

Canyon Watch Volunteer Guide



Shepherd Canyon

Distance: 0.94 Miles

Hike Time: 1 Hour

Difficulty Level: Moderate



Program Overview

The ocean is one of our greatest natural treasures, yet it is continually threatened by pollutants from sewer spills and storm water run-off.

San Diego, a city that borders the oldest, largest, and deepest ocean in the world, has over 40 urban canyons that hold 300 miles of public sewer lines. Most of these pipelines have unfortunately exceeded their life expectancy and are often inadequately maintained, making them susceptible to damage that can cause harmful spillover into our local



Once a break in the system takes place, untreated wastewater (the stuff that comes from our washing machines, sinks and toilets) may enter a nearby creek, river or storm drain and travel hundreds of miles downstream, eventually pouring into our coastal waters. Here, it spreads, becomes virtually impossible to contain and harms fragile marine life.



To help keep our waters contaminant free and safe for all, the San Diego Oceans Foundation has teamed up with the Metropolitan Wastewater Department's Sewer Spill Reduction Program to enlist citizen volunteers.

Volunteers are crucial to the Canyon Watch Program by regularly monitoring our urban canyons and reporting potential threats.

What to Look For...

As a Canyon Watch volunteer, you will be responsible for monitoring our local canyons. While patrolling, you should look for leaks, unusual smells and damaged or vandalized manholes. Any findings should be recorded in your 'Canyon Watch Field Report' and submitted online after your hike is completed. **Immediately report any active sewer spills or foamy discharge to the Sewer Emergency Hotline (619) 515-3525.**

Manholes

Manholes are typically painted lime green for easy identification. Check that all manholes are secured with a locking bar or recessed bolts and that they are clear of vandalism and other damage.



Unusual Smells

Manholes in proper working order should not emit odors. Foul smells are a sign of possible leaks or spills and should be included in your 'Field Report', but do not warrant a call to the Emergency Sewer Hotline.



Sewer Leaks & Foamy Discharge

Any sort of foamy discharge or active spill should be reported **immediately** to the Sewer Emergency Hotline! It is crucial to record the number painted on the manhole structure and GPS coordinates, if available, so you can accurately report its location.



Exposed Sewer Lines

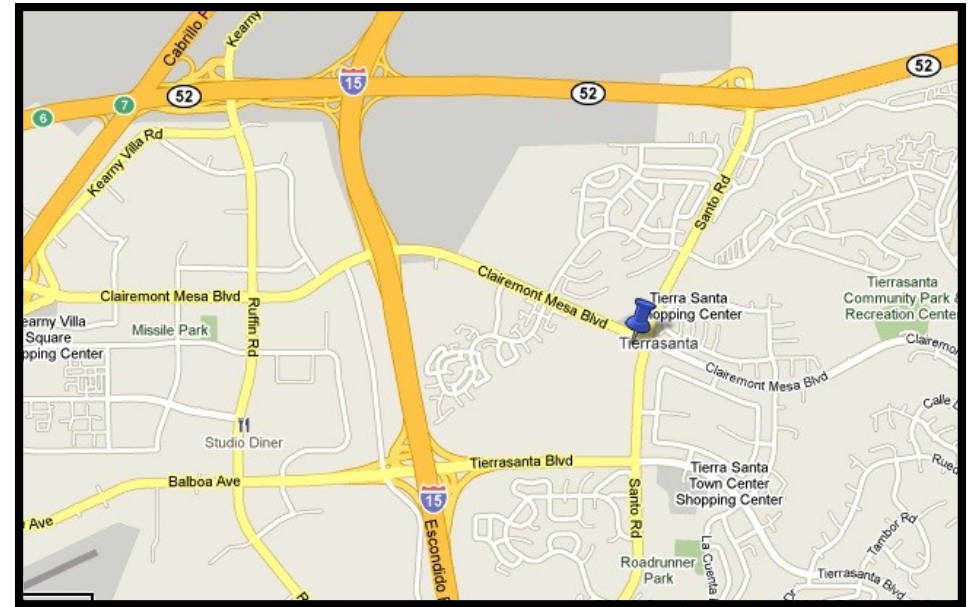
Pipelines should be buried underground. If you come across sewer pipes that have been exposed due to erosion, please let us know. Exposed pipes are more likely to crack and leak and should be reported.



Shepherd Canyon

~ 10460 Clairemont Mesa Blvd
San Diego, CA 92124

From I-15, exit Clairemont Mesa Blvd and head east. The trailhead is located on the south side of Clairemont Mesa Blvd, across the street from the Vons shopping center (before reaching Santo Rd).



Parking is available in the surrounding area.
Check posted signs before parking.

Manhole Guide

The following information will lead you to the various manholes throughout this canyon. Please read the 'Hiking Safety Tips' available at www.sdoceans.org before beginning your hike.

Due to vegetation growth and other, unforeseen changes, some manholes may not be immediately visible. If a manhole cannot be reached due to construction or certain environmental hazards, please make a note of it and move on to the next manhole on your list.



- Shepherd Canyon Entrance -

Enter at the gate on the south side of Clairemont Mesa Blvd and head up hill.



1. Manhole #106
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

At bottom of hill (when trail comes to a T), head right. MH is easily visible on left, marked by pole. Continue on this path.



2. Manhole #105
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

Just right of path, marked by pole.



3. Manhole #58
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

MH on right, marked by pole.



4. Manhole #296
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

On right side of path, marked by pole. Find path to right of creek.



5. Manhole #295
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

At 'Y' fork, go right for MH#295. Return to MH# 106 and continue on path in opposite direction.



6. Manhole #
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

Cross creek bed and look for opening to the right. MH in creek bed, marked by pole.



7. Manhole #131
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

Look for opening on right and painted pole marking MH.



8. Manhole #107
32° ___.' N 117° ___.' W

Just beyond MH# 131. Head back to main path.



9. Manhole #108
32° ___' ___" N 117° ___' ___" W

MH to right of path, marked by pole.
Head back to main path.



10. Manhole #109
32° ___' ___" N 117° ___' ___" W

Right of path, marked by pole.



11. Manhole #110
32° ___' ___" N 117° ___' ___" W

Left of path, marked by pole.



12. Manhole #112
32° ___' ___" N 117° ___' ___" W

Left of path, marked by pole.



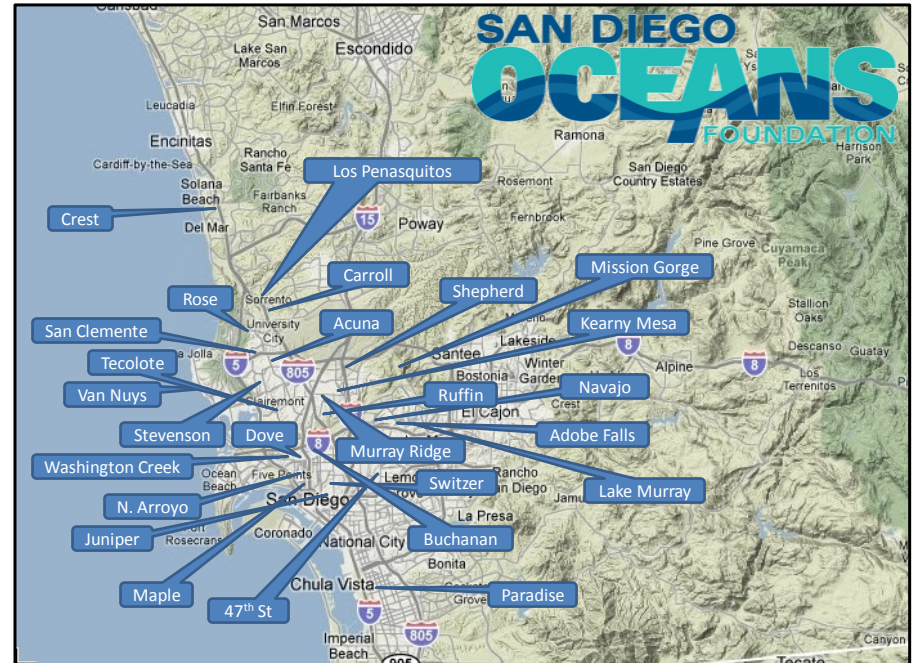
13. Manhole #114
32° ___' ___" N 117° ___' ___" W

At end of path, just before fence.

Thank you for monitoring Shepherd Canyon!

Please be sure to submit your **Canyon Watch Field Report** online at http://sdoceans.org/pollution_report_2.php within 24 hours of your hike.

Volunteer submissions are the key to early detection and prevention of raw sewage from making its way into our ocean!



Visit www.sdoceans.org to locate guides for other available canyons in San Diego County.

SAN DIEGO OCEANS FOUNDATION

www.sdoceans.org

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