

Canyon Watch Volunteer Guide



East Tecolote Canyon

Distance: 0.91 Miles

Hike Time: 1 Hour

Difficulty Level: Easy



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

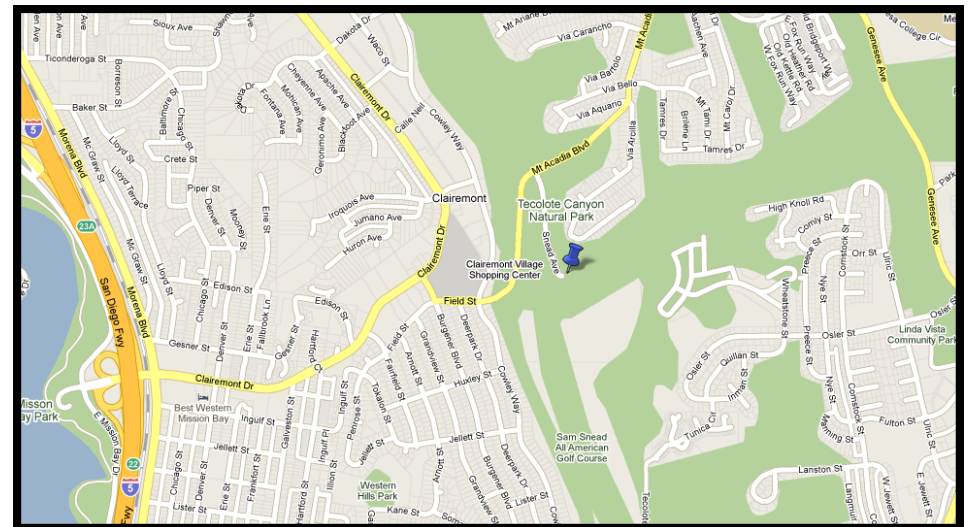
Pipelines should be buried underground. If you come across sewer pipes that have been exposed due to erosion, please let us know. Exposed pipes are more likely to crack and leak and should be reported.



East 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.



The trailhead is located on the west side of the club house (down the cement ramp and through a chain-link fence).

Dogs welcome with leash 8' and under
Poison Oak prevalent - please use caution with wildlife
April - October: Rattlesnake season

Note: This canyon runs alongside an active golf course. Please be cautious when walking nearby, as flying golf balls present a potential hazard to hikers.

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.



1. Manhole #253
32° 47.62 N 117° 11.24 W

Right as you come down the cement ramp, just behind fence. Continue over creek bed and through a second chain-link fence to find the main trail; head left.



2. Manhole #176
32° 47.73 N 117° 11.10 W

30ft left of path, near large palm tree.



3. Manhole #252
32° 47.76 N 117° 11.06 W

10ft left of path. Continue on new course to find MH #253 across creek bed (marked by green post).



4. Manhole #253
32° 47.78 N 117° 11.08 W

Located north side of creek bed (in brush). Head back to the main trail and continue straight to find MH #251.



5. Manhole #251
32° 47.79 N 117° 11.04 W

10ft left of trail.



After first creek crossing keep eyes open for a smaller path on your left.
*Fallen tree might be blocking path.



6. Manhole #250
32° 47.82 N 117° 10.95 W

On the right, next to the creek.

Return to main trail and proceed with the creek on your left to find next manhole.



7. Manhole #249
32° 49.86 N, 117° 10.88 W

Directly on trail (right side).



8. Manhole #248
32° 49.86 N, 117° 10.84 W

Just left of trail.

Continue left down the trail.



9. Manhole #215
32° 47.88 N 117° 10.79 W

Through opening in the brush just after rotting tree (before 2 1/2 marker on left). Marked by tall pole near rocks.



10. Manhole #214
32° 47.92 N 117° 10.77 W

Left of trail, half-way up on the hill.



11. Manhole #216
32° 47.91 N 117° 10.71 W

Straight through fork, directly on trail.



12. Manhole #218
32° 47.91 N 117° 10.71 W

Follow cement bridge to continue on path. Left of trail, just after small hill.



13. Manhole #225
32° 47.96 N 117° 10.62 W

Cross the creek and continue on main path. MH #225 is slightly hidden by shrubs.



14. Manhole #224
32° 47.97 N 117° 10.57 W

Look for 4' wide declining trail on right side; follow down to creek bed. MH #224 is just behind tree. Head back to main trail and continue.



15. Manhole #146
32° 48.00 N 117° 10.50 W

Stay right while winding through trail, cross creek bed again and MH #146 will be directly in front of you. Continue on path.



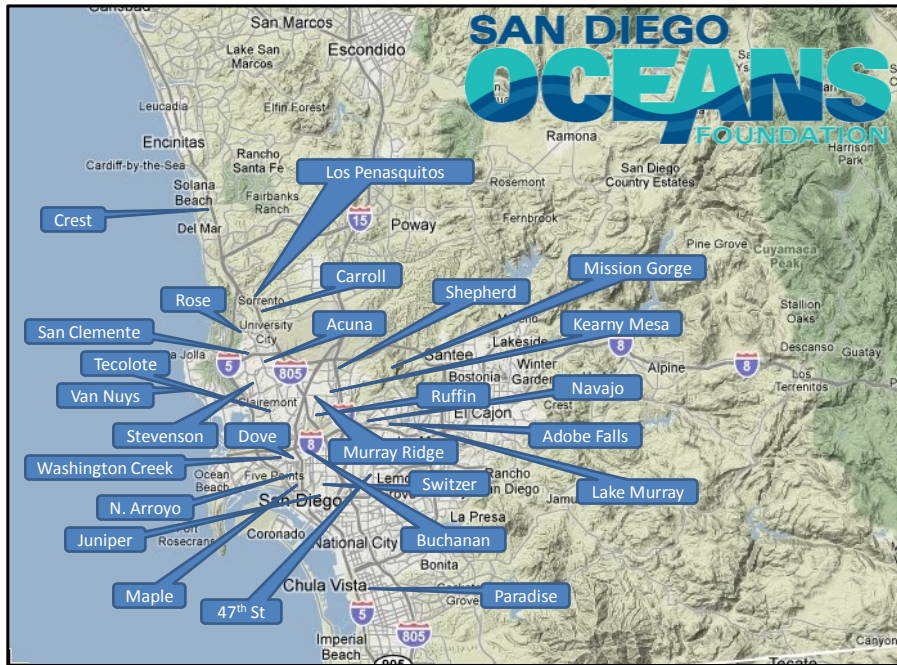
16. Manhole #147
32° 48.03 N 117° 10.41 W

Go right at fork. MH #147 is directly on trail.

Thank you for monitoring Tecolote 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.



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