

Come on In, the Water is Fine—Swimming in Nevada County

By Valerie Moberg



When the weather is hot, locals and visitors alike want to go swimming. Whether you prefer pools and ponds or rivers, lakes, and streams, you'll find your ideal swimming option in Nevada County. There are even great options for parents with small children and for people who need wheelchair accessibility.

Pools

If you like the idea of swimming in a pool, the public pool at **Pioneer Park in Nevada City** is a great place to go. The swimming season begins in June (June 2 is opening day) and continues through mid-September. From June 11 through August 14 the pool is open to the public every day (except the 4th of July) from noon until 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$2.00 for children and \$3.00 for adults. The shallow end is only two feet deep, making it safe and easy for young children. For adults, there is a deep end with a diving board and two lanes are designated for lap swimming. For more information about swimming at Pioneer Park pool visit <http://nevadacityca.gov/content/parks-recreation>

Another place to beat the heat is **Memorial Pool in Grass Valley**. Open Monday through Saturday from noon to 5:00 p.m. the pool is handicapped accessible. For more information call 530-477-4650.

South Fork of the Yuba River

Oh a hot summer day, nothing beats the Yuba River. Long a favorite destination for both locals and visitors, the Yuba is known for its clear water, enormous granite boulders, deep pools and stunning trails. The safest place to enter the river is **Bridgeport**, located at 17660 Pleasant Valley Road. Bridgeport has two beaches that provide easy access to the river. Here—even early in the season--the water is shallow and warm and ideal for young children or people who want to picnic by the water's edge.

A slightly more difficult access to the river is at the **old Highway 49 Bridge**, which is located a few miles outside of Nevada City. To access the river, park in the lot and follow the steps down and across moderately steep boulder field. Depending on the season, you can swim up the river to any number of private and semi-private beaches. You can also follow the trail to Hoyt's Crossing, which has a fairly large swimming hole and a nice big sandy beach.

For additional places to swim along the Yuba River, check out the *Union* article by Laura Brown, "Summer swimming holes..."

<http://www.theunion.com/article/20050714/TODAYSFEATURE/107140103>

Lakes

One of the most beautiful and popular lakes in Nevada County is **Scotts Flat Lake**. The easiest access is via Scotts Flat Lake Campground, which is ten minutes east of Nevada City. Day use fees are \$4.00 per vehicle containing up to four people. Kayak, Canoe, and Boat launching is more. Pets are welcome. You can discover everything the campground offers at

<http://www.scottsflatlake.net/>

Greehorn Campground located on the Rollins Lake is another popular area that is good for swimming. Open from sunrise to sunset, day use is \$6.50. In addition to a large, sandy beach, the area also rents kayaks and pontoon boats. There's a general store and arcade for the kids. For more information call 530-272-6100.

Valerie Moberg is the proprietor of the historic Broad Street Inn, and the go-to person for information about Nevada City. Built in 1870, Broad Street Inn is a small, family-owned, eco-friendly green business that prides itself on providing comfortable accommodations at affordable rates. Located in the heart of historic downtown Nevada City, this Victorian inn offers six contemporary rooms and a peaceful garden setting just a short walk from downtown Nevada City's great shops, restaurants, theaters, and wineries. For more information about the Broad Street Inn and the Nevada City area, contact Valerie by phone (530.265.2239) or email (info@broadstreetinn.com) or on the Web: <http://www.broadstreetinn.com>.