



SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley
Newsletter August 2013

Monthly Meetings-the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm
Reseda Park Rec. Hall, 18411 Victory Blvd. (Cross Street-Reseda Bl.)
(Near child's play area), Reseda, CA. We are limited in our parking space because of construction. For this reason, it's best to arrive early. **There is a parking lot & street parking.** If the Rec Hall parking lot is full, there is ample parking at the One Generation lot, directly east at 17400 Victory Boulevard

Learn About Conservation Tips AT OUR SF Valley Sierra Club WEBSITE:

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfvq/>

(See names, phone numbers and emails of our San Fernando Valley Management Committee in the sidebar)

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"The message has been truncated".....

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Join Us!



South Wild Life Area Pond 2010
Before habitat destruction



Wild Life Area Pond Dec. 2012
after habitat destruction

History, Controversy and Opportunities at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas

AUGUST 20, 2013

Kris Ohlenkamp will present "History, Controversy and Opportunities in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas". Kris has been President and/or Conservation Chair of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society for the last 35 years and has lead bird/nature walks in the Wildlife Area the first Sunday of every month since 1980.

In December 2012 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers destroyed the 48 acre "South Reserve". Come and find out about the flora and fauna, history and management, and controversies and plans for the area. Learn how you can help restore and protect this local treasure.

There will be socializing and refreshments.

Thursday hikes

King-Gillette Ranch activities



Dear friends,

Its official – The Angeles Chapter has a new home and you're all welcome to stop by and say hello anytime!

We are now located in Suite #660 at 3435 Wilshire Blvd, LA, CA 90010, only 3 floors above our old office. The space is smaller and more compact but we think it will serve our members as well, if not better than, the old office space. We moved to reduce overhead expenses so we can invest as many resources as possible in our environmental programs. This is only one of the ways the Chapter is re-building its reserves after a challenging 2012. [Contribute now!](#)

Now that we are leaner, we are also greener, and we are in it for the long haul. Less space means a smaller carbon footprint, fewer lights, fewer phones, less everything -- except for providing our members with the best support and resources possible. Together, we are continuing to make a difference on the environmental issues facing Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Together, we are getting people outdoors on hundreds of hikes each month. And together, we can ensure that the Chapter remains healthy – [Please donate today!](#)

The Executive Committee, activist leaders and our committed staff are creating new revenue streams and revamping old ones to keep the Chapter's financial conditions healthy and strong. We are establishing a new Fundraising Committee to work with our Senior Chapter Director to put the fun back in fundraising. All members are welcome to become a part of this important committee. Your participation will help grow our Cheers or Tears Tribute Program, our Cars4Causes Program and our Hike Donation and Major Gifts Programs, too. And who knows what great new ideas will be pursued! All creative people are warmly welcomed. Join this effort by contacting Ron Silverman at ron.silverman@sierraclub.org, and



**Beautiful Santa Monica Mountains Sky
By Sierra Club Member Gayle Dufour**

COMMENT OF PRES. OBAMA'S SPEECH ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Back in the Game

By Michael Brune, Sierra Club Executive Director, Michael Brune

This afternoon, I had a short meeting with President Obama that left me more convinced than ever that he's serious about tackling the climate crisis. Sure enough, later under a sweltering sun at Georgetown University, I watched him calmly and forcefully restate the case for taking action on the climate crisis in one of the most important speeches of his presidency. He also outlined a Climate Action Plan that will help curb carbon pollution, develop clean energy sources, promote energy efficiency, and assert American global leadership on climate issues. Taken together, the new policies directly address what the president rightly calls "the global threat of our time."

Coming on the heels of an unprecedented string of extreme weather disasters, the plan recognizes that we must work on both the causes *and* the consequences of climate disruption.

But the two most significant commitments the president made were bona fide game-changers: First, he said that he will use the full authority of the Clean Air Act to limit air pollution from both new *and* existing power plants. Second, he declared that he will not approve the Keystone XL pipeline if it harms the climate, because to do so would not be in the national interest.

The science on Keystone's potentially catastrophic effect on climate could not be more clear. The rejection of this carbon pollution pipeline will be a major climate disaster averted. Coal-fired power plants, however, are a disaster that has persisted for far too long and, as I listened to the president's speech, I shared the exuberance of the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal activists and so many others in the movement who have fought to end this injustice. Coal-fired power plants are currently responsible for nearly one-third of U.S. carbon pollution; although only a decade ago, that share was greater than one-half. The recent and welcome decline in U.S. carbon emissions to 1986 levels is the result of a decade-long trend away from using coal to generate electricity. Extending clean-air standards to older coal plants, many of which have been polluting for decades, will speed that trend. Not only will this significantly reduce our carbon pollution, but it will also save tens of thousands of lives, since the plants emit many other toxic air pollutants, from sulfur dioxide to mercury.

To meet the challenge of the climate crisis, however, we must do much more than simply celebrate the end of the Coal Age -- we need to hasten a new era of smart, clean energy, energy efficiency, and the jobs that support them. Here, too, the president's plan lays out a practical vision for the future. The president is justifiably proud that generation of renewable energy from wind and solar doubled during his first term; now he has committed to seeing it double again. One of the ways his administration will make that happen is by responsibly siting more renewable-energy projects on public lands. The goal is to install enough such projects to power 6 million homes by 2020.

have fun while helping the Chapter.

Not able to contribute your time right now? – That's okay – you can still invest in our future by sending a donation to the Chapter today! Your gift, large or small, will be put to good use right away. And if you send \$100 or more, you will become one of our elite members and [join the 1000 at \\$100 Campaign](#). Your name will be displayed on our home page with all our other generous donors.

Please don't delay – contribute today! Be a part of the lean, green Angeles Chapter – donate today and ensure that we are here to stay! It's simple and easy and only a click away –

www.angeles.sierraclub.org

Thank you for your generosity.

Carole Mintzer
Chair, Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter

If you would like to make a donation to the Angeles Chapter by check, please make your check payable to the Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club and send it to:
Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club
3435 Wilshire Blvd., #660
Los Angeles CA 90010

FUTURE PROGRAMS



Restoring Habitat, One Yard at a Time

Sept. 17, 2013

Alan Pollack, M.D. long time member of the Sierra Club and the Nature Conservancy is a life-long gardener and has merged his passion for wildlife with his passion for gardening.

His training by the National Wildlife Federation has enabled him to become a "Wildlife Habitat Steward". His yard is certified as an official, wildlife habitat site and for the past 8 years he has been giving no charge advice and landscape designs to homeowners, churches, schools and to anyone who wishes to create a garden that is attractive to wildlife as well

Other major initiatives will promote energy efficiency in both the public and private sectors, begin the critical work of developing a "smart grid" energy infrastructure, raise the bar on fuel economy standards for heavy-duty vehicles, and tackle the problem of climate-polluting hydrofluorocarbons and methane. *Leakage and flaring of methane, which currently accounts for 9 percent of U.S. carbon pollution (and has a global warming potential that is more than 20 times greater than carbon dioxide), is one of the reasons why natural gas doesn't deserve its reputation as a "cleaner" fossil fuel.

Is everything in the Climate Action Plan workable -- or even a good idea to begin with? Of course not. Some ideas, like pursuing "clean coal" technology, investing in nuclear power, fracking, and building overseas markets for U.S. natural gas are either wrong-headed or dead ends. *(1) On balance, though, the plan offers a way for our nation to move forward strongly. Even if not every path offered is a good one, it's never been clearer what our destination must be -- and that this president wants to get us there.

Beyond the president's specific commitments, however, the most important takeaway from his speech is that he is determined to "personally own" this issue. That means taking responsibility in the face of what he has called a "moral obligation." He is far from alone in recognizing such an obligation. A national poll earlier this year found that 93 percent of Americans agree that we have "a moral obligation to future generations to leave them a planet that is not polluted or damaged."

Although the president's desire to save the planet certainly resonates with environmentalists like myself and the Sierra Club's 2.1 million members and supporters, that alone can't account for the overwhelming support of more than 90 percent of the American population. Our "moral obligation to future generations," though, is a different matter. If I ever need to get re-energized about fighting the climate crisis, all I need to do is look into the eyes of my kids. I know the same is true for President Obama. His exact words today: "As a president, as a father, and as an American, I'm here to say we need to act."

The president's plan may one day be seen as a critical turning point, but let's not forget that this struggle is far from over. The president himself emphasized that this will be a long and rocky road. In the near term, at least, powerful special interests will continue to throw up roadblocks and obstacles at every turn. Congress, for its part, has resolutely and shamefully shirked its own moral obligation. What matters today, though, is that President Barack Obama has reasserted his leadership on climate with both words *and* deeds. For that, he deserves both our deepest gratitude and our whole-hearted support.

You can thank president Obama and, also, tell him:

To cement your climate legacy and protect future generations, our nation will need to take more big steps like this -- like rejecting the Keystone XL pipeline, ending destructive oil drilling in the Arctic, halting mountaintop removal, protecting public lands from fracking, mining and drilling, stopping the rush to export fossil fuels, and abandoning dirty fuels for a clean energy future.

USE THIS LINK BELOW FOR YOUR COMMUNICATON:

([and here's where you can send it to him](#)).

If you haven't heard Pres. Obama's speech on Climate Change, hear it on the video below:

Video of PRES. OBAMA'S SPEECH ON CLIMATE CHANGE

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/video/2013/06/25/president-obama-speaks-climate-change>

Manuscript of Pres. Obama's speech

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/06/25/remarks-president-climate-change>

***(1)EPA on the Global Warming potential of methane & natural gas.**

<http://epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/gases/ch4.html>

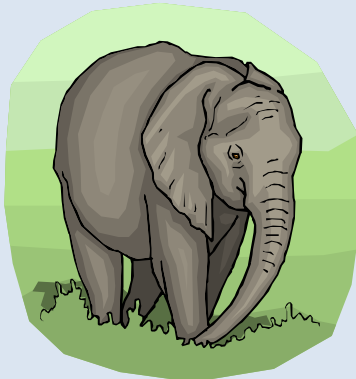
RENEWABLES NEWS



Offshore wind turbines near Copenhagen, Denmark

as to humans.

He leads the Audubon-at-Home Project for the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society. Come and learn the 4 basic elements necessary for wildlife to survive as well as a discussion of sustainable gardening practices. This will be followed by a virtual tour of his certified habitat garden. *There will be socializing and refreshments*



Safari in Kenya”

OCT. 15, 2013

Alex Oloo will present “Safari in Kenya”. Come and follow close up and personal the steps of the wildebeest migration in the Masai Mara eco-system.

Alex was born in Western Kenya by the shores of Lake Victoria. He is a Sierra Club Member and for over a decade has been a tour guide in Kenya. He worked as a tour guide for Roadsolars (formerly known as Elderhostel) for 6 years.

He is a professional Ornithologist by training and has worked with the Nairobi National Museum, Ornithology Department. He was the Guide Coordinator at the National Museum of Kenya. In Kenya he was involved in many conservation organizations including Youth for Conservation, the East Africa Wildlife Society, Kenya Museum Society and Nature Kenya which is involved in protecting important bird areas.

There will be socializing and refreshments.

(from Wikipedia).

CARBON EMISSIONS ARE RUINING THE OCEAN WITH ACID A MAJOR REMEDY IS OFFSHORE WIND

*These are statements from the Oceana website
<http://oceana.org/en/news-media>*

OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

“The climate action plan announced by President Obama today takes many important, common sense steps that begin the work needed to address runaway climate change. Reducing carbon emissions from power plants and expanding energy efficiency programs will help to cut carbon emissions, which are changing our climate and making our oceans more acidic. The ocean absorbs approximately one-third of all human-caused CO₂ emissions at a rate of 300 tons per second. Unfortunately, however, this CO₂ absorption has made the ocean 30% more acidic now than before the Industrial Revolution.

Ocean acidification is already harming marine animals like oysters, mussels and clams as well as coral reefs. Without major reductions, carbon dioxide emissions will lead to mass extinctions on coral reefs, resulting in marine ecosystem collapse.

AN ANSWER TO OCEAN OIL LEAKS IS OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY

Oceana was pleased to hear President Obama promoting clean energy like wind and solar energy, but wishes that he had also mentioned offshore wind – a form of energy that is safe for our oceans and its creatures, and forever sustainable.

Through disastrous spills like Exxon-Valdez and Deepwater Horizon, we’ve learned the hard way about the damage what the burning of and drilling for dirty fossil fuels can do to the ocean and sea life that call the oceans home. Fortunately, we have an alternative – the United States has renewable energy right off its coasts – offshore wind. The wind is clean, unlimited and *guaranteed not to spill*. When sited correctly, offshore wind is one of the best chances we have to end our addiction to fossil fuels and to finally stop the dirty and dangerous practice of offshore oil and gas drilling.

The United States has a tremendous amount of offshore wind that has the potential to power the entire country four times over according to the Department of Energy. This could ultimately displace a tremendous amount of fossil fuels and nearly eliminate carbon emissions.

We were also encouraged by the President’s prior decision to stop the expansion of offshore drilling in the Atlantic Ocean, leaving some carbon safely underground until at least 2017. However, allowing oil and gas companies to conduct harmful seismic airgun activities in the Atlantic could enable future oil and gas development that has no place in a climate-sensitive energy policy.

Link below has a good cartoon about how Ocean Acidification works.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wo-bHt1bOsw>



*Sierra Club SFV program chair Mike Stevenson’s solar panels.
He also has an electric car, which is charged by the electricity from those panels.*

Local Solar Gets Another Boost as LADWP Re-opens

We need your help!

The Sierra Club relies heavily on its volunteers to carry out its Mission. Since you probably have a skill that we need and if you can spare a few hours a month, let us know.

Call Elaine Trogman
818 780-8345

Call Barry Katzen
818 341-8304

Scrabble Group



Do you enjoy spelling? Are you into words and combinations of words? Does the idea of spending hours hovering over a Scrabble board appeal to you? If so, you might like to join our Scrabble group. We meet once a month for an evening of fellowship, refreshments, and hard-fought Scrabble games. Beginners, intermediates, and experts are welcome. For more information call Julie at (818) 999-5384 or email julieszende@gmail.com



GET A FREE SOLAR EVALUATION WITH SIERRA CLUB

Feed-in Tariff Program (FIT) for Applications July 8 Get a reasonable price to make energy for the LA-DWP!

(Info. from LA-DWP recent literature)

LOS ANGELES — Shortly after celebrating the completion of the first Feed-in Tariff (FiT) solar installation, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) will begin accepting applications for the second 20-megawatt (MW) allocation of local solar and other eligible renewable energy projects under the 100 MW FiT Set Pricing Program on July 8. The application period for the second allocation will remain open through December 31, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

"We received a tremendous response from the first 20-MW round of the FiT Set Pricing Program and look forward to offering the next 20 MW to produce more clean renewable energy for distribution on the city's power grid," said Ronald O. Nichols, LADWP General Manager. LADWP's FiT Program – the largest offered by any U.S. city – allows customers, developers, and other third parties to develop solar or other eligible renewable energy projects within LADWP's service area and sell the power to the Department at a set price. The first FiT solar project, installed on the roof of Oxnard Plaza Apartments in North Hollywood, came online on June 26, 2013. In February, LADWP offered the first wave of 20 MW and received 136 applications for 115 MW of solar. Of these, 60 applications have passed the technical screening and 27 have received interconnection cost studies so far.

Anticipating another strong response, LADWP will accept applications for renewable projects from 30 kilowatts (kW) to 3 MW on a first-come, first-served basis for 20 MW. Project applications that are received during the first five-day period (July 8 at 8:00 a.m. to July 12 at 4:00 p.m.) will be prioritized on the FiT Reservation List by lottery; applications thereafter will be prioritized in the order received.

HOW MUCH WILL YOU BE PAID?

For each project that meets the qualifications, LADWP will enter into a standard offer contract for up to 20 years and purchase the power output at 16 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh). Subsequent 20-MW allocations will be made available every six months through 2016 until the full 100 MW of solar capacity is subscribed. The price will decline according to a tiered price structure that caps the amount of power that can be reserved at each price. When each tier reaches its limit of reserve capacity, the price will be reduced by 1 cent per kWh and fall to the next tier.

Interested participants may review the FiT Guidelines available at www.ladwp.com/fit for instructions on how to apply. Please call the FiT Program hotline at (213) 367-2100 or email FiT@ladwp.com for questions on the FiT program.

For more information contact: Joseph Ramallo LADWP Communications (213) 367-1361



Solar awnings for parking at Taft High School in San Fernando Valley
Photo by Gayle Dufour.

California Sets New Record for Solar Power Generation of Over 2,000 MW

By Elaine Trogman

The California Independent System Operator (CA-ISO) is in charge with integrating energy from many sources into the grid to provide California power. They describe themselves as follows: "The California ISO provides open and non-discriminatory access to one of the largest power grids in the world. The vast network of high-voltage transmission power lines is supported by a competitive energy market and comprehensive grid planning. Partnering with about a hundred clients, the nonprofit public benefit corporation is dedicated to the continual development and reliable operation of a modern grid that operates for the benefit of consumers. Recognizing the importance of the global climate challenge, the ISO is at the

Summer is around the corner and everything is starting to feel a little lighter, especially your electric bill when you go solar with the Sierra Club.

[Find out how to switch to clean, renewable energy and save money on your electric bills.](#)

Going solar with the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter in California and our solar partner, Sungevity, is a win, win, win! A win for you: Guarantee your family lower electric bills, free yourself from dirty energy, and do it all with no upfront investment. Most homeowners start saving on their power bills immediately.

[And if you go solar this spring, you'll get a \\$750 gift card.](#)

A win for the planet: Powering your home with solar energy is the single best way to shrink your carbon footprint - the equivalent of taking 1.5 cars off the road.

A win for the Sierra Club in California: Sungevity will donate \$750 to the Sierra Club for everyone who goes solar through this program. This means more money for Club's important environmental campaigns in California.

Here's how it works:

[Enter your address and energy use to get a free solar evaluation for your home.](#)

Your free Sungevity quote will detail your solar options, show you what your home would look like, and how much you would save on energy costs.

Join your neighbors in California and start generating positive energy – [go solar today!](#)

If you want to know exactly how solar energy works (but don't want to read a book), here's a [handy graphic](#) that keeps it simple -- and meaningful.

It is dangerous to throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage.

You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT

forefront of integrating renewable power and advanced technologies that will help meet a sustainable energy future efficiently and cleanly."

CA-ISO wrote "Solar power shines, setting a new all-time high output of 2,071 megawatts (MW) at 12:59p.m. today, June 07, 2013. This amount of energy is enough to power more than 1.5 million homes across sunny California. This new record is remarkable considering the amount has more than doubled since last September when solar peaked at 1,000 megawatts," says Steve Berberich, California ISO President and CEO. "We are excited by this trend and expect to hit more record peaks on a regular basis .

California is the largest producer of solar power in the nation. Today's peak demand was about 36,000 megawatts and solar power supplied more than five percent of demand for electricity."

According to LCG Consulting, "California leads the nation in solar power. California's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) was originally established by legislation in 2002, and subsequent amendments have led to requirement for California's electric utilities to have 33 percent of their retail sales served by eligible renewable energy resources in 2020 and all subsequent years. Interim targets for the utilities are 20 percent of retail sales by December 31, 2013, and 25 percent by December 31, 2016."

This video link explains how the CA-ISO works and how they plan to integrate renewable energy into the grid in the future.

<http://www.caiso.com/about/Pages/News/Default.aspx>



Solar impulse solar plane picture is from Wikipedia

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_Impulse

Solar Impulse Plane makes it from San Francisco to New York Solely on Solar Energy.

By Elaine Trogman

This solar plane that is capable of flying day and night started in May 2013 from San Francisco and touched down in New York on July 6, 2013. According to a BBC article, "The plane's wing and stabilizer are covered with nearly 12,000 solar cells, which drive its four propellers and charge the plane's 400kg of lithium-ion batteries for night-time flying."

The solar impulse plane only has 1 seat and can fly at a maximum speed of 45mph, even though it has a wing span that is about the same as an airbus plane that seats about 400 people. The pilots, Bernard Piccard's and Andre Borschberg took turns piloting the plane by switching when the plane landed at an agreed upon airport. Each part of the trip was planned to be under 24hrs.

According to the Wall Street Journal, "The plane cost roughly \$8.5 million to build but a 10-year project to design the solar-powered prototypes has cost \$140 million," The next plans for the 2 pilots is to take a 2-seat solar plane around the world in the spring of 2015. Borschberg mentioned that it will be much more complicated because they will have to deal with different languages & logistics in each country and continent. During the flight across the USA, they set the record for the greatest distance of a manned solar-powered flight

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
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From the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter-Water Committee's website

Remembering To Conserve Water



Use a broom instead of hosing with water!

By Michael Stevenson

Our water supplies in Southern California are low from several dry years and we will continue to face significant water supply challenges. Therefore it's still critical that residents and businesses continue to conserve water. But because something may be important to us it doesn't always translate into an effective action plan. We are creatures of habit and most of the time we don't consciously think about the little mundane tasks we do every day. We need to change the fact that when it comes to water conservation we are often on auto pilot and don't think about what we are doing with water at the time we are using it. Use the word W.A.T.E.R. one letter at a time to help you remember what you need to do to become a better water conservationist.

"W" stands for wasting water. Focusing on the different ways you waste water can be one of the most significant things you can do to limit your water use.

1. Shorten your showers by turning off the water while you are soaping up or using shampoo.
2. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth, washing your hands or shaving.
3. Don't use your toilet as a waste paper basket or flush it needlessly.
4. You waste water through evaporation so keep your spa or pool covered when not in use.

5. Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to slow down evaporation and keep soil moist.

"A" stands for adjusting your thinking about how you use water.

1. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.
2. Don't defrost frozen foods with running water. Place them in the refrigerator overnight or defrost them in the microwave.
3. Use your water wasting garbage disposal sparingly and instead compost your vegetable food waste.

"T" stands for timing your water use. When you choose to use water can have an effect on how far it goes.

1. Water plants only when they need it and during the cooler part of the day.
2. Don't water on windy days when much of the water blows away or evaporates.

"E" stands for efficiency. Water efficiency is saving water resources through the employment of water-saving technologies and activities

1. Drought resistant native plants are a much more water efficient way of beautifying your home.
2. Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors and replace your old water-guzzling flush toilet with an ultra-low flush model.
3. Run only full loads in your washing machine and dishwasher.
4. When you purchase a new washing machine select a front loading model which uses much less water than a standard top loading model
5. Install an instant water heater near an area where you use the most hot water so you don't have to run the water while it heats up.

"R" stands for reusing water. Reuse water around your home for more than one purpose.

1. Never let water run down the drain when there is another use for it. While you wait for hot water to begin, catch the flow in a watering can to use later on house plants or your garden.
2. Clean and rinse vegetables in a bowl and then save the water for plants.
3. Instead of washing your car at home wash it at a car wash that recycles water.
4. During the rainy season collect water from your roof in a rain barrel that can then later be used to water plants.

Remember, think W.A.T.E.R. to save water.

From your home, tune-in to the Angeles Chapter's WATER COMMITTEE

If you are interested in water issues in California, & especially So. Calif., we urge you to come or tune into the **WATER COMMITTEE** by phone. We have discussions within the committee and we, also, invite experts to speak to us.

Monthly Water Comm. Programs: August - Alternatives to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDGP) by Nick Di Croce, Environmental Water Caucus (EWC); August/September - LADWP, Titles and Presenters TBD

The Water Comm. meets every month on the second Wed. at 7:00pm. If you can't make it in person then you can choose to tune-in from your home telephone or by video conferencing.

The no charge phone conference line is available at [1-866-501-6174](tel:1-866-501-6174) Code: 1000 400 1892.

GoToMeeting video conferencing link (no charge):

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/join/124173903>

GoToMeeting app. (iPhone®, iPad® or Android®)

Meeting ID: 124-173-903

Any questions for the Water Committee contact Charming Evelyn. If you want to personally attend the Water Committee, contact Charming for location. bcharmz@aol.com



Picture by Henry Bollinger "Purple Profusion"

ROCK SONGS

by: Carla Lauren Bollinger

*Tears can only flow so long;
even rocks shatter after
furies of fate unleash --
lines deepen expose black slag
elongate into complete darkness.*

*Sleep comes in damaged dreams --
awaken to see orange brush strokes
on rocks scattered down mountain
sides' chaotic rubble.*

*Amongst these stones, gardens grow,
mallow, buckwheat, wild flowers
shoot through their split souls.*

*I yield to a symphony of voices --
Come sit, tell us your stories
say the rocks,
until you can talk no more.*

Poem by Carla Lauren Bollinger
of Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn. & Sierra Club member
carlamamay@aol.com 818-340-7357, Mobile: 818-307-6418

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES NEWS



Picture from Environment California website

<http://www.environmentcalifornia.org/news/cae/la-mayor-signs-plastic-bag-ban-law>

GOOD NEWS!

Los Angeles Now Has a Single Use Plastic Bag Ban

By Elaine Trogman

When I was growing up in the 1950s and 60s we only had paper or cloth bags and nobody felt deprived at all. When the plastic bag crazy took hold I started using them and really didn't question why we were changing. Now I feel that was a big mistake.

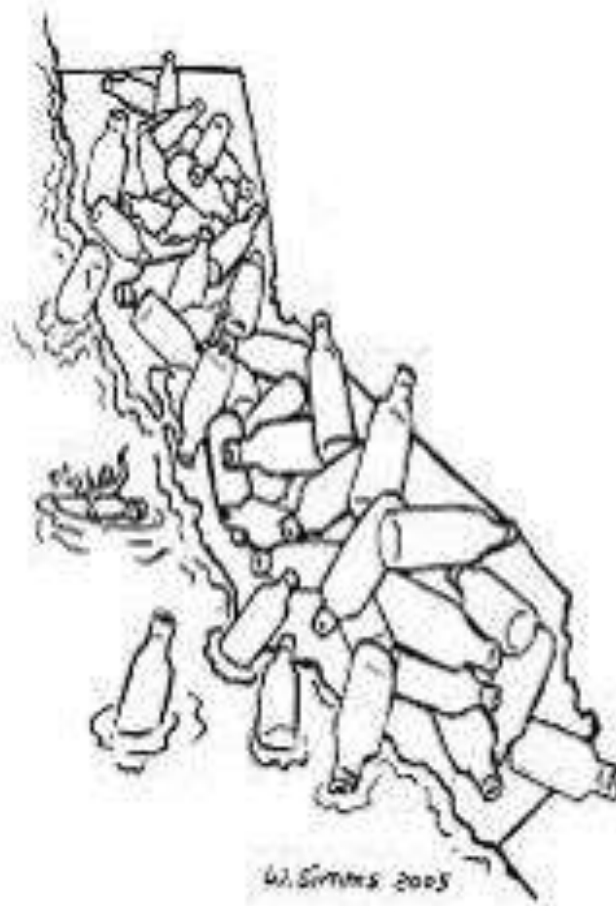
In Los Angeles listening to a supermarket clerk asking you if you want "paper or plastic" will be history and so will the practice of automatically giving you a plastic bag unless you make a different request. With only a few days left to his term, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa signed L.A.'s ban on single use plastic bags. With this historic achievement, 1 in 3 Californians now live somewhere with a plastic bag ban. With LA, 78 California cities and counties have taken action. Villaraigosa said "This will make for a cleaner, greener L.A. Every year, we use 2 billion bags. That's 5 million bags a day and only 5 percent of them are recycled. This is one more step to make us the cleanest, greenest city in the United States."

Per the L.A. Daily News, "The ban takes effect on Jan. 1, 2014, at an estimated 2,000 large markets and stores where food is sold. Another 5,000 smaller stores will be required to comply by July 1, 2014. Residents failing to bring in reusable bags can be charged up to 10 cents for each paper bag. The stores will retain that money." Many environmentally-minded people are hoping a ban in all of California will be next!

**California State Senator Padilla's wonderful short speech
on single use plastic bag elimination (see link below😊)**

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151955791448626>

Cartoon by Willis Simms



California is overflowing with plastic!

Plastics-Free Living: Beyond the Low Hanging Fruit

By Sarah (Steve) Mosko, PhD

Perhaps you already bring your own reusable grocery bags, have kicked the bottled water habit and know better than to microwave in plastics, but still find daily life swimming in plastics and want to use less of it. After recycling, the average American still generates a half pound of plastic refuse daily, a concrete indicator of how deeply entrenched are plastic materials in our 21st century lifestyle ([USEPA, 2010](#)).

Rational reasons to cut back on plastics fall into one of two spheres: limiting exposure to hazardous chemicals associated with plastics – like bisphenol-A, phthalates and flame retardants – or reducing the harm to the environment incurred at all stages in plastics' lifecycle, from extraction of the petroleum needed for manufacturing to disposal of the non-biodegradable finished products. Short of adopting a Tarzan-like jungle existence, it's probably impossible to completely eliminate plastics from modern day life, but with a little digging and shopping savvy, you can enlarge that dent in your plastics consumption. Some ideas follow.

GROCERIES: It can be daunting to find anything at conventional supermarket chains (e.g. Albertsons, Ralphs, Vons/Safeway) not packaged in plastic. Stores select inventories based on their market niche which, for conventional supermarkets, is mainstream brands that emphasize value at competitive prices. Plastic packaging is simply cheaper to produce and transport than, say, glass, so packaging choices are limited for most products.

Avoiding plastic packaging is much easier at so-called natural foods markets that serve a different market niche. They stock a plethora of brands where the manufacturer has responded to consumer interests in a healthier lifestyle and alternative packaging. Non-plastic options are available for most items storewide, many of which are also organic, though you can expect to pay more than for the mainstream brands. Here are some specifics I found perusing my local Mothers, Sprouts and Whole Foods markets.

There are anywhere from a few to many options in glass containers for common pantry items including ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, molasses, spices, nut butters, steak & barbeque sauces, vegetable oils, vinegars, fruit juices, sodas and bottled water. Many of the labels might be less familiar to mainstream shoppers, like *Cadia*, *Annie's Naturals*, *Lakewood Organic*,

and *Oogavé*. A wide assortment of vitamins and dietary supplements are sold in glass too.

Milk typically comes in plastic jugs or plastic-coated paperboard cartons. I located four brands in returnable/refillable glass bottles: *Straus Family Creamery*, *Broguiere's*, *Claravale Farm* and *Whole Foods* label. Likewise, two yogurt brands come in pint or quart glass jars, *White Mountain* and *Saint Benoit*, and the latter also offers single servings in ceramic cups. Though butter in paper or foil-wrapped sticks is commonplace, I found only one margarine brand, *Earth Balance*, in sticks instead of plastic tubs.

No matter where you shop, you'll cart away less plastic by investing in a handful of reusable bags designed for fresh produce and bulk items like nuts and dried fruits. Many washable produce bags are available on the web, made from mesh or cloth. Or, they are easy enough to sew yourself from fabric scraps.

PERSONAL HYGIENE: Natural foods stores also stock several lines of facial care products (cleansers, toners) and skin moisturizers offered in glass, like *Suki*, *John Masters Organic* and *Evanhealy*. Some cosmetics brands have committed to using glass or metal containers too. There is even a brand of deodorant sold in glass spray bottles (*Weleda*), or you can go for a deodorant bar made of Himalayan crystal salt in paperboard packaging (*Deo-Bar*). All-cotton swabs, without the plastic stick, are available too. My personally favorite find is *Eco-Dent*, a brand of dental floss offering silk floss and vegetable oil wax alternatives to mainstream nylon floss with petrochemical wax. It comes in a recyclable cardboard case.

DINING: Keep a few sets of silverware in the car's glove box for visiting eateries that serve plastic utensils, and carry reusable take-out containers in the trunk for leftovers. If frozen coffee store drinks are your weakness, keep a travel drink container handy too. When throwing parties, do like our grandmothers did, use real dishes and silverware, or at least choose service items carried at natural foods stores made from renewables, like corn starch and wheat straw.

HOME MAINTENANCE: Though powder detergents are sometimes packaged in cardboard, even environmentally friendly liquid cleaning agents are sold in plastic. However, it's quite easy to make your own cleaning supplies from simple ingredients like vinegar, baking soda and lemon. Enter "homemade cleaning products" in your search engine for recipes to tackle every household cleaning job.

When undertaking home remodeling, choose renewable materials whenever possible, like wood windows & doors, cork flooring and cellulose or cotton insulation. Be aware that plastic decking lumber can't be recycled so will eventually be landfilled.

SCHOOL AND OFFICE: Choose backpacks made of canvas over vinyl ones. Use paper lunch bags or reusable cloth totes in lieu of vinyl lunch boxes. Waxed, parchment and butcher papers are all good substitutions for plastic sandwich bags and cling wrap. The Center for Health and Environmental Justice in New York maintains extensive [online inventories](#) of non-plastic alternatives for every sort of school/office supply and where to purchase. In addition to necessities like 3-ring binders, files, organizers and address books, the listing includes some surprising options, like bamboo-cased flash drives and highlighter wood pencils. Many items are available at mainstream office supply stores.

DRIVING: A vehicle's interior plastics (dashboard and seating, e.g.) contribute to that infamous "new car smell" by off-gassing dozens of volatile chemicals, many known to be hazardous. To help car buyers avoid the biggest offenders, last year the Ecology Center in Michigan released its [latest rankings](#) of over 200 recent models. The Honda Civic and Toyota Prius were rated first and second best. Eliminating polyvinyl plastics from interior components contributed to the Civic's high status, though other plastics were substituted. So consumers might still be limited to selecting a car with safer, but not less, plastics.

The explosion of consumer plastics was an outgrowth of petroleum-based industries developed in World War II. That plastics are so durable and do not biodegrade seemed a good thing at the time, and the toxic nature of many chemicals associated with plastics was unknown. Today, the wisdom of a culture so entrenched in plastic materials is being reevaluated. While scientists continue to delineate all the health and environmental impacts of plastics, we already know that fetuses and young children are most susceptible to toxins and that plastics are amassing in even remote ocean regions. It's incumbent on us all to rethink our consumer choices and opt for materials we know are safer for our children and the rest of the planet too.



PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION NOW!

This Open Space in Studio City is being threatened by development. Please sign our petition to show elected officials that we want 100% OPEN SPACE on this property.



URGENT UPDATE ABOUT DEVELOPMENT OF STUDIO CITY'S WEDDINGTON GOLF & TENNIS

The developer is progressing with plans to build 200 condos and 635 parking spaces on this site. Help us send a strong message to elected officials that **WE WANT TO KEEP THIS PRECIOUS PATCH OF LAND 100% OPEN SPACE!**

[SIGN OUR PETITION OF SUPPORT NOW!](#)

For over 50 years this neighborhood gem along the LA River has been a beloved regional destination. Help us preserve it for future generations by [SIGNING OUR PETITION](#).

Then show your support by forwarding this email to your friends to join the effort to support 100% Open Space.

For more information visit us at www.SaveLARiverOpenSpace.org

Do not throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage. You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT.

SEE MORE PICTURES IN HIKE SECTION BELOW

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

COME TO OUR PROGRAMS AND PICK UP OUR SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES through OCT. 2013. The schedules have programs and hikes in the San Fernando Valley area.)



See programs and hikes thru OCT. 2013 from our San Fernando Valley Sierra Club website. Use this link below to start: <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfv/>

CALLING ALL HIKE LEADERS OR TRAINEES FOR

SATURDAY OR SUNDAY HIKES

Help people who work to get exercise
and learn about nature.

Call or email Gabe Szende 818-999-5384
russianstore@earthlink.net,
gabesende@yahoo.com

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

We have been receiving a number of inquiries from people who would like to enjoy the outdoors, either by climbing the mountains or walking around the city on weekends. We will be scheduling activities around the San Fernando Valley and the surrounding neighborhoods on the 3rd weekend of every month starting in March.

If you would like to join us please contact Gabe at 818-999-5384 or via e-mail at gabesende@yahoo.com for the location and time.



2013

CAR-CAMP TRIPS

August 9-11, 2013 Friday - Sunday

Grower Beach Carcamp:

O: Carcamp: Camp at a State Park in a beautiful coastal setting. You have a choice to hike, swim, bicycle or rent a kayak at the nearby beaches. Potluck a campfire on Sat evening. If you are interested please contact the leader for further information.

Leader: Gabe Sende, gabesende@yahoo.com or 818-999-5384

SATURDAY

Top of Reseda, Tarzana, SF Valley,
Third Saturdays of each month, 8:00am

Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, 2013,:

Moderate 2hr, 5 mile RT 800' elevation gain hike in the hills above Tarzana and Reseda overlooking the complete San Fernando Valley on fire road/trail composed of compacted dirt/sand and loose gravel. In the beginning and end, there will be very little shade and tree coverage with some shade in between. It is recommended that you bring sun block, wear light colored clothing/hat for daytime hiking, and a jacket for nighttime hiking, along with two quarts of water. Lug soles or athletic footwear for proper footing. Meet at 8:00am on third Saturdays of each month at trail-head at the Southern top of Reseda at the chainlink fence where the park entrance is and the paid parking begins. 3 miles South of Ventura Blvd after the sixth stop sign. Rain cancels

Hike leader: Joe Phillips 818 348-8884 Asst leader: TBD

Top of Reseda, Tarzana, EVENING SF Valley:

Call Joe Phillips 818-818-348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com for dates and times of this hike.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

TAKE A HIKE AT SEPULVEDA BASIN: Because of the plant destruction that was brought on by the Army Corp of Engineers, we are tentatively planning to conduct a public information hike around the damaged area each Sunday. If you are interested in the hike or if you are an interested hike leader

please contact Joe Phillips at 818-348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com

August 4, 2013, Sun. L.A. River Bike Path Sun:

O: Sierra Singles, SFV Come and join us on this very EASY bike ride along a "NEW" bike path in Reseda along the LA River. This 2.5 mile RT ride with a short break in the middle in a parklike picnic area. Meet on Vanalden just North of Victory Blvd. You can park on a North side street of Victory just East of Vanalden. The total ride will take about an hour and a half to complete with a break to snack on a energy bar or just hear the birds chirp. For safety, ALL bikes must be in proper working condition' riders MUST have and wear a helmet. At least one liter of water per rider is recommended. No additional bike equipment is required. We will be on a VERY safe path and will have easy access to the major cross-streets. Additionally, each rider might want to bring along some money for bus or store purchases. Rain or 95+ temperature cancels. For further info, please contact

Leader - **Joe Phillips 818 348-8884** , coleader - Sandra Tapia

August 25, 2013, Sun. Hollywood Hike thru Malibu Creek:

Come join us for great hike to the old M*A*S*H site. We will visit the original location where the TV show was filmed. The distance is between 5-6 miles with very little elevation gain. Suitable for children of all ages. Meet at 9:30 AM at the trailhead. Take the 101 Freeway to Las Virgenes Road and continue to Mullholland Drive. Meet at intersection .

Leader: Gabe Sende Call (818) 999-5384 or email at gabesende@yahoo.com.

September 8 Sun. Stair Hike in Bronson Canyon:

Shaded hillside is a 4 mile 272 steps, along hidden stair cases featuring interesting old LA. Visit a remnant of a quarry that was used as a Bat Cave entrance for the 1960's Batman TV series. Also, see the private street where Brad Pitt lives. Optional lunch after the hike. Meet at 9:30 AM at the corner of Franklin & Bronson.

Leader: **Gabe Sende** Call (818) 999-5384 or email at gabesende@yahoo.com.

Sept. 8' 2013 Sun. Bike On the Orange Line Bike Path:

O:Sierra Singles, SFV Leisure Bike Ride. Join us on this 8 – 9 mile leisure bike ride. Let's take our bikes out on this easy ride along the new Orange Line Extension Bike Path so our bikes can have a chance to spin its wheels. We'll meet 9am at the Chatsworth Amtrak/ Metrolink station, Old Depot Plaza Rd, between Devonshire St and Lassen St. This leisure ride is to Victory Blvd and back. Those that wish may catch the bus for a return ride (\$1.50) or continue on the path. Bring water, optional return bus ride money and helmet. Rain or 95 degrees+ cancels.

Leader: **Sandra Tapia** sltderamus64@yahoo.com **818.365-4571**, co-leader: **Joe Phillips 818 348-8884**



Tues, August 13, 2013 Malibu Beach Walk:
See write-up in activities below

Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

TUESDAY HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, Marcia Harris.310-828-6670,

Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w)

Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869,

Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257.

Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924,

Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873,

Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581,

Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Tues Moderate Easy Paced 4-6 Mile.
For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.
RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$5 park fee

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures
These hikes are included as a courtesy.

August 6, 2013 Bear Divide to Walker Ranch:

O: (WA) 6 mile, 1300' loss hike. We will start at the top of the San Gabriel Mtns at Bear Divide; hike the ridge to the Wilson Saddle with great views of the Valleys, then down the Los Pinetos Trail into the oaks at Walker Ranch in Placerita Cyn SP. Meet at Walker Ranch trail head parking area for car shuttle to Bear Divide at 7:30 AM. From Hwy 14 in Newhall take Placerita Cyn Rd exit and go east about 3½ miles, passing Placerita Cyn Park entrance, to dirt shoulder parking for Walker Ranch on right. Do not block gate. Rain cancels. Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

August 13 Malibu Beach Walk:

O: (WA) Low tide beach walk at Surfrider Beach and past Malibu Lagoon into the Colony. Moderately paced 4 mile, no gain walk along beach (bare feet OK) Lots of birds. We'll see how the Lagoon is recovering from all the recent work. Meet 8:00 AM at Surfrider Beach parking lot - From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd/Malibu Canyon exit, go south to Pacific Coast Hwy. Turn left (E) and go 1 ¼ mile; after crossing bridge, either park on beach side of PCH between Adamson House and Pier or enter fee lot by Adamson house. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: HERB MOORE

August 20 Trippet Ranch to Eagle Rock via Musch Trail

O: (WA) : Moderately paced 5 mile, 700' gain hike through Topanga State Park with, grasslands, oak woodlands, chaparral and coastal sage to great 360° view at Eagle Rock via the Musch Trail. Meet 8:00 AM at Trippet Ranch fee parking lot. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Topanga Canyon Blvd 7 ½ mi. south to Entrada Rd, turn left (east), and go about a mile to fee lot. Rain cancels. Leader: STEPHEN BECK Asst: VIRVE LEPS

August 27 Franklin Canyon:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile, 800' gain hike up and down a chaparral canyon, with a wonderful viewpoint of the WLA and the Pacific Ocean, then by a lake in the midst of Beverly Hills. Meet 8:00 AM at Franklin Park/Ranch parking lot. From 101 Fwy take Coldwater Canyon south 2 1/2 miles where it crosses Mulholland Drive West. Make a 90° turn onto Franklin Canyon Drive (sign reads Road Closed 800 yrds) and enter park. Pass upper parking lot at nature center, continue veering right around lake. Turn right at stop sign at bottom of lake, drive 1 mile and veer left on Lake Drive. Warning: Stop at camera monitored stop signs in park or you will be ticketed. Follow to end and park. Rain cancels.
Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: TBD



Aug 15, 2013 Trippet Ranch, Musch Trail, Eagle Rock Loop
See write-up below
Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

THURSDAY HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, Marcia Harris.310-828-6670, Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w) Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869, Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257. Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924, Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873, Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581, Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Tues Moderate Paced

**For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.
RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$5 park fee**

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures
These hikes are included as a courtesy.

August 1, 2013 Top of Reseda:

O: Summer Schedule - Moderately paced 5-8 mile hike, depending on weather, in northern Topanga State Park. Meet 7:30 AM at top of Reseda Blvd in Tarzana (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd, exit 23, turn south and go 3 miles to Mulholland Gateway Park, and park along street below the yellow line, just outside fee area). Bring plenty of water, snacks, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Aug 8 Parker Mesa:

O: Thu Moderate Hikers/ Summer Schedule – Overlook: Moderately paced 6 mile hike, 1300 feet gain, in western Topanga State Park. Meet 7:30 AM at trailhead (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Topanga Canyon Blvd south to Entrada Rd, turn left (east) and continue to fork with Colina Drive (do not turn right on Colina Road), continue straight on Colina Drive until it meets with Waveview Drive, Trippett, and Entrada Rd, and park on street). Bring plenty of water, snacks, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

Aug 15 Trippet Ranch, Musch Trail, Eagle Rock Loop:

O: Summer Schedule - Moderately paced 6 mile 1200' gain hike in Topanga State Park. Meet 7:30 AM at Trippet Ranch parking lot (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Topanga Canyon Blvd, exit 27, south to Entrada Rd, turn left (east), go about one mile making two left turns to stay on Entrada Rd, and park along Entrada Rd outside lot or pay to park in lot). Bring \$ for parking, 2 qts water, snacks, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

Aug 22 Upper Mandeville & Nike Radar Site:

O: Summer Schedule - Moderately paced 6 mile 1100 ft gain hike in upper Mandeville Canyon and to Nike missile radar site. Meet 7:30 AM at trailhead (from Ventura Blvd in Encino take Hayvenhurst Ave south about 1.8 miles, turn right (west) on Encino Hills Drive and continue about 1 more mile to beginning of dirt Mulholland Dr, or from 405 Fwy in Sepulveda pass, take Mulholland Dr, exit 61, west about 2 miles to end of pavement at Encino Hills Drive. On dirt Mulholland go about 100 yards west and park facing white posts). Bring plenty of water, snacks, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: REAVEN GATELY

Aug 29 Orange and Red Lines, Ed's Downtown:

O: (WA) Ed Rosenthal will show us around his territory in downtown Los Angeles, visiting historic places as well as new developments. Meet 8 AM at the Sepulveda Orange Line ticket vending machines. Entrance to large free parking lot is on Erwin St, west of Sepulveda Blvd and north of Oxnard St. Bring water, hat, sunscreen, TAP card (or purchase for \$1) and money for bus/Metro (check www.mta.net/around/fares for latest info) and a cafe lunch. Contact a leader if you prefer to board elsewhere.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, MARGARET VERNALLIS

King Gillette Ranch



King Gillette Ranch
See write-up on activities below
Photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour

King Gillette Ranch Directions & Info.

From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd/Malibu Canyon exit, go south approx. 3.5 miles to Mulholland Hwy. Turn left on Mulholland and then right to enter the long eucalyptus alleé driveway for Ranch.

Parking

Visit the King Gillette Ranch Visitor Center & Store Free Parking for 2 hours
Other Ranch parking is \$7.00. (There is an iron ranger at the parking lot entrance where visitors can pick up an envelope and make their payments.) All programs and activities are free unless stated on the event write-up.

Allow time to visit the Visitor Center and Store & take a hike.

The visitor center is a very enjoyable experience with a lot of hands on exhibits regarding the Santa Monica Mountains. There is, also, a fun short hike up a hill with great views in all directions. The photo above was taken from this hill.

King Gillette Interpretive Programs & Misc **Western National Parks Assn. events at King Gillette Ranch**

Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center & Store
26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas, CA 91302 Open 9 – 5 Daily
Event Info/Reservations: 805-370-2302 General Info: 805-370-2301

Questions for these events below contact **Sophia Wong, Store & Events Manager**
Western National Parks Association
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
King Gillette Ranch
26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas CA 91302
805-370-2302 direct/ 805-370-2301 general, 818-880-6550 fax
samo@wnpa.org, www.wnpa.org

Below are Western National Parks Assn./National Park Service events at King Gillette Ranch

[Wild Creatures of the Chaparral Hike](#)

Sun, Aug 11 3 – 5 pm

From bobcats to darkling beetles, King Gillette Ranch provides habitat for a wide range of wildlife. Take an easy to moderate loop hike with 300' gain and learn a bit about the wildlife that makes the Ranch its home. Bring water and sunscreen, wear appropriate footwear.

[Tom Harrison, Cartographer – “Tom Harrison Maps”](#)

Sat, Aug 17 - 10 am & 2 pm. And Sun, Aug 18 – 10 am in Newbury Park - Satwiwa, Rancho Sierra Vista

Noted cartographer Tom Harrison discusses map making & the 500 miles of trails in the Santa Monica Mountains, each of which he has hiked/biked. Reservations required/Limited seating. Call 805-370-2302 Meet inside the Visitor Center.

[Craft Workshop “Chaparral’s Toy Store: Games of Skills & Thrills”](#)

Sat, Aug 31 – 9 am - 11 am

Games will be played & made at this fun workshop. Join local artist, naturalist, storyteller & instructor Peter Rice in crafting games from natural materials. Ideal for families, teachers, docents, and nature enthusiasts. Recommended age 8+. Material fee \$10 per participant. Reservations required/Limited participation. Call 805-370-2302 Meet inside the Visitor Center.

[Seth Riley, Wildlife Ecologist – Lecture & Book Signing “Urban Carnivores: Ecology, Conflict & Conservation”](#)

Sat, September 7 1 – 3 pm

National Park Service wildlife ecologist and author Seth Riley discusses the state of mountain lions, bobcats, and other carnivores of the Santa Monica Mountains. Book signing follows. Reservations recommended. Call 805-370-2302 Meet at the King Gillette Ranch Auditorium

[Exploring the Lives of the Slithery & Scaly](#) Sun, Sept 15 3 – 5 pm

Slithery, scaly, and often feared, these creatures are actually quite cool! Reptiles and amphibians come in a variety of sizes and colors and are adapted to our Mediterranean ecosystem. Easy to moderate 1-mile, 300' gain hike with views. Bring water and sunscreen; wear appropriate footwear. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

[Outdoor Skills Workshop – Introduction to Tracking: Sign & Awareness](#)

Sat, Oct 5 - 9:30 am – 12 noon

Join in fun, free, inspiring outdoor workshops and gain some new outdoor skills! Learn tracking skills covering the 7 track "signs" plus track ID, gaits and patterns, and trailing. Class includes awareness techniques and activities in how to "see" substantially more wildlife. Great for adults and children age 9 and older. Reservations required. Call 805-370-2302 Meet inside the Visitor Center.

[Live Reptile & Amphibian Exhibition](#)

Sun, October 6 10 am – 3 pm

Get up close & personal with live reptiles and amphibians from the Santa Monica Mountains as well as those from distant lands, presented by members of the Southwestern Herpetologists Society. Programs throughout the day will cover herpetological themes. 10 am Opening Ceremony led by Chumash elder Mati Waiya begins in the Visitor Center Courtyard.

[Vulture Verses: Love Poems for the Unloved](#)

Mon, Nov 11 – 2:00 – 2:45 pm

Great family fun for all ages! Join award winning children’s author and naturalist Diane Lang as she reads her book *Vulture Verses*, winner of The Children’s Book Review Award and PubWest Book Design Award, and shows off her collection of less-loved animals. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

[Medicinal Plant Hike](#)

Sat, Dec 7 10 am – 12 noon

Join author and professor James Adams, PhD, of the USC School of Pharmacy as he leads a medicinal plant hike. Adams, who was trained in Chumash healing, will present traditional recipes for making healing medicines. Please bring your questions regarding pharmacology and toxicity concerns with plant medicines. Co-author of *Healing with Medicinal Plants of the West*, Adams will be available to sign his book after the hike. Reservations required. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

King-Gillette Interpretive Programs & Misc

Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA) events at King-Gillette Park sponsors the events below:

These programs below are a project of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in cooperation with Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, California State Parks, and National Park Service. Come visit their visitor center at King Gillette Ranch.

**If you have questions on these programs below call: (818) 878-0866 x228 RAIN CANCELS \$7.00 parking
26800 Mulholland Hwy. Calabasas, CA 91302**

August 2nd at 9:30am

Rise from the Ashes

Explore the effects of fire on the Santa Monica Mountains through a hike to Inspiration Point. Discover the ways plants and animals recover from fire. Meet at the fountain at the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center. 1 hour. Sponsored by the MRCA and NPS.

Sat, August 3rd at 10am

Innovation in the Golden Era

King Gillette Ranch was home to early MGM Director Clarence Brown, who made films and threw star-studded parties. Take a story-filled walk through this still active filming location. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 1.5 hours.

Tues, August 6th at 7pm

Evening Campfire (Last campfire of the summer.)

Loosen your marshmallow-roasting arm, pack up the family, and join us for an evening around the campfire. Follow the signs to the outdoor amphitheater. 1.5 hours

Sat, August 10th at 1pm

Stroll Through the Seasons

Enjoy a gentle walk through the native plant garden, where we will observe how plants and animals change with the seasons. Meet inside the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center. 30 minutes.

Sat, August 17th at 10am

Walk into the Chumash World

Discover how local Chumash Indians have used the natural resources of their environment for thousands of years to create a sustainable way of life. Easy 1 mile walk. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 2 hours.

Sat, September 7th at 10am

Innovation in the Golden Era

King Gillette Ranch was home to early MGM Director Clarence Brown, who made films and threw star-studded parties. Take a story-filled walk through this still active filming location. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 1.5 hours.

Sat, September 14th at 9:30am

Rise from the Ashes

Explore the effects of fire on the Santa Monica Mountains through a hike to Inspiration Point. Discover the ways plants and animals recover from fire. Meet at the fountain at the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center. 1 hour. Sponsored by the MRCA and NPS.

Sat, September 14th at 1pm

Stroll Through the Seasons

Enjoy a gentle walk through the native plant garden, where we will observe how plants and animals change with the seasons. Meet inside the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center. 30 minutes.

Sat, September 21st at 10am

Walk into the Chumash World

Discover how local Chumash Indians have used the natural resources of their environment for thousands of years to create a sustainable way of life. Easy 1 mile walk. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 2 hours.

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