

Donations & Special Projects

Volunteers can perform specially designed projects in Bidwell Park. Structures such as information kiosks, picnic sites, routed signs, and wood maps have been constructed by volunteers.

Some Special Volunteer Projects include:

- =Construct **accessible picnic sites** in Lower Park (donation of labor & funds if possible);
- =The installation (and donation if possible) of **split rail fence** to replace old barriers;
- =Replace a **large barbecue unit** at Five Mile Recreation Area;
- =Lower Park's exercise **Vita Course** has several more stations that need to be replaced. Donations of exercise equipment and volunteer labor needed to install new course.
- =Purchase and installation of a **slide** in One Mile playground area.
- =Mechanical Mule to help transport materials for trail repair and maintenance; cost \$8,000—City will match each dollar donated for this item.
- =Gift of **Native Plants** for restoration projects.
- =Donations: For more information on donations of memorial park benches, Caper Acres bricks, plaques and other items, contact the Volunteer Coordinator.
- =Donation toward payment of CA Conservation Corps or other Veg Mgmt crew to help remove invasive weeds in Bidwell Park or to work on trail projects.

*For costs associated with special projects or for more ideas on how you can volunteer in or donate to the Park, please call the Park Division's Volunteer Coordinator, at (530) 896-7831 or email: lspeters@ci.chico.ca.us

Volunteering is Fun!

Did you know that in 2008, Chico community volunteers donated a total of 16,772 hours to help in Bidwell Park?

Why Volunteer in the Park?

It's a great way to learn more about your Park.

It occupies spare time.

It keeps you physically active.

It provides you with new experiences.

Some classes offer academic credit or service hours .

To help make the Park healthy.

To feel good about yourself.

To give back to the Community.

For FUN!

To Start Volunteering:

- Contact Volunteer Coordinator via phone or email.
- Minor Park Volunteer (17 years & under) must have a parent/guardian signed release form (on website).
- Check the Calendar of events on the Park webpage under Volunteering.
- Call about specialized projects of interest for your group or for community service.

Bidwell Park Volunteer Program
Park Division, City of Chico
965 Fir Street., P.O. Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927

Ph. 530-896-7831; Cell. 530-624-1617
Fax. 530-895-4731
Email: lspeters@ci.chico.ca.us

Website: www.chico.ca.us/General_Services_Department/Park_Division/Volunteer_Program.asp



BIDWELL PARK Volunteer Opportunities

*Share your time and talent—
Make an impact in your Park!*



**Bidwell Park
Volunteers
Rock!**

How You Can Help in Bidwell Park?

Adopt-A-Park Site

Volunteers can help with the upkeep of Bidwell Park picnic sites and other areas. Tasks include weeding, litter removal, removing non-native plants, painting signs, and small construction projects. Once adopted, Park staff will help create a volunteer site plan to be followed specific to the project area. See our website for areas already adopted!

Adopt-A-Trail Program

Groups, classes, service organizations & individuals may adopt their favorite Upper Park trail to maintain and repair. Adoptions last a year with volunteers setting their own work hours. Park staff meet with group leaders and devise a work plan based on volunteers' interests, skills and input. *A requirement of the Adoption, is that volunteers will work several trail day work sessions with our trained Park trail crew.* Volunteers may check out tools for use during project hours. Staff will provide professional guidance on trail maintenance techniques, in accordance with the [Bidwell Trail Manual](#).

Park Watch (PW)

PW is the Park Division's longest running volunteer program. If you enjoy Bidwell Park on a regular basis, consider joining Park Watch. Our PW members are trained to provide visitors with information, directions and the rules of the Park. Members report any suspicious or unusual activities or conditions to Park Rangers. PW members walk, ride bikes, horses and sit in the Park. Call for the annual spring training dates!



Park Watch on horseback.

Painting

Winter weather & summer sun damage the Park's painted surfaces (picnic tables, lifeguard chairs, Park signs, benches, etc.) Volunteers can help keep the Park looking attractive by prepping and repainting these items.



Scout Troop 2 paint at Caper Acres.

One Mile Oak Regeneration Project

Lower Bidwell Park is an oak woodland with the most visible & vulnerable habitat in the Park. Protection & growth of oak seedlings will ensure that new generations of oak trees will take the place of older trees reaching the end of their lifespan. One Mile Rec. Area has designated oak regeneration sites. Volunteers identify new oak seedlings then weed and mulch around them to reduce competition with weeds for water and sunlight.



Volunteers help weed around baby oaks!

Weeding & Restoring Habitat

Volunteers can help reduce the amount of herbicides used in Bidwell Park by manually removing weeds. Volunteers also help transplant plants native to the Park. Restoration sites include Annie's Glen, Cedar Grove, Sycamore Restoration site, Five Mile, One Mile Rec. Area, and Lost Park as well as additional. See calendar on website for *Volunteer Thursday* work sites!

Litter Control

Volunteers are assigned or may choose a specific area of Bidwell Park to remove litter. The City also co-sponsors several community-wide cleanups each year.

Sycamore Restoration Site

This restoration site is one of several located in Bidwell Park and was started several years ago by Streaminders, a local non-profit group. North of Caper Acres at One Mile, Since the spring of 2006, restoration efforts have been led by the Park Division's Volunteer Program and volunteers remove invasive plants (Himalayan Blackberry, Pokeweed, Catalpa trees, to name only a few) and re-store the site with plants native to this region of California.



Trail Maintenance & Repair

Volunteers help repair and maintain the Park's established trails. They also eradicate and revegetate unauthorized trails and perform small construction projects to encourage usage of authorized trails. Public Volunteer Trail Days are held on Saturdays in both the fall and spring. Call 896-7831 for the new dates.



Target staff helps on the Middle Trail.

Special Projects

We welcome groups and individuals, such as Eagle Scouts, community service (adult and youth) groups and other interested parties to propose projects for the Park. Small construction projects such as installing split rail fence, or painting pedestrian entry ways, and more are needed. Working in the Park is a great way to bring your team, group



CSU students install split rail fence at One Mile.