

Canyon Watch Volunteer Guide



Mid Tecolote Canyon

Distance: 1.3 Miles

Hike Time: 1 Hour 15 Minutes

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 waterways.



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.



Sewer Leaks & Foamy Discharge

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



Unusual Smells

A foul odor is a sign of possible leaks or spills. Check that there are no rank or rancid aromas near the manhole area.



Sewer Lines

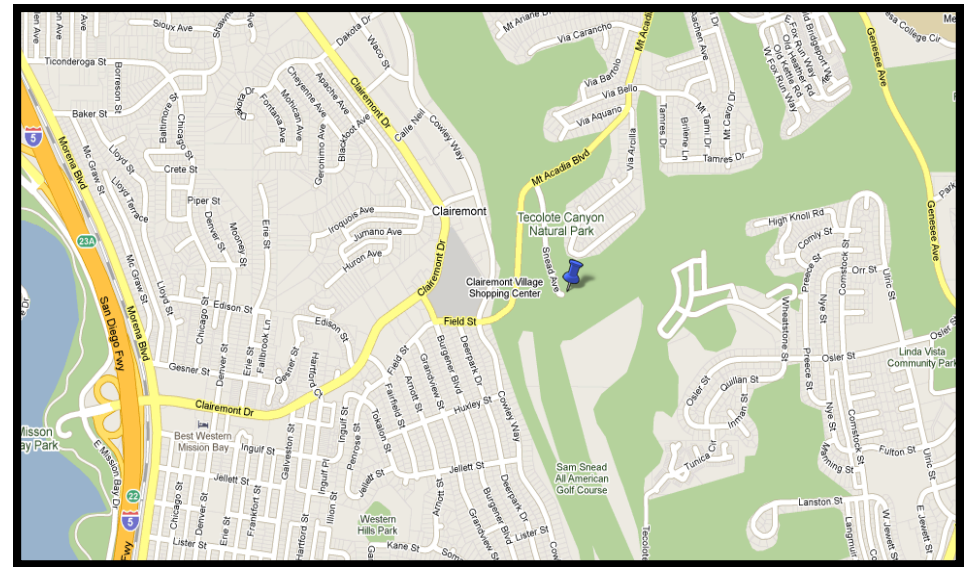
Pipelines should be buried underground. Check for sewer pipes that have been exposed due to erosion.



Mid Tecolote Canyon

2755 Snead Ave
San Diego, CA 92111

From I-5, exit Clairemont Drive and head east. Continue up the hill and make a right on Burgener Blvd. Make a left onto Field St (which turns into Acadia Blvd). Turn right onto Snead Ave and park in the Tecolote Golf Course parking lot.



From parking lot, head north to find first manholes on Snead Ave. Continue on to Field St./Mt. Acadia Blvd. Trail head is at the metal barrier where Snead intersects these two streets.

Poison oak is prevalent in this area. Please use caution!

Manhole Guide

The following information will lead you to the various manholes throughout the canyon. Please read the Canyon Monitor Tips on www.sdoceans.org before you start your hike. Due to vegetation growth and other, unforeseen changes, some manholes may not be immediately visible.



1. Manhole #256

As you head north from the parking lot, look left for green paint on the sidewalk. Just beyond the marking, you'll find a manhole on the golf course.



2. Manhole #170 32° 47.45 N 117° 11.19 W

On right side of road, surrounded by brush. Cross to left side of road to find next MH.



3. Manhole #169 32° 47.49 N 117° 11.20 W

On left side of street, just beyond brown fence (hidden by brush). Continue on road and cross the street at dead end.



4. Manhole #197 32° 47.53 N 117° 11.22 W

Cross the metal barrier to find MH#197. Continue on this path.



5. Manhole #196 32° 47.54 N 117° 11.22 W

Just past MH#197. Head right to find new path. Continue straight on path at fork.



6. Manhole #195 32° 47.57 N 117° 11.23 W

MH on right, surrounded by shrubs. Continue on path.



7. Manhole # 139 32° 47.59 N 117° 11.25 W

Left side of trail, marked by green pole. Continue on trail. At opening in ground, either go through or around.



8. Manhole #97 32° 48.30 N, 117° 11.28 W

Look for green pole and go around mulch. Follow trail to find MH. At fork, head left.



9. Manhole #93 32° 48.60 N, 117° 11.29 W

Left side of trail. Stay left to find next MH. Cross small creek bed to continue.



10. Manhole #92
32° 48.10 N 117° 11.31 W

Right side of trail, marked by bent pole.



15. Manhole #176
32° 48.25 N 117° 11.38 W

Left of trail.



11. Manhole #90
32° 48.13 N 117° 11.33 W

Right side of path. Continue straight.



16. Manhole #174
32° 48.29 N 117° 11.39 W

Right of path. Easily visible.



12. Manhole #89
32° 48.17 N 117° 11.35 W

Left side of trail. Continue on trail to left.



17. Manhole #268
32° 48.32 N 117° 11.41 W

Left of trail. Cross small bridge.



13. Manhole #88
32° 48.22 N 117° 11.36 W

Keep lookout for MH! It's about 20 ft left of the trail.



18. Manhole #159
32° 48.33 N 117° 11.41 W

Look for open trail on right. MH about 30 ft in (hidden by brush).



14. Manhole #178
32° 48.23 N 117° 11.36 W

Left of path. Continue on trail.



19. Manhole #269
32° 48.34 N 117° 11.43 W

Roughly 6 ft left of path.



20. Manhole #270
32° 48.36 N 117° 11.44 W

Right of trail, easily visible.



21. Manhole #271
32° 48.36 N 117° 11.46 W

10 ft right of trail.



22. Manhole #46
32° 48.42 N 117° 11.45 W

Green pole marking hidden MH, right of path (up small hill).

Thank you for monitoring Mid Tecolote Canyon!

Please be sure to submit your **Canyon Watch Field Report** online 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 http://sdoceans.org/pollution_report_2.php to submit your report and locate guides for other San Diego canyons.



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