

CASCADE CANAL HIKE

May 22, 2026, Friday

DIFFICULTY: Moderate

PACE: Relaxed/Moderate

ELEVATION GAIN: 3,000' start , 350' gain Trail is mostly flat following the canal.

HIKE DISTANCE: 6 miles (3 miles in and 3 miles back out. Not a loop.)

Suggested donation to driver \$10.

GENERAL LOCATION: Nevada City

DESCRIPTION: This is a mostly flat hike along the historic canal outside Nevada City. The forest has a lot of shade and a large amount of Dogwood trees.

LUNCH: We will bring lunch and eat at the Pioneer Park. There are restrooms there and picnic tables. We will drive to the park from the trail (less than a mile) after our hike.

TRAVEL TIME/DISTANCE: Travel time is approximately one hour and the distance is about 45 miles one way.

HIKE LEADER: Cathy Hoyt Sweep TBD

QUESTIONS: Call Cathy at 916-521-1154

SPECIAL NOTE: No facilities at trail. We will stop at McDonald's restaurant in Nevada City before hike.

PREPARATIONS FOR HIKE:

- PLENTY OF WATER! Recommend 50 oz/1.5 liters minimum for 5-mile hike – more if longer. Electrolytes suggested. Higher altitudes are dehydrating even when cool.
- Hiking boots/shoes, hat, sun protection, insect repellants, small first aid kit. Wind/rain jacket always advisable in the mountains. Trekking poles recommended.
- ID (driver's license) health insurance card, and emergency contact, phone number
- Extra pair of shoes to change into after hike and a plastic bag for muddy/dusty hiking boots to keep your driver's car clean.

RISKS: The trail is wide, so poison oak is not a problem. Insect spray is always a good idea if the weather is warm.

PLEASE CHECK LHH WEBSITE IN THE MORNING TO MAKE SURE HIKE IS STILL ON.

RAIN CANCELS.

MEETING TIME: We will meet at 7:45 am and leave at 8 am. Meet at the last row on right side of Orchard Lodge. Rows 12-14.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS:

Navigate to McDonalds 11954 Nevada City Hwy, Grass Valley, CA for bathroom stop, Then follow directions below from McDonalds to Trailhead

OR

Take 80 East to Auburn and turn onto Hwy 49 N. Turn left towards Grass Valley. Leaving Grass Valley, look for BRUNSWICK RD EXIT (before Nevada City Rd.) Exit Brunswick Rd and go over the freeway overpass. Drive a few blocks and turn RIGHT ON E MAIN ST/Nevada City Rd. Turn LEFT into MCDONALD'S to use restrooms.

When we leave McDonald's, make sure you TURN LEFT AND DRIVE STRAIGHT ahead.

Turn RIGHT ON BANNER LAVA CAP RD. You will see a sign for MADRONA WAY and then CASCADE before GRACIE where we turn left.

One cannot see Gracie sign from street, however, it is only about 50 feet from the Cascade sign. Look for DIRT ROAD on left side and drive down it and park.

No fees for parking.

AFTER HIKE: We drive to Pioneer Park. Drive up GRACIE RD and make a RIGHT on Gracie Rd, which turns into CLAY. Clay goes to ADAMS at the junction. Go LEFT at junction. Driving down Adams, turn RIGHT ON NILE which turns left or right.

Turn right and look for entrance to park at Pioneer Park.

OR Navigate to Pioneer Park, 425 Nimrod St, Nevada City

LEAVING PARK: We turn right leaving the parking lot. Drive straight. You will pass Park Ave and Boulder. You will see 49 Grass Valley freeway across the overpass.

You will see the entrance to the town there if you want to go shopping.