

# Canyon Watch Volunteer Guide



## San Clemente Canyon (West of Genesse Ave.)

Distance: 1.65 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

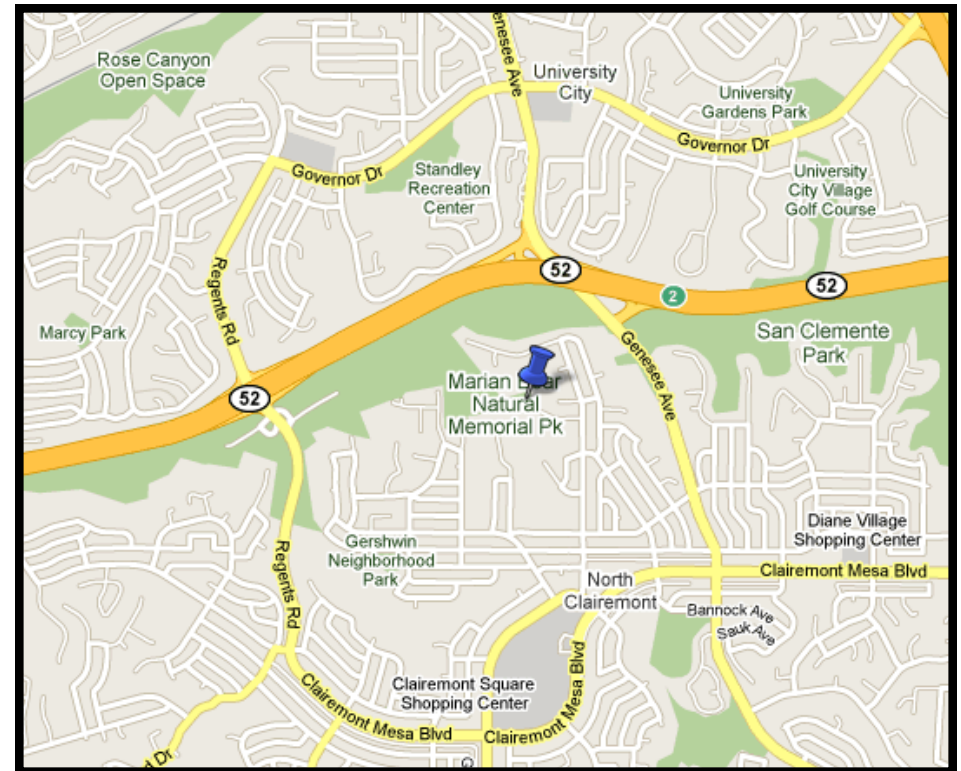
Pipelines should be buried underground. If you come across sewer pipes that have been exposed due to erosion, please let us know. Exposed pipes are more likely to crack and leak and should be reported.



# San Clemente Canyon

Marian R. Bear Memorial Park  
San Diego, CA 92117

Take Hwy 52. Exit Genessee Ave and turn left. Make first right onto Appleton St. Turn right on Dubois Dr. Turn right on Cole St, then first left on Cole Way. Turn into the Marian and R. Bear Memorial Park parking lot (on the right).



Leave your car and head west to reach the trailhead directly across Genessee Ave. Make sure to use the cross walk!

# 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](http://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.



1. Manhole #111  
32° 50.74 N 117° 12.12 W

Past creek bed, 15 feet right of trail



When you hit a fork in the trail, stay to the right.



2. Manhole #23  
32° 50.72 N 117° 12.35 W
- 50 feet left of path. Send only 1 group member. **BEWARE** of burrows/snakes!



3. Manhole #24  
32° 50.75 N 117° 12.42 W

Just left of path



4. Manhole #25  
32° 50.72 N 117° 12.48 W

Cross the dry creek bed and take a left on the next side path. Located below the large, brown house in the hill



5. Manhole #21  
32° 50.69 N 117° 12.51 W

Just right of path



6. Manhole #22  
32° 50.69 N 117° 12.51 W

Just left of path (across from MH #21)



7. Manhole #175  
32° 50.64 N 117° 12.55 W

Just left of path



8. Manhole #114  
32° 50.62 N 117° 12.62 W

10 feet to the right of path



9. Manhole #115  
32° 50.58 N 117° 12.69 W

To the right of the path, near fence



10. Manhole #116  
32° 50.54 N 117° 12.76 W

Just left of path



11. Manhole #118  
32° 50.49 N 117° 12.81 W

On south side of parking lot, west of bathroom. Keep right and stay on the path.



12. Manhole #117  
32° 50.52 N 117° 12.84 W

Right of path, under trees



13. Manhole #95  
32° 50.49 N 117° 12.93 W

Just right of trail  
Continue under overpass to find manhole #90



14. Manhole #90  
32° 50.41 N 117° 13.11 W

40 feet left of path  
Next to telephone pole



15. Manhole #89  
32° 50.40 N 117° 13.16 W

Right of trail



16. Manhole #88  
32° 50.38 N 117° 13.22 W

Just behind the men's restrooms  
Follow trail on left of bathrooms to find MH #85



17. Manhole #85  
32° 50.36 N 117° 13.37 W

10 ft right of trail, slightly hidden



18 & 19. Manhole #84 & #82  
32° 50.36 N 117° 13.39 W

MH # 84: right of trail  
MH # 82: directly behind MH # 84  
May be hidden by brush!



20. Manhole #83  
32° 50.35 N 117° 13.44 W

Just right of path



21. Manhole #49  
32° 50.32 N 117° 13.49 W

Just left of trail



22. Manhole #50  
32° 50.29 N 117° 13.55 W

Left of path, down small hill to creek  
Cross creek/creek bed. When you come to a wooden bench and an intersection in the path, head left to find MH # 52



23. Manhole #52  
32° 50.29 N 117° 13.69 W

10 feet left of path

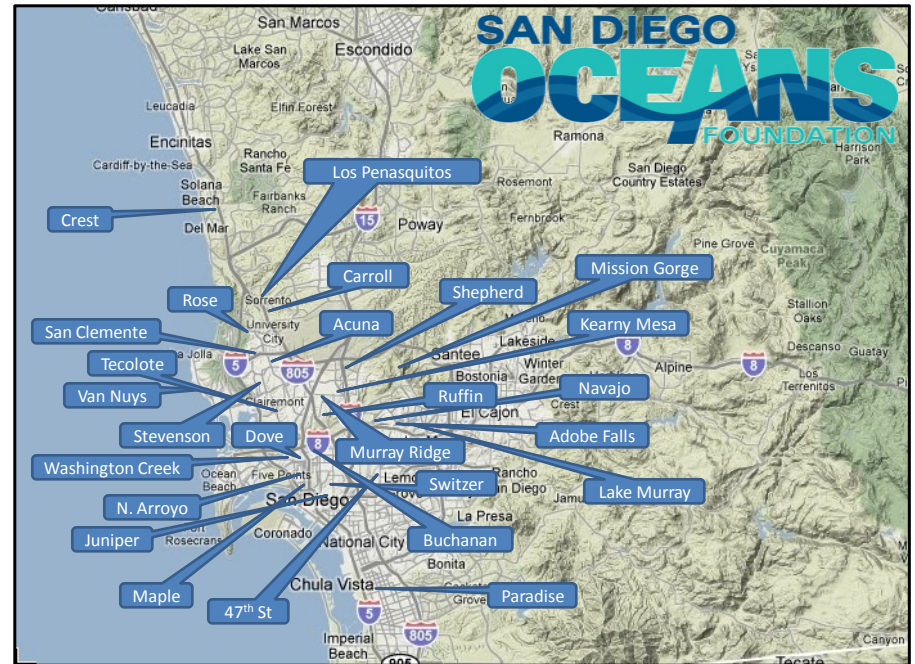


Follow path as it narrows and over a wooden bridge.  
Make a left at the next fork and follow it through the rock bed. Step over the guard rails and head right to return to the original path.

Thank you for monitoring San Clemente Canyon!

Please be sure to submit your Canyon Watch Field Report online at [http://sdoceans.org/pollution\\_report\\_2.php](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](http://www.sdoceans.org) to locate guides for other available canyons in San Diego County.

# SAN DIEGO OCEANS FOUNDATION

[www.sdoceans.org](http://www.sdoceans.org)

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