INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE & ART ELEMENTS

Combining education and nature

An important part of our park and trail projects is the interpretive signage and exhibits designed exclusively for each location, this helps to create a narrative that acts to generate a positive visitor experience. These displays are an important part of creating a theme, a sense of place, and challenging visitor’s imaginations, while presenting unique perspectives on the location’s cultural and natural history.
EMERALD NECKLACE INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

Native Plants at
RIO VISTA PARK

This plant display has been selected to represent plants that are native to our watershed and a variety of ecosystems. The species displayed on this sign represent the Los Angeles River Watershed.

The Saelatoon Tongva knowledge and use of native plant species from the watershed are supported and honored. Medicinal plants were used for all types of ailments from colds to wellness. Territorial plants were used for religious ceremonies. The Saelatoon Tongva used these plants to celebrate and honor the elements of nature.

Regional Signage System
San Francisquito Canyon

San Francisquito Canyon is located within the Angeles National Forest. The canyon is characterized by unique ecology; a perennial creek that hosts sensitive plant and animal species, and wild water infrastructure.

The Los Angeles Aqueduct transports water through the canyon. Two hydroelectric power plants operated by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) have been producing electricity for Los Angeles since 1917. The canyon is also the site of the 1928 St. Francis Dam failure, a tragedy which claimed hundreds of human lives.

San Francisquito Canyon Road connects the community of Saugus with Santa Clarita. Many designated roads and trails within the canyon are popular among hikers, cyclists, and OHV enthusiasts.

The 2002 Copper Fire

The Copper Fire started in the community of Saugus by sparks from a welding torch at a construction site. 20,000 acres of National Forest System lands were burned—primarily in the San Francisquito Canyon Watershed. The fire and flooding that followed severely impacted vulnerable plant communities and endangered animal species found only in Southern California. The fire also destroyed nine homes, impacted or damaged cultural resources, and caused significant damage to important infrastructure such as transmission lines that transport power to Los Angeles.

The U.S. Forest Service and numerous partners are working together in an effort to restore ecosystems in the canyon that are able to adapt and thrive over time. They do this by supplementing the canyon’s vegetation and improving the quality of wildlife habitat in the canyon. This can include replacing native plants destroyed by the fire—or removing barriers in stream passages, so aquatic plants and animals can move freely through the water. They also work to reduce invasive plant and animal species that are a major threat to the native ecology.

The Copper Fire rages near the Oakesholt Flat OHV area in June 2002.
The Angeles National Forest and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Partnership

Angeles National Forest Interpretive Signage Project

Amigos de los Rios – Emerald Necklace Group has been given the opportunity to develop interpretive signage for the Angeles National Forest (ANF) by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service. The interpretive signage we create is providing information to forest visitors; regional location, access points, trail directions, points of interest, cultural and historical information, as well as plant and animal life education.

Our Interpretive Signage project is part of a larger strategy:
The Angeles National Forest Copper, Ranch and Sayre Fire Restoration Strategy. This restoration strategy serves as the guiding document to aid the ANF and its partners in focusing, and ultimately implementing, projects that advance post-fire restoration in an ecologically meaningful and measurable way. The Restoration Strategy outlines the goals and objectives of the ANF for the fire restoration work, and highlights potential actions toward reaching those goals. The signage AMIGOS/Emerald Necklace Group is developing will help ANF meet these goals.

SAN FRANCISQUITO CANYON – COPPER FIRE, ST. FRANCIS DAM SITE, SIGNAGE
Our Greater Watershed

Rivers and streams in our forest are an important source of water for wildlife, plants, and people. 30 percent of our regional water supply comes from mountain springs and streams fed by snowmelt. San Francisquito Canyon is in the Sierra Pelona Mountains and is part of the Santa Clara River Watershed. Water in the canyon drains into San Francisquito Creek and then joins the Santa Clara River on its way to the ocean. Other major watersheds in our region include the Los Angeles, San Gabriel, and Santa Ana River watersheds.

Our mountain ranges and the Angeles National Forest contain some of the greatest biodiversity in the country, including five wilderness areas that provide critical habitat for threatened and endangered species. Without the clean air and water provided by the forest, the Greater Los Angeles Metro Area would not be able to support the more than 18 million residents who live here.
Amigos de los Rios Interpretive Signage, Art Elements and Educational Displays Photo Gallery

Below are some examples of the unique themed interpretive signage, art elements and educational displays created by our design team and included in the parks and trail projects built by Amigos De Los Rios.
Emerald Necklace Vision Map

Altadena Triangle Park

Jeff Seymour Native Plant Palette
LA History Trail Marker

El Monte Veterans Memorial Park
Map for City History Trail created by Amigos De Los Rios

Pixley Park play area
Pixley Park Insects

Wellness Center Signage

Wellness Center walkway signage
Musical Instrument info and interpretive signage

Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Trail Signage

Bosque de Rio Hondo Flood Plain
Gibson Mariposa Park marker on the Emerald Necklace

Salazar Park Signage

Gibson Mariposa Park Entrance
Gibson Park butterfly decoration

Gibson Mariposa Butterfly educational signage
Climate Education
Jeff Seymour Family Center Educational Signage

Mural for Walking Bus Program

Walking Bus Program Map
Tree Project carbon education

Climbing Elements at Salazar Park

Brett Goldstone Design Park Gate
Lashbrook Park Accents

Lashbrook Park on the Emerald Necklace

Lashbrook Park Native Plant Palette
Lashbrook Park Fitness Zone Equipment

Madrid Middle School building mural enhancement

S. El Monte Mini Center Play area designed and installed by
Amigos

Riverfront Park Celebration

Water Element
Rio Vista Park Trail Interpretive Signage and native plants

History – at Rio Vista Park – Hicks Camp Map

Rio Vista Park Hicks Camp Signage
Tongva Indian language display

Rio Vista Park Tongva Indian Shade Makers

Peck Road Park Native Indian signage

Rio Vista Park decorative element after renovation
Heat Island Educational Materials

Peck Water Conservation Area