

Operation: Shipley Nature Center

Opened in 1974, the Shipley Nature Center is an 18-acre fenced natural area within Huntington Beach Central Park, CA. Named after former Mayor Donald D. Shipley, the center has several important historical aspects including a significant Native American influence and the 10,000 year old Blackbird Pond.

Can you name an area of Shipley Nature Center that is unique? To help you solve this mystery, ask the naturalist in the Nature Center for the book that was written recently about Shipley Nature Center.



Clue: Walk the loop trail behind the nature center. Look for the Native American traditional housing structure to locate the key.

ShIPLEY Nature Center includes 4,000 feet of trails that travel through several habitats, including oak woodlands, Torrey pines, meadows, and Blackbird Pond, a natural freshwater wetland with mature willows and sycamores. Locate the Habitat Trail and begin to walk it. What types of habitats do you see? Once you have completed the trail, you have walked a distance of a ½ mile!

Research shows the benefits of being outdoors in forest rich areas goes beyond a momentary mood boost - it can have a profound effect on your health. Evidence suggests that forest and other natural areas help in people's recovery from stress and fatigue.



Hundreds of years ago Native Americans lived in this area. They did not have stores to buy food, medicine, tools or clothes. They lived on the land using the plants and animals around them. Below are plants that they would use for food, medicine, or tools.



Cattail



Black Sage



Oak Tree