

EL MACERO AGRICULTURAL BUFFER



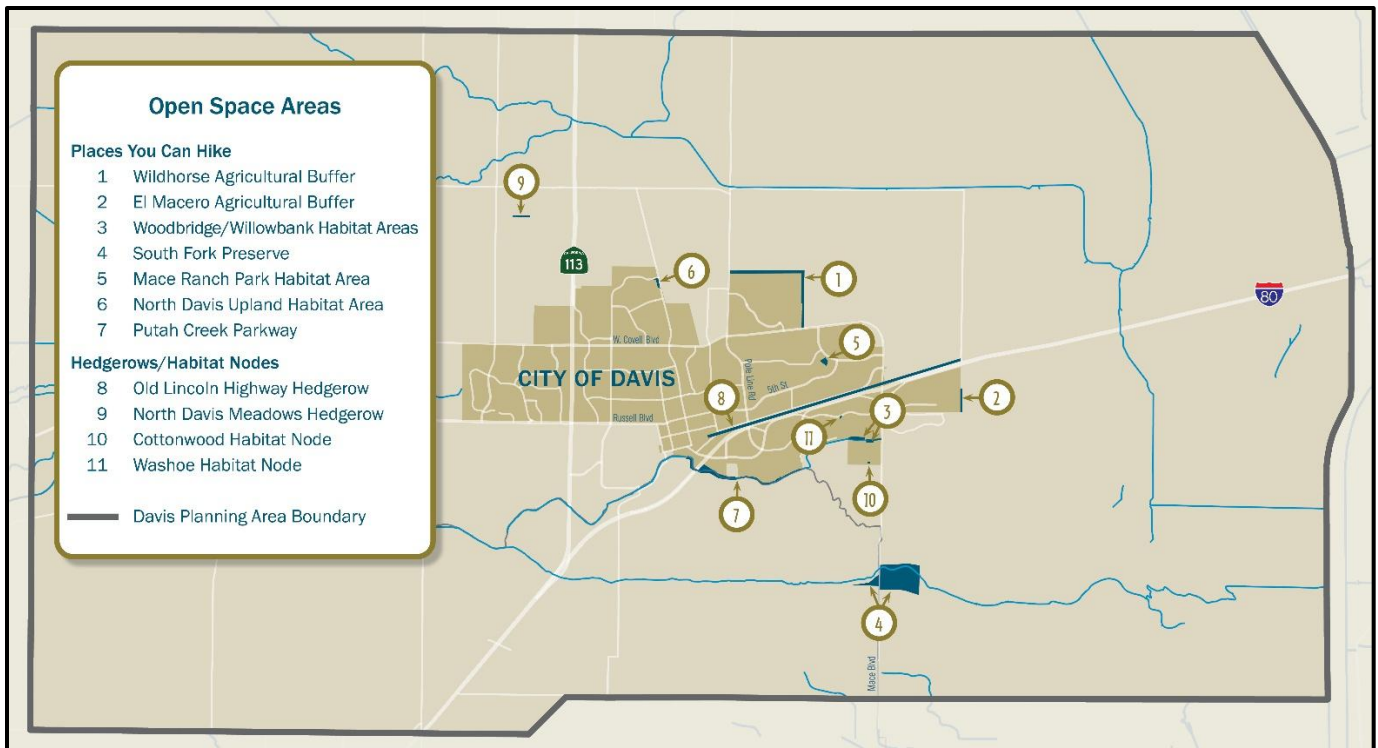
Overview

The El Macero Agricultural Buffer is a unique out-of-the-way open space area. It is about three acres and runs along the eastern edge of the El Macero Estates residential neighborhood in South Davis. The City required the developer of the El Macero Estates residential neighborhood to dedicate the land to the City to serve as a buffer between the new development and adjacent farmland, pursuant to [Municipal Code Article 40A.01.050](#). The City's Open Space staff manage the buffer as a habitat area and work to establish a native plant community that can successfully compete with undesirable non-native plant species. The buffer offers opportunities to enjoy nature within an urban environment and views of the adjacent farmland.

Key information:

- The buffer features a meandering gravel trail, benches, native shrubs and trees, native grassland habitat, valley oak woodland habitat, and a windrow/hedgerow.
- Dogs are allowed but only on-leash and on the designated gravel trail.
- Public access is prohibited within 100 feet of the adjacent farmland, to protect the public from possible pesticide drift, pursuant to [Municipal Code Article 40A.01.050](#).
- Bathrooms and potable water are not available.
- The agricultural buffer is open seven days a week, from dawn to dusk.

The El Macero Agricultural Buffer is part of the City's network of open space areas, maintained by City Open Space staff, as shown on the map below. The cost to maintain these precious areas is paid with funds generated by the City's special open space parcel tax, which was passed by Davis voters in 2000. This parcel tax (commonly known as Measure O) will be up for renewal in 2030. Currently, the parcel tax costs Davis homeowners \$24 per year, and generates about \$700,000 annually for the maintenance and acquisition of open space areas, including the purchase of conservation easements on surrounding farmland.



Things you can do at the El Macero Agricultural Buffer

- Take a walk/hike/run.
- Go on a leisurely bike ride (no speed bikes or e-bikes).
- View birds and wildlife.
- Walk your dog on leash on gravel trail.

Rules and Regulations

For a complete list of the rules and regulations that govern City open space areas, please see [Municipal Code Article 27.03](#). Key rules and regulations at this location include:

- Dogs are allowed at this location, but they must be leashed and remain on gravel trail.
- Dogs are not allowed to be off-leash on the gravel trail or in the habitat areas.
- Pedestrians must stay on gravel trail and not walk into the habitat areas.
- Biking is allowed at this location, but at a slow pace (no speed bikes or e-bikes).
- No horseback riding.
- No hunting.
- No camping.
- No fires.
- No smoking.
- No drones.

Directions

The El Macero Agricultural Buffer can be accessed at several different locations. You can enter the El Macero Estates residential neighborhood via Cowell Boulevard and access the agricultural buffer from Tufts Street, Guthrie Place, Cowell Boulevard, or Hoag Place.

Photo Gallery





Some photos courtesy of Marc Hoshovsky.