832

TOWSLEY CANYON IN SANTA CLARITA WOODLANDS PARK

CANYON VIEW TRAIL -- TOWSLEY VIEW TRAIL

December 6, 2006 HIKE LEADER: Joel Feinblatt

History:

Repeat of John Chady's hike of January 21, 2004 without the looks & smell of a range fire. Most of the lower growths have returned but the larger vegetation will be only found in the valleys. If the weather cooperates bring your camera because all hikes have great views of the valley.

The Principle Hike:

We will depart from the parking lot at 9:30 A.M. by way of the Towsley Canyon Road to the Towsley View Loop Trail, then Wiley Canyon and return to the Ed Davis Park picnic area via Canyon View Loop Trail or Towsley Canyon. The post-hike refreshments will be shared in the adjacent Ed Davis Park picnic area if possible (See Below). Approximately 7 Miles. Elevation gains approximately 1100 feet. Snack break at 10:30am and lunch on the ridge. Note: Clean toilets only at trail head in Ed Davis Park at the picnic area. (1/2 mile in from the parking lot)

Options:

1) For those desiring a longer hike, after descending through a series of switchbacks (Look for trail marker # 12) explore the southern end of Towsley Canyon toward the base of Oat Mountain. Be sure to turn back No Later Than 12:30 P.M.

2) For those desiring a shorter hike, take the Canyon View Loop Trail only. Approximately 2 Miles. Elevation gains approximately 400 feet. About midway there is a side trail to a viewpoint. Adds 3/4 mile and about 400 feet elevation. The side trail is steep in areas. Footing is not good the further up you go. Good stopping point with a view at the flat area with a big boulder.

3) You can go up Wiley Canyon to the viewpoint & return either by Towsley Canyon or the longer Canyon View Loop Trail.

Refreshments:

If all goes well we will have refreshments at the nice picnic area. Area is closed so must make special arrangements. If not, we will have them in the parking lot. I will inform you of the decision before the hike in the parking lot.

Getting There:

Go north out of the San Fernando Valley on the I-5. Exit at Calgrove. Turn west under the freeway and proceed to the park entrance about 1/2 mile on the right. Look for sign "Ed Davis Park. Because of road conditions we will park free in parking area at entrance to park.