

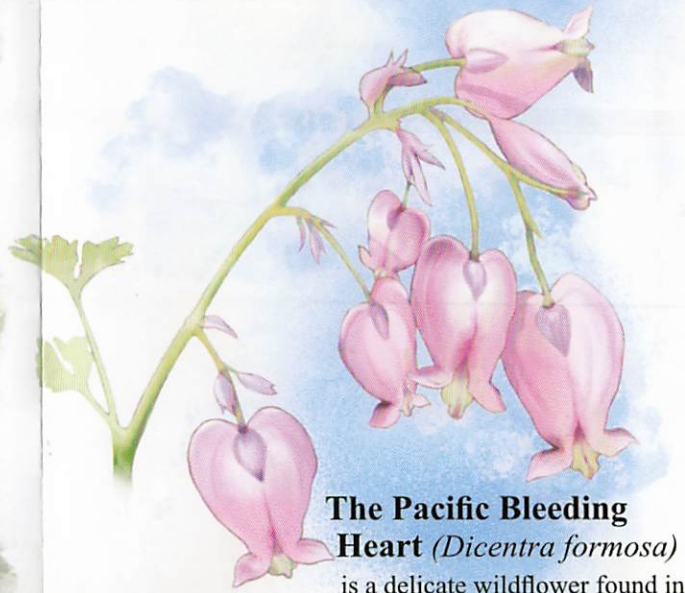
## HISTORY OF RUSS PARK

Russ Park in Ferndale has a rich history that reflects the community's commitment to preserving its natural beauty. The park's story began in 1920 when Zipporah Russ entrusted the land to the city, with the vision of creating a sanctuary for wildlife, specifically, the many bird species that are found thriving throughout the forest. The following year, the Ferndale Park Commission was formed to manage and develop the park.

In the late 1920s, local volunteers, including students from Ferndale High School, began creating signs and planting trees, with Pacific Lumber donating Coast Redwood seedlings around Zipporah's pond. By 1933, under the Civil Works Administration, workers built trails and a road to the top of the park, expanding its accessibility. Despite falling into disuse in the 1950s, Russ Park saw renewed efforts in the 1960s. The Eel River Grange and the Native Sons of the Golden West worked alongside the Park Commission to restore the park, clearing trails and improving access. By 1970, Russ Park was officially annexed into the City of Ferndale, ensuring its continued care and preservation. In the 1970s and 80s, Larry Eifert and other volunteers regraded trails and added new features, including the William Crane Grove and Roscoe Douglass Grove. The park's history continues to be shaped by dedicated local groups and volunteers who have worked to protect its natural beauty and ensure it remains a peaceful retreat for all to enjoy.

## WHY DONATE?

To help preserve the beauty and wildlife of Russ Park for future generations, we invite you to support Friends of Russ Park. Your donation directly contributes to maintaining trails, protecting local ecosystems, and ensuring the park remains a peaceful retreat for the community. With your support, Friends of Russ Park can continue their important work of safeguarding this treasured natural space for everyone to enjoy.



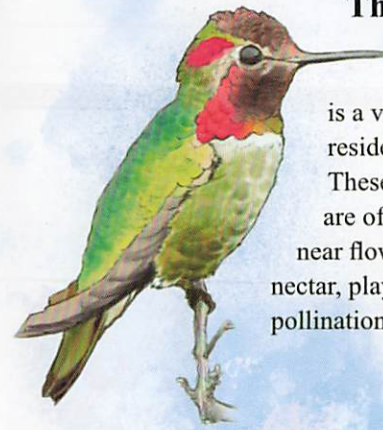
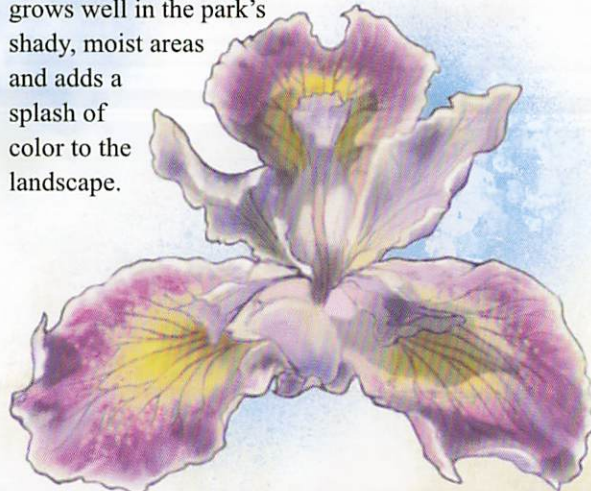
**The Pacific Bleeding Heart** (*Dicentra formosa*)

is a delicate wildflower found in

Russ Park's shady areas. It has heart-shaped pink or white flowers and thrives in moist, woodland environments, blooming in early spring. This native plant adds beauty to the forest floor and attracts pollinators like bees and butterflies.

**The Douglas Iris** (*Iris douglasiana*)

is a beautiful wildflower found near Russ Park's Zipporah's pond. It has purple or blue flowers with a yellow center and blooms in the spring. This native plant grows well in the park's shady, moist areas and adds a splash of color to the landscape.



**The Anna's Hummingbird** (*Calypte Anna*)

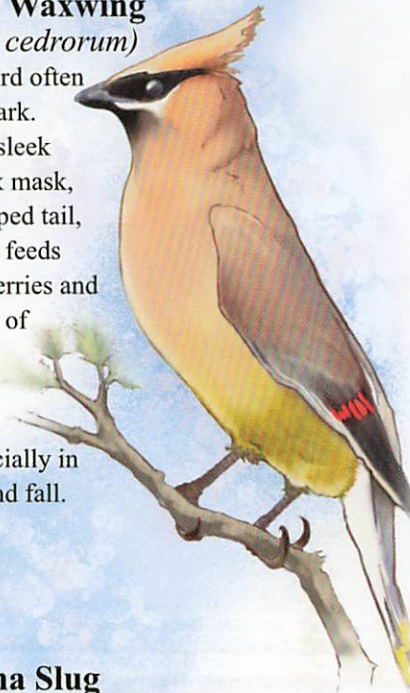
is a vibrant, year-round resident of Russ Park. These tiny, energetic birds are often seen hovering near flowers and feeding on nectar, playing a vital role in pollination throughout the park.

**The Cedar Waxwing** (*Bombycilla cedrorum*)

is a striking bird often seen in Russ Park.

Known for its sleek plumage, black mask, and yellow-tipped tail, this social bird feeds primarily on berries and insects. Flocks of Cedar

Waxwings can be spotted in the trees, especially in late summer and fall.



**The Banana Slug** (*Ariolimax dolichophallus*)

is a staple of Humboldt's forests, including Russ Park. These bright yellow slugs (which can also be green or brown) are vital to the ecosystem, helping to break down decaying plant material and enrich the soil.



# Russ Park

EST. 1920





## Friends of Russ Park Donation Form

Thank you for supporting the preservation of Russ Park! Your generous donation helps maintain the park's trails, protect its wildlife, and ensures it remains a cherished space for the community.

Full Name:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Mailing Address:

Street address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Donation Amount:

-Credit Card Information (If Applicable)-

Card Number:

CVV:

Expiration Date:

Cardholder's Name:

Please tear off the donation form along the dotted line and include it with your contribution. Once complete, simply mail it to PO Box 235, Ferndale, CA 95536

Thank You!

*We value your privacy and security. All card information provided will be securely processed and protected in compliance with industry standards.*

Artwork and brochure created by Griffin Griggs