Discover the Hidden Treasures of the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary!

Follow the slough on your left towards the bay, stop at the sign where Godwit’s play.

The Allen Marsh was named after our dear friend George Allen who had the idea of recycling wastewater by the gallon! Now pay attention! This gets tricky! Continue along the trail, At the tracks, partly onto the road you go, cross over the tracks and right back on the trail you go. Stop on the bridge.

In Klopp Lake otters play, on a bright and sunny day, while a cloud of shorebirds rise, pretending to be large, hiding from raptor’s eyes.

Continue along the trail, until you see the E Clampus Vitus plaque about a rail.

Continue south across the track there you’ll find the orange sock clue don’t slack!

You flush it down and now you can see. This is where your waste will be. Where it is filtered with glee, first mechanically then naturally by the marsh, before returning to bay and sea.

At the edge of the bay, salt and fresh water meet. For plants to live here is quite a feat. They spend half the time covered in salty water then low tide comes and suddenly it’s hotter!

Retrace your steps. Then down the stairs on your left, follow the lake shore, go up the hill and stop at the field to learn more.

Many people are aware that the marsh is a great place but, beware! You may find more than cattails there. This marsh is a mound of garbage in the ground. The garbage is covered evermore. We call it Mount Trashmore.

Herons and egrets can be quite picky, living in wetlands suits them best. Put on your thinking cap this might get tricky. How many species of herons and egrets come here to rest? Write down the number below, this is your quest clue.

Now that the marsh has been explored continue around the path and soon you’ll be at the interpretive center where you can claim your reward!

Write Your Quest Clue Here:
Now that you’ve finished your quest:

Return to the Arcata Marsh Interpretive Center (open 9-5 Tues.-Sun. and 1-5 Mon.) by continuing down the path or go to the Recreation Office at Arcata City Hall (736 F St, Arcata; open M-F 9-5). There you will display your final clue and receive your prize. If these sites are closed, log on to the Redwood EdVentures website (below) and we’ll mail your prize to you.

Where will your next quest take you?

The journey you’ve just completed is one of many Redwood EdVentures Quests. Find Quest locations and download free copies at www.redwood-edventures.org. Teachers, students, and families can also explore hundreds of outdoor places and educational opportunities on the beautiful Redwood Coast. Find out why nature is closer than you think!

Things I saw along the way...

Based on a Quest written and produced by Shea Lignitz, Grace Lovell, with the assistance of Liberty Ingraham-Gonzales, which was part of a service project of Sunny Brae Middle School’s Roadrunners Afterhours in collaboration with the City of Arcata Environmental Services Department.

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