

The Conservancy NEWS



Newsletter of Antelope Valley Conservancy, Issue 13, May 2010

Earth Day Cleanup

The 16th Annual Earth Day Cleanup fell on a glorious spring day, and 33 volunteers came to remove trash from the Saddleback Butte State Park and Alpine Butte Wildflower Sanctuary. They filled both dumpsters to the brim. Thank you to all the volunteers who attended. Your work is appreciated! Thank you Lockheed Martin for sponsoring Earth Day every year! The work of 33 volunteers for three hours equals one person working full-time for 2½ weeks.



David Numer, of Los Angeles County Parks, brought a Mojave Green rattlesnake (in a cage) for volunteers to see.



Obviously, one person really CAN make a difference!



Endangered Species Day Conference

Antelope Valley College
Saturday May 22, 2010

Featuring "NATURE AND THE ARTS"

Antelope Valley Conservancy will honor the fifth national observance of Endangered Species Day with an expanded format. Officials who represent federal, state and local agencies with responsibility for



imperiled species in our area will be joined by distinguished photographers, artists, and writers, who will discuss nature's influence on art, and the Antelope Valley places that inspire them. Presentations are followed by Q&A.



General admission \$10, available online or by phone 661.943.9000. Seating is limited. This promises to be a hot ticket. Bring a bag lunch if you like.

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BY



Earth Day at Edwards AFB, May 4

The date for Earth Day at Edwards has changed to Wednesday, May 4th, 10 am to 2 pm. Celebrate the 40th anniversary of Earth Day at the Center of Excellence, 100 Payne Avenue. Dozens of fun activities for the whole family, live music by Blue Mountain Tribe. RSVP to Environmental Management at (661) 277-1410.

"Splendid Views, Blended Hues" Lakes & Valleys Art Gallery

One of our volunteers, nature artist Ellie Korn, is being featured with Kim Winberry in a show May 1st through May 30th at the Lakes & Valleys Art Gallery. Artists' Reception May 1st, noon to 4 p.m., 43751 Lake Hughes Road, Lake Hughes 93532. See http://avconservancy.org/Splendid_Views.pdf for info.

Photo Exhibit on the Water Crisis

The Annenberg Space for Photography in Century City is presenting an environmentally oriented exhibit examining the precarious state of the world's fresh water. Coinciding with *National Geographic's* special issue "Water: Our Thirsty World," a series of stunning photographs explores topics ranging from California's gamble on water supplies to the spiritual aspects of water in numerous cultures to its role in Middle East politics.

Through June 13, 2010, at The Annenberg Space for Photography, 2000 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067. FREE admission, Wed-Sun 11 am – 6 pm. (213) 403-3000.

www.annenbergpaceforphotography.org

Distemper found, vaccinate now

by Valerie Zera



The Los Angeles Public Health Department has found raccoons carrying distemper in Palos Verdes, Griffith Park, metro Los Angeles, and in the foothills near Pasadena. This viral disease readily passes to foxes, skunks, coyotes, and dogs, affecting neurologic and respiratory systems. Distemper can be deadly.

There was an outbreak in Northern California last year, and now it is our turn to be on the alert. Be sure to vaccinate your dogs against distemper, and keep pet food out of reach of wildlife!

Environmental review ordered for feral cat program

By Dan Silver, President, Endangered Habitats League

In a legal victory for the Endangered Habitats League and its allies, the City of Los Angeles must stop promoting the release of feral cats into the environment pending review under CEQA.

Large colonies of feral cats—that people feed—pose a building threat to urban and suburban wildlife, particularly birds. Cats hunt irrespective of being fed, and are estimated to kill millions of birds every year in the United States.

Under the City's Trap-Neuter-Release program, stray cats are rounded up, neutered, and released into parks, private backyards, and neighborhoods. Studies show TNR does not work.



As a result of successful litigation by Urban Wildlands Group, American Bird Conservancy, three Los Angeles-area Audubon Society chapters, and EHL, alternatives, impacts and potential mitigations will now have to be explored for any City of Los Angeles TNR activities under the California Environmental Quality Act.

This is progress for a broader view of compassion and for the nearby wild animals that need our stewardship.



15th annual
BICYCLE RIDE DAY

GEORGE LANE PARK
SATURDAY
MAY 15, 2010

Antelope Valley
conservancy

Miles without stops



Ride the Aqueduct



Vistas and Challenges

FREE ACTIVITIES

11 AM TO 3 PM
NO REGISTRATION -- JUST RIDE BY

OBSTACLE COURSE
RIDE WITH A DEPUTY
HELMET FIT CHECKS
BIKE SAFETY DEMO
FREE INFORMATION
FUN PRIZES
MUSIC and FOOD
and MORE!



BRING A PAIR of
CLEAN, DRY
SNEAKERS
TO RECYCLE,
GET A COOL
NIKE BUTTON



GEORGE LANE PARK
5520 WEST AVENUE L-8, QUARTZ HILL, CA

FUN RIDES

20- 30- and 60-mile ANTELOPE VALLEY RIDES

Offering Aqueduct riding this year
(A) 20-mile 'Pedal for Petals'
(+1167 ft). A challenging climb,
scenic ride, downhill return.
**(B) 30-mile 'Nature Is Your
Neighbor Ride'** (+2350 ft) or
**(C) 60-mile 'Three Points
Mountains Majesty'** (+3700 ft)
B and C rides include strenuous
climbs, for experienced riders
only. Course through lakes
communities, downhill returns
with normal wind to back.

REGISTER NOW --

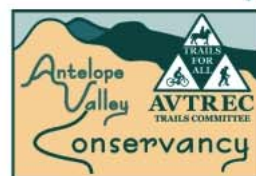
register online @
BikeReg.com

ANTELOPE VALLEY RIDE \$35,
includes water, food stops, route
slips, sweep truck, and lunch.

For information, contact
**ANTELOPE VALLEY
CONSERVANCY**
(661) 943-9000
avconservancy.org



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Volunteer opportunities



Interested in learning new skills? Do you need community service hours? **The Environmental Management Volunteer Program** is looking for

volunteers with base access. The application is posted at <https://bsx.edwards.af.mil>. Click Environmental Management, then Volunteering Opportunities.

The Foothill Grassroots Committee Angeles National Forest Station Fire Re-forestation Project

also needs volunteers, to help replant the San Bernardino and Angeles National Forest Burn areas. Train to be a Reforestation Leader to plant 25,000 seedlings in spring 2011. Contact dtankersley@treepeople.org.



Or, volunteer for replanting near Big Bear. Contact Dianne Erskine-Hellrigel at zuliebear@aol.com.



Known for its airport shuttles, Antelope Express also offers a variety of tours throughout the year, leaving from the Antelope Valley.

Pirates Dinner Adventure (May 2), Dodgers (May 9), Solvang Overnighter (May 23-24), San Manuel Indian Casino (June 2), Canyonlands (Grand Canyon, Bryce, Mesquite and Zion, June 7-11), Whiskey Pete's (June 16-18), Dana Point 4th of July, Colorado Belle (July 9-11), San Diego (July 28-29), Knott's Berry Farm (August 10), and more.

For information, call Lisa Hayes (661) 947-2529.

Fairmont Buttes Race Track

Two dozen Antelope Valley residents made the trip to the Hall of Records on March 24, to speak at the continued meeting of the County of Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission.



Photo: Rick Dickey

After hearing the testimony, the Commissioners continued the hearing to Wednesday, June 9, and asked the project proponent to satisfy concerns about noise, clarify uses of the helipad, and clarify whether operations will be public or private. If you are interested in carpooling to the June meeting, contact Dean Webb (661) 948.4123, LDWEBBO@AOL.COM.

Locavores love Ben's Corner

By Ellie Korn

Being a locavore can be difficult when you are shopping in your local supermarket. Ben's Corner, at 710 West Avenue L, can help.

This local produce store focuses on obtaining the best tasting fruits and vegetables. When they can, they buy locally because as they say, "The best tasting produce is local." Since they focus on taste, you will find produce that is perfectly ripe but might not be perfectly formed.

They have labels over their produce to tell you the place of origin, so you can make an informed choice about how far you want your produce to travel.

Ben's Corner has a butcher shop on the premises, and bakery goods come from Anna's Bakery, across the railroad tracks.

On Wednesdays, seniors receive a 10% discount.



Bring a pair, get a button: NIKE Reuse-A-Shoe

Antelope Valley Conservancy is conducting a NIKE Reuse-A-Shoe athletic shoe recycling. Since 1990, NIKE has recycled over 21 millions pairs of athletic shoes into playground surfacing.

- Athletic shoes only (any brand)
- Clean, dry shoes only
- No cleats or metal

Saturday, May 15, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Bicycle Ride Day at George Lane Park

5520 West Avenue L-8, Quartz Hill

For information call (661) 943-9000



Aren't you goodsearching for AV Conservancy yet?

It's this easy: just go to GoodSearch.com, type 'AV Conservancy'. That's it. Cost to you is zero. Yahoo donates a penny for every search you make. It's easy, pennies add up. So start using it today. Don't forget !!!



Please, your help is needed !

SUSTAINING ENDOWMENT

It is a shame that we have to turn away donations of habitat lands. The conservancy must build the Sustaining Endowment to enable us to accept more land donations. Please send a check, donate through the DONATE NOW button on our website, or call for more information, call 661.943.9000.

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

Ryan Ananko
 Juan Blanco
 Stephen Chopp
 Stephen Citron
 Barbara Crane
 Haley Dowling
 Holly Dowling
 Wendy Horn
 Jack Isonaki
 Ellie Korn
 Louise Levin
 Jessica Miconi
 Marvin Marquez
 Jared Marquez
 Carolyn Mitchell
 Harry Mitchell
 Amanda Mitchell
 Debra Nichols
 John Nichols
 David Numer
 Jonathon Numer
 Ryan Paul
 Sean Ponso
 Wendal Reed
 Wendy Reed
 Larry Rinkenberger
 Christopher Rinkenberger
 Nigel Rosenberg
 LeAnn Ryan
 Steve Ryan
 Yvonne Slate
 Clayton Stage
 Richard Weyhelm

THANK YOU, DONORS!

Carolyn Mitchell



Your help is really needed NOW!

Please send a contribution now, or
use the DONATE NOW button on our web site

**YES! I want to preserve habitats, watershed resources, and trails with
my contribution of: \$ _____**

Name: _____

Address (if changed from label): _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email (please print clearly): _____

Please provide newsletter by email by US mail no newsletter

My employer _____ has a match program.

THANK YOU!

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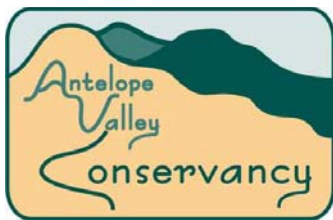
www.avconservancy.org.
Wendy Reed, Editor

The Conservancy News incorporates
the AVTREC On Track Newsletter

Subscriptions available
via email or US Mail

TIME REMAINING: 17 YEARS

According to the Land Trust Alliance, lands preserved in the next 17 years will be the last lands preserved on earth. This work is critically important to our future, our planet, our community. Your help is critically important. Thank you for your interest and support.



Antelope Valley Conservancy
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Quartz Hill, CA 93586-0133

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TWO GREAT EVENTS! COME SUPPORT THE CONSERVANCY!



SEE YOU THERE!