATED: April 25, 2023 at 5:13 p.m.

 \bigcirc

Across the Southland, picturesque landscapes are popping up thanks to an exceptionally wet winter.

Places such as the <u>Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve</u> or <u>Chino Hills State</u> Park are among the areas blooming with wild flowers this spring.

But South Bay residents don't have to travel that far to enjoy explosions of color.

That's because the Palos Verdes Peninsula, known for its natural beauty year round, is experiencing its own superbloom.

The Peninsula's hills are painted yellow thanks to the California bush sunflower, also known as the <u>California brittle bush</u> — one of the more common plants on the coast. But there are also arroyo lupine, lilacs and some poppies currently, said Adrienne Mohan, executive director of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy.

"There's just a lot of blooming wildflowers right now in the areas that we have restored," Mohan said, adding they are "giving their full show right now."

The White Point Nature Preserve in San Pedro, the Abalone Cove Reserve — which is part of the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve in Rancho Palos Verdes — and the George F Canyon Nature Center and Preserve in Rolling Hills Estates are spots that have easy access to viewing the wildflowers.

Folks can also see blooms at the hiking areas near RPV's Del Cerro Park.

But the conservancy does have concerns. Chief among them, Mohan said, is visitors damaging the wildflowers while trying to enjoy their beauty. All of the areas have paths and easy hiking areas that can protect the flowers, she said — as long as visitors stay on the paths.

The nature center also has a demonstration garden that displays the various native plants throughout the area.

"There are plenty of trails and it's dog friendly, with dogs on a leash, and it's great for kids," Mohan said. "It's very easy to hike versus some of the other really hilly, more challenging places to go."

Abalone Cove has parking, restrooms, water fountains and is also an area in which the PVPLC is restoring habitat.

"We're in the final phase of a 20-acre project out there," Mohan said. "So you can see planting underway and some activities as well. And then there are some of the areas that we have restored that are just really filling in well."

Last year, the PVPLC and <u>RPV announced a partnership to create a 96-acre</u> wildlife corridor while launching the "Go Wild for the Peninsula" \$30 million fundraising campaign to preserve open spaces and protect rare animal species, such as the Palos Verdes blue butterfly, cactus wren and California gnatcatcher.

The PVPLC is also partnering with the National History Museum of Los Angeles in the City Nature Challenge, in an effort to document nature in urban areas around the globe, which will take place from Friday to Monday, April 28-May 1.

People can explore their homes, yards or neighborhoods, take photos of wild plants or animals, and document them on the app iNaturalist, which is available at the Apple App Store and Google Play.

For more information, visit nhm.org/city-nature-challenge.

Sign up for The Localist, our daily email newsletter with handpicked stories relevant to where you live. Subscribe here.

Newsroom Guidelines News Tips Contact Us Report an Error

The Trust Project

Tags: Palos Verdes Peninsula, Top Stories Breeze

Author Michael Hixon | Entertainment/business editor/Hermosa Beach reporter

Michael Hixon, a community journalist since 1996, is a reporter at The Beach Reporter who covers Hermosa Beach and well as business, feature and entertainment news. He also has written extensively about Hollywood movies and film festivals and met or interviewed more directors and celebrities than he can count.

mhixon@scng.com

Follow Michael Hixon @MichaelJHixon