

VOLUNTEER TODAY

Dedicate Yourself to Caring for the Land and Serving the People

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/angeles/workingtogether/volunteering>

Los Angeles River Ranger District Volunteer Newsletter Mar 2017

Trail Maintenance in Chaparral Forests

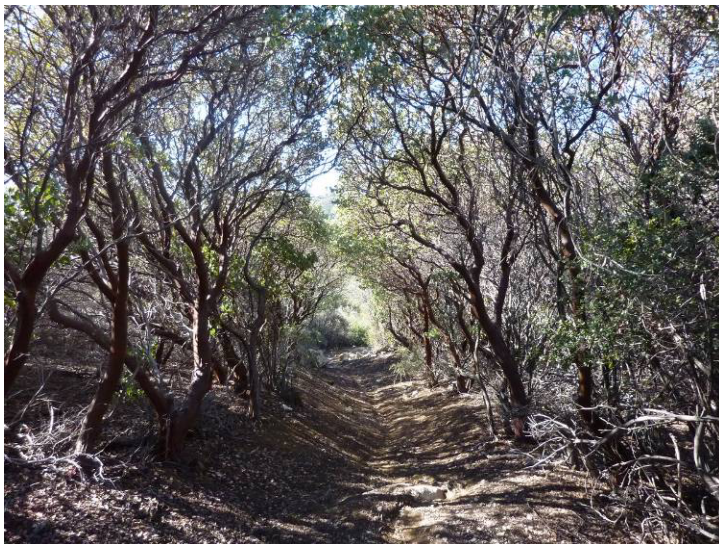
A Guide for Volunteers

Part 1 of 3

Alan Coles

The Forest Service provides us a lot of very useful information on how to build and properly maintain our trails. Much of it comes from Montana and is written for western pine forests. Our chaparral forests are unique to our region and finding good information on maintaining trails is difficult, so I thought it might be helpful to share what I have learned in my 30 years of leading volunteers in fire recovery areas. This is the first of many articles I plan to write.

It is important to understand that all of our chaparral forest are in some stage of fire recovery whether just a few weeks or over 40 years. There is always some succession of plants occurring. It is very noticeable immediately after a fire as long suppressed seeds spring to life in a burst of new growth. We love the wildflowers that bloom profusely but dread the noxious poodle dog plant (*Eriodictyon parryi*).



Areas that have not burned in a long time often have a tall canopy that blocks out light and only modest work is required to maintain the trail. There are areas that have not burned in over 100 years and they can be spectacular to visit.

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The clearest way into the Universe is through a forest wilderness.

-John Muir

Electronic copy of Newsletter at:

<http://www.mtlowe.co/VolunteerNews.htm>

Trail Maintenance in Chaparral Forests (cont)

Many of us become involved in trail maintenance after a major fire burned an area that we enjoyed hiking or biking in. The new growth inundates the trail, trees fall and block the path and water washing off denuded hillsides erodes away the tread. It can seem hopeless at times with the meager resources available to help repair trails, so it is important to remember that the area will recover and with good planning the work load will be reduced year after year.

Immediate Work after a Fire

The importance of starting recovery work as soon as possible after a fire cannot be emphasized enough. The problem is that land managers are reluctant to allow volunteers into these areas due to hazards from falling debris and trees. Start by having a plan and present well thought out details of your recovery efforts. Emphasize your experience. Explain that you will wear proper protective equipment and always use a radio and go into and out of service. It may help to bring along a very well respected and experienced trail builder (this worked for me in the Cleveland National Forest).

The first task is to flag the original tread. Get good quality flagging ribbon, not the cheap stuff sold at home improvement stores. Place it as high as possible at clearly visible distances. It is likely that many of the branches to which the ribbon is attached will eventually fall down or come off so be generous.

If the area has already spouted new growth, the original tread may be difficult to locate. Find parts of the original tread and flag them. By using line of sight between flags, search for other parts of the trail and continue flagging until there is a reasonable distance between flags. The greater density of new growth, the closer the flags will need to be placed.

Repairing a washed out tread is one of the most difficult tasks of trail recovery. Construct water bars as soon as possible. The steeper the slope of the trail, the greater the need for more water diversion. It is not necessary to build textbook examples of water bars as most will be temporary. Shore up existing ones which will be carrying much more water than they were designed to handle.

It is very important to retain the original tread as much as possible. Generally volunteers are allowed to do level 1 and 2 trail maintenance which involves clearing brush and light tread work. If a trail needs to be rerouted and new tread established (level 3) then an Environmental Analysis (EA) will likely be required. This document requires a Forest Archeologist to survey for cultural artifacts, a Botanist to look for endangered plants and a Biologist to check nesting sites of endangered fauna. It is a very time consuming and expensive process which the Forest Service will be reluctant to perform without a compelling justification.

PART 2 TO BE CONTINUED IN APRIL 2017

Blast from the Past

Date: Jun 6, 1965

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Car Stickers Will Save Money for Most Angeles Forest Campers

For those whose summer plans include frequent use of campgrounds and picnic facilities in the national forests, the new nation-wide Conservation Recreation car sticker will save money.

William T. Dresser, supervisor of the Angeles National Forest, said the \$7 sticker allows everyone in each car to use those areas designated for fees.

Daily fees for those without the car sticker will be 50 cents per person per day for camping, and 25 cents per person per day for picnicking. For those picnicking in a campground the 50-cent rate will apply. All persons under the age of 16 years are admitted free.

Already designated as fee areas in the Angeles National Forest are the following campsites: Buckhorn, Table Mountain, Coldbrook, Manker, and Cottonwood.

Designated fee areas effective June 19 are: Switzer, Chilao, Valley Forge, Millard, Crystal Lake, Vogel Flat, Live Oak, Oak Flat, South Portal, Little Rock, South Fork and Lake.

On July 1, other campsites to begin a fee charge include Charlton, Chantry Flats, Little Dalton, and Lakeside Picnic Area.

Daily tickets for each area can be purchased from ticket machines installed at the entrance to each campground or picnic area.

Car Stickers may be purchased at most Forest Ranger Stations or by mail through postal money orders made out to "Forest Service USDA," and sent to the Angeles National Forest Headquarters, 1015 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena.

Dresser said the fee areas include only about half of campgrounds and picnic areas in the forest and balance are open without charge.

The new car sticker is provided for the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, Money from the sale of the stickers will be used national-wide for recreation development, acquisition, and planning by individual states, and by federal agencies for acquisition of recreation areas.

BLAST FLASH FORWARD!

The United States' Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a Federal program that was established by Act of Congress in 1965 to provide funds and matching grants to federal, state and local governments for the acquisition of land and water, and easements on land and water, for the benefit of all Americans. The main emphases of the fund are recreation and the protection of national natural treasures in the forms of parks and protected forest and wildlife areas. The LWCF has a broad-based coalition of support and oversight, including the National Parks Conservation Association, Environment America, The Wilderness Society, the Land Trust Alliance, and the Nature Conservancy.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund owes its birth to forces in American society unleashed after World War II. From the end of the war into the 1950s, the United States witnessed a swift expansion in the demand for outdoor recreation.

Congress tapped four sources of revenue to fund the program: the sale of surplus federal property (\$50 million yearly); an existing motor boat fuel tax (\$30 million annually); a new system of entrance and recreation user fees at national parks and on other federal lands (up to \$65 million a year); and annual appropriations of \$60 million a year for eight years that were to be paid back.

Because the user fees never raised more than \$16 million in the early years, Congress bolstered the original funding sources in 1968 by including a portion of federal revenue from offshore oil and gas drilling, which has become the key funding source for the LWCF. Congress saw its use of offshore drilling revenue as a means to recycle money from a depleting natural resource to rejuvenate other natural resources. The program's authorized funding level was increased to \$200 million a year in 1968, \$300 million in 1970 and \$900 million in 1977.

The interagency user fee system was repealed on April 1, 1970

To read about the future of the program go to:

<http://elq.typepad.com/currents/2016/05/congress-must-act-to-fully-fund-the-land-and-water-conservation-fund.html>

DON'T FORGET!!



**First day of spring: 20th March at 3:29 a.m.
(PDT)**

Spring forward

Don't forget to set
clocks ahead
one hour
at 2 a.m.
Sunday.



Daylight Savings Time March 12th (PDT)

**LARRD Volunteer Meeting
March 15th, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

**701 N Santa Anita Ave.
Arcadia, CA 91006**



LEARN TO LEAD



TRAIL BOSS Training 2017 Become a USFS approved Trail Boss Supervise Trail Maintenance for your group. (Great Eagle Projects!)

Let us train you and other adults in your group so that you are qualified to do Trail Surveys and set up projects and complete them on your own.

Purpose:

To provide properly trained personal with the ability to supervise either “Trail Blazing” or “Forest Conservation” program projects at the unit level.

All Trail Bosses will be trained by USFS Personnel or their approved Trail Boss Trainer.

Requirements:

Must be 18 or older.

Complete 4 days of 6 hours each in training exercises with the Trail Boss Program.

Conduct an approved Weekend project. Minimum 10 hours with your unit. (or another unit) under your supervision, and have it checked out by the Trail Boss trainer.

(Training days do not have to be consecutive days, weeks, or even years).

Training objectives are: Tool Safety, Condition Survey, Brush Clearing, Tread Work, French Drains, Soil Sacks, Water Bars, Switchback Construction, Tread Support, Etc.

Bring: Gloves, Hat, Water and Lunch, 10 essentials, Day pack, Work clothes.

Available training days in 2017 are: March 4-5. Apr. 22-23. May. 6-7.

Call to confirm training day for yourself. (Course cancels if no calls)

**We Meet at the McDonald’s at Bouquet Canyon Rd. and Valencia Blvd. in Valencia
at 8:00 AM**

Contact:

**Patrick Aubuchon, Chief Trail Boss.
818-781-7465 - bigaub@sbcglobal.net**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

☞ Do you love the forest?

☞ Do you love to teach children?

If so, here is a great volunteer opportunity!!!

The San Gabriel Mountains Heritage Association (SGMHA) is seeking volunteer educators for our school-based field trip program. This established program serves schools throughout the San Gabriel Valley at facilities at the Mt. Baldy Visitor Center and the San Gabriel Canyon Environmental Education Center. Volunteer educators are trained to teach various hands-on programs for school classes that range from K - 12 and include subjects such as Native American studies, Geology, California Gold Rush, Plant ID, Water Ecology, Local History, Environmental Conservation, and the forest's flora and fauna.



Prior teaching experience is not required. Volunteer commitment is flexible but we are looking for volunteers who are willing to learn the program and participate throughout the school year.

***Volunteer and make a difference
for our children and for our forest!!***

If interested please contact:

Dave Baumgartner

Program Manager

909 982-2879 or 626 241-6407

email: info@sgmha.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



THE CITY OF GLENDALE
Community Services & Parks Department

Heart of Gold Workday (Third Saturday Wilderness Workday)

Heart of Gold: to be generous, sincere, and friendly; to be extremely kind and helpful

This phrase defines our Wilderness Workday Volunteers. They have come out month after month for the past seven years to help with park restoration projects.



Volunteers have been generous with their time and skills to plant trees, remove invasive weeds, water trees, and provide trail maintenance. They have a great attitude and are willing to take on any

task. If you possess a "Heart of Gold" and wish to show it... join us for a morning in the Great Outdoors as we water the existing trees and remove the invasive plants. Everyone can help (even those with a "heart made of stone").

◆ **WHEN:**

Sat. March 18, 2017
8:00 a.m. - Noon



◆ **WHERE:**

Deukmejian
Wilderness Park
3429 Markridge Rd
Glendale, Ca 91214

◆ **WHAT:**

Snacks and drinks will be provided
Wear sturdy shoes, a hat, and protective clothing

Bring your water bottle, sun screen, and gloves

◆ **MORE:**

Call (818) 548-3795

Հայերեն տեղեկությունների համար զանգահարել

հետևյալ հեռախոսահամարով (818) 548-2000

Para información en español, llame a (818) 548-2000

Sponsored By:



REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE MADE UPON REQUEST.
PLEASE NOTIFY US WITHIN 72 HRS PRIOR TO EVENT DATE.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED



THE CITY OF GLENDALE
Community Services & Parks Department

March Riverwalk Workday (on the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk)

◆ WHEN:

Sat. March 11, 2017
8:00 a.m. - Noon

◆ WHERE:

Glendale Narrows
Riverwalk
300 Paula Ave.
Glendale, CA 91201
(corner of Paula Ave
& Garden St)

◆ WANT MORE

Call us at
(818) 548-3795

Everyone must sign
a waiver prior to
working. Minors
must provide a
waiver signed by a
parent or guardian.

Join our March workday as we weed and maintain the landscaped areas along the L.A. River in the City of Glendale.



Participants are asked to wear sturdy shoes, protective clothing, long pants, hat and sun protection. We will provide the tools, gloves, drinks and snacks, but if possible bring, gloves, water bottle and hand clippers. Families, individuals, groups, clubs, and students needing service hours are encouraged to attend.



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հեռոնյալ հեռախոսահամարով (818) 548-2000

Para información en español, llame a (818) 548-2000

Sponsored By:

GLENDALE PARKS &
OPEN SPACE
FOUNDATION



VOLUNTEER NEEDED



The Mount Wilson Race
It looks like the Mount Wilson Trail will need a lot of help to be ready for race day on May 27.

We will need more volunteers on maintenance days this year.

Contact: Pete Siberell at
psiberell@santaanita.com

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Folks,

I have scheduled the following training classes for 2017:
All classes are open to volunteers and employees
Maximum of 10 students per class for CPR/AED/1st Aid

CPR/AED/1st Aid
April 21, 2017
0900 to 1600
Arcadia Training Center

Basic Radio Training
April 25, 2017
0900 to 1100
Arcadia Training Center Pavilion)

I would be happy to arrange classes on your district. Let me know what you need. Remember, I can only take 10 students per class for CPR/AED/1st Aid.

Tracy McGuff
Training Officer

Forest Service
Angeles National Forest

p: 661-912-6889
tmcguff@fs.fed.us

701 N. Santa Anita Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91006
www.fs.fed.us

Caring for the land and serving people

VOLUNTEERS TRAINING



THE CITY OF GLENDALE
Community Services & Parks Department

Medicinal Plants of the West

with **Dr. James Adams, USC School of Pharmacy**
Co-author of "Healing with Medicinal Plants of the West-
Cultural and Scientific Basis for Their Use"

◆ **WHEN:**

Sat. March 25, 2017
9:00 a.m. - Noon

◆ **WHERE:**

Deukmejian
Wilderness Park
3429 Markridge Rd
Glendale, CA 91214

◆ **WHAT:**

Wear sturdy shoes
and protective
clothing. Bring water,
sunscreen, and a hat

◆ **R.S.V.P.**

Space is limited and
this hike always fills
up. You must call us
at (818) 548-3795 to
reserve your place

Topics to be discussed on the trail:

- Ways that the Chumash Indians use native plants as medicine
- The role that these plants play in everyday healthcare
- Tips on where to purchase and how to grow your own medicinal plants



Mexican Elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*)

This will be a fast paced hike on a moderately steep trail with many stops to discuss the plants and their uses

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հեռոկյալ հեռախոսահամարով (818) 548-2000

Para información en español, llame a (818) 548-2000

Sponsored By:

GLENDALE PARKS &
OPEN SPACE
FOUNDATION



CHAINSAW TRAINING AND RE-CERTIFICATION

Greg Stenmo has recertified and is tentatively planning to hold chainsaw training and re-certification for volunteers the weekends of 3/11-3/12 and 3/18-3/19.

The classroom instruction will be at Little T (Training Center) and the cutting location will be at Charlton Flat PA.

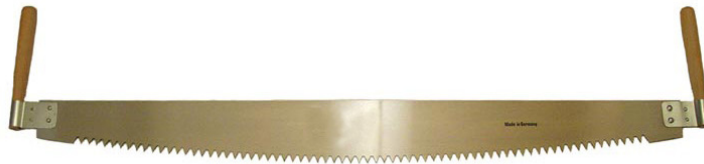
Greg will reconfirm with Chris St. Pierre and will get the particulars of the training (class start time and support personnel assigned) to Chris Fabbro and myself.

I am sending these proposed dates out to our volunteers so we can start building a roster and work on the re-certification cards.

All volunteers who wish to take the training **MUST** have a valid Volunteer Agreement and current CPR/First Aid card in hand, and Greg will need copies of them.

Please contact Chris Fabbro if you are interested in signing-up for the training – cfabbro@fs.fed.us / (626) 335-1251 (W) or (626) 698-8517 (C).

CROSSCUT SAW TRAINING AND RE-CERTIFICATION



WHEN: March 4-5

Contact: Chris Fabbro @ cfabbro@fs.fed.us

VOLUNTEERS AT WORK



Lauren removing boulders
on the Mt Lowe Road

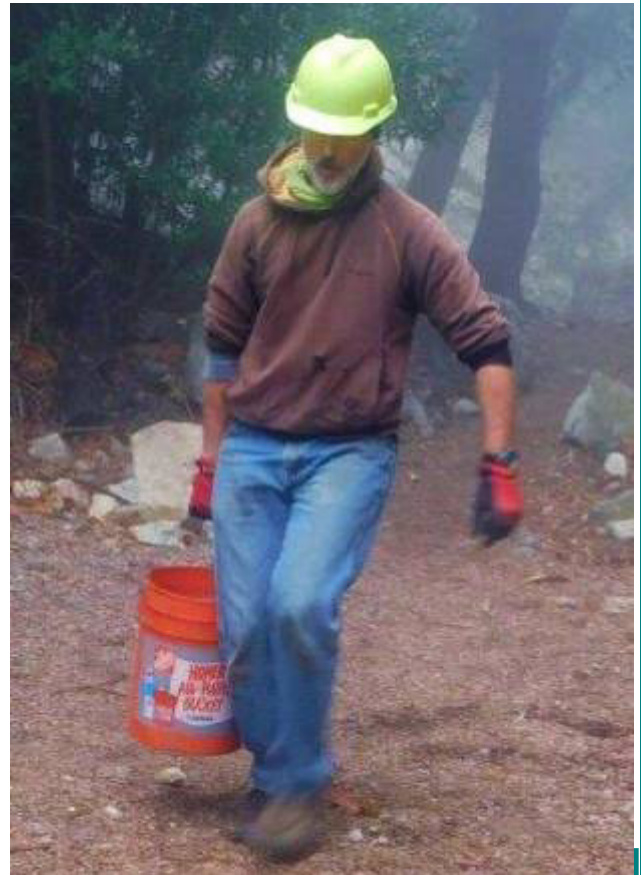
Photo by Brenda Beck

VOLUNTEERS AT WORK



Mike McGuire cleaning up trash

Photo by Robin McGuire



Dave Baumgartner bringing fill for a rock step on the Dawn Mine Trail

Photo by Brenda Beck



Volunteers learning first aid under the leadership of Tom & Patty Dwyer

Photo by the McGuire's





WHAT A DIFFERENCE IN THE DROUGHT

FOR THE LATEST DROUGHT CONDITION NEWS

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

Intensity:

 D0 (Abnormally Dry)

 D2 (Severe Drought)

 D4 (Exceptional Drought)

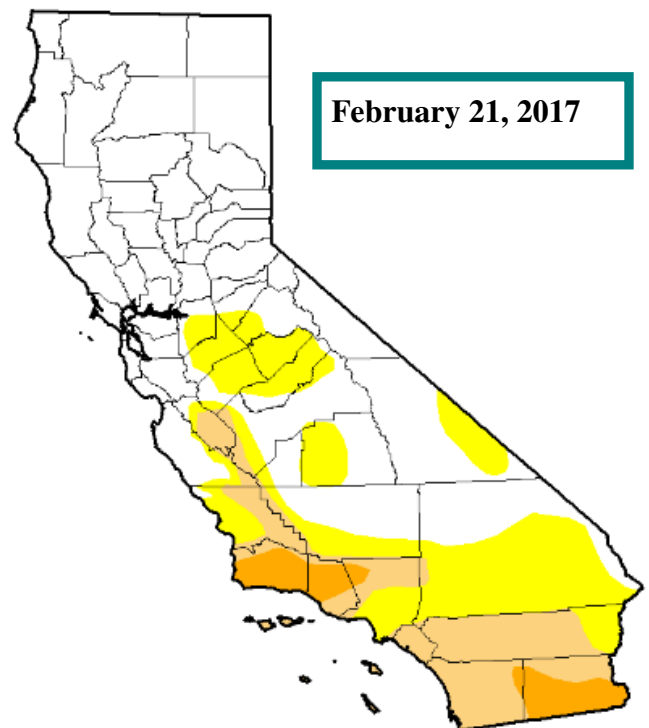
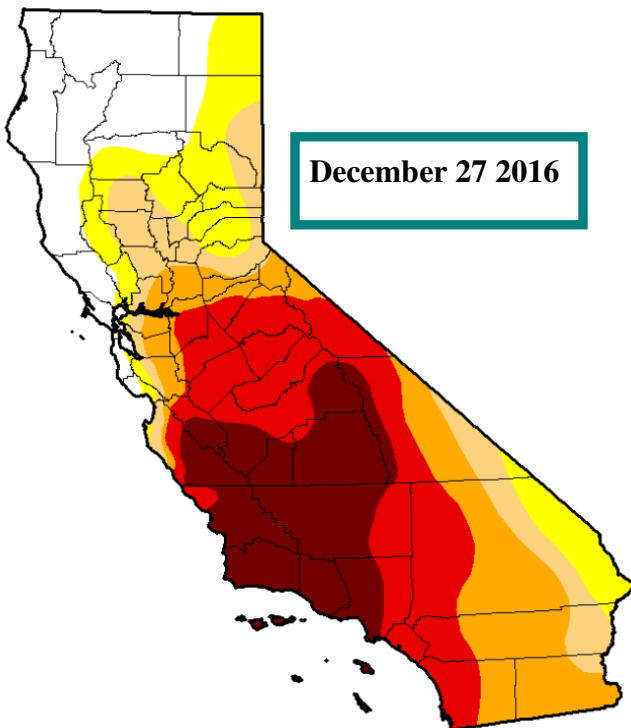
 D1 (Moderate Drought)

 D3 (Extreme Drought)

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary.

Author(s):

Richard Heim, NOAA/NCEI



AC100

<http://www.ac100.com/>

- getting ready for the next race on August 5, 2017

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Angeles Mountain Bike Patrol

m.rmccuire@hotmail.com

Our mission is to provide educational and a responsible image to all trail users. To encourage rider's to obey forest regulations and working to preserve and protect trails. A.M.B.P is here to serve and inform the public

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION

<http://www.anffla.org>

Pam Morey pammorey@fs.fed.us

Forest Care Program Coordinator

909-744-9510 ext. 125

- **BECOME A FIRE LOOKOUT!** It's probably easier that you realize to become an active Fire Lookout with the ANFFLA. It just takes a few classes training (which are quite fun!) and the desire to spend some time in the Angeles National Forest. For more information about becoming a fire lookout pammorey@fs.fed.us or 909-744-9510 ext. 125
- **Help support ANFFLA every time you shop!**
Register your Ralphs Club Card and your Food4Less card and ANFFLA will receive a donation every time you shop. It's an easy to help support our efforts and costs you nothing!

Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy

<http://www.arroyosfoothills.org/>

John Howell, (626) 796-0782 johnrhowell@earthlink.net

Face book: Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy

- Mar 4th Rubio Canyon Guided Hike with Tim Martinez
- Mar 5th Rosemount Preserve Open Gate
- Mar 11th Rosemount Preserve Restoration
- Mar 12th Cottonwood Canyon Guided Meditation
- Mar 19th Rosemount Preserve Open Gate
- Mar 25th Rosemont Preserve docent led tour featuring Rich Toyon
- Mar 26th Cottonwood Canyon Guided Meditation

BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

bearcanyontrailcrew@gmail.com

Our trips are scheduled for: • Mar. 25 • Apr. 22 • May 20

Questions? Contact: bearcanyontrailcrew@gmail.com

Want to see the Calendar and pictures of our outings?

Then Goto: <https://www.meetup.com/The-So-Cal-Hikers/>

Thank you
Alan Coles

Big Santa Anita Canyon

<http://www.bigsantaanitacanyon.com/>

- Open Year round, 6 am to 8 pm every day.
- The road is gated and the gate is locked at night. Be sure to return to your car before 7:30 pm or you may not get out! During and after heavy rains, fires, or after significant earthquakes, and during fire alerts the road may be closed.
- The Sierra Madre Police Dept. is in charge of locking/unlocking the gate. If you are concerned that the road might be closed you can call them for info: 626 355-1414.
- Adams Pack Station Contact: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (626) 447-7356

Blight Busters Trail Crew

Danny Treadway dayhiker86@yahoo.com

**Boy Scouts of America
Greater Los Angeles Area Council (GLAAC)**

<http://glaac-hat.org>

California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC) <http://www.ctuc.info/ctuc/>

Events Calendar: <http://www.ctuc.info/ctuc/index.php/ctuc-calendar>

- **Mar 8th CTUC National Forest Association Angeles Meeting**
Come and Join Us CTUC meets at 6:00 p.m. at 3550 Foothill Blvd., Glendale, CA.
Our meetings are open to everyone who wishes to participate. Volunteers have a great time working together on these types of projects
- **Mar 15 CTUC National Forest Association Angeles Meeting**
Come and Join Us CTUC meets at 5:00 p.m. at 3550 Foothill Blvd., Glendale, CA.
Our meetings are open to everyone who wishes to participate. Volunteers have a great time working together on these types of projects

To volunteer on one of our projects, please join us by contacting our
Chairman, Terry Kaiser at:

<http://www.ctuc.info/ctuc/index.php/contact-us/27-ctuc/9-terry-kaiser>

CITY OF GLENDALE

Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept

(818) 548-3795

CALENDAR: <http://www.glendaleca.gov/residents/calendar/-curm-03/-cury-2017>

- Mar 11th - March Riverwalk Workday (Check the Volunteers Needed pages)
- Mar 18th - Heart of gold (Third Saturday Wilderness Workday) (Check the Volunteers Needed pages)
- Mar 25th - Trail Medicinal Plants of the West (Check the Volunteers Training pages)

Community Hiking Club

<http://communityhikingclub.org/>

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel

email: zuliebear@aol.com phone: 661-259-2743

• **March 4th - Switzer Falls to Bear Canyon trail**

Distance: ~ 7 miles total , out and back . It's a reverse hike - you start by going down and come back uphill at the end.

Gain: ~ 600 feet (very doable and it is all at the end)

Rating: Moderate (Note: There are some steep areas and overlooks during this hike - if you have an issue with heights!)

Description: This is a moderate hike into one of the loveliest sections of the San Gabriel Mountains. The hike meanders back and forth across the stream running down the spectacular Arroyo Seco Canyon. The stream is lined with oaks and a lot of alder, many of which have fallen across the river. In many places the water cascades over granite into mirror-like pools. The hike emerges from the trees and travels high above the 50 foot high Switzer falls with a view of where the Switzer resort stood before dropping back to the stream. We continue down Bear canyon a mile or so, taking in several pools and the beauty of the canyon. There is plenty of boulder hopping but not much scrambling. We will stop along the way for a snack before turning back. This time we go back up stream until we are standing at the base of the falls. We then backtrack a little and return up the hill from stream level to the track above and follow the stream back up to the parking lot.

BRING: Hiking poles, if you have them, an extra layer in case it gets hot/cold, lunch/snack, water (2 - 3L), hat and sunscreen. **We will be near water/ shade - long pants and sleeves are STRONGLY advised as poison oak, stinging nettles and overgrown trail conditions are very likely on this hike (although we will try to point them out so you can avoid them).** Bug spray / a bug net is recommended in case black flies drive you nuts. We have extra bug Nets - \$5, if you need one.

Adventure Pass: Yes, for those who drive - they do ticket (\$5)! Passes can be obtained at any BIG 5 Sporting Goods store; \$5 for a day pass, \$30 for a 1 year pass. They do ticket (\$5) big time at this trailhead.

Dogs: OK, on leash and if well behaved around people / other dogs. If you bring a dog, you will need to drive yourself.

Meet your Leader: At 6:45AM outside Towsley Canyon gate in the street Parking lot for a 7:00AM SHARP Carpool departure. Alternatively, meet at the Trail Head for a 8:00AM departure down the trail. Please be respectful of your driver's support by contributing something at the end of your carpool to help defray the cost of gas - THX.

Directions to Towsley Canyon carpool meeting spot:

From North (Valencia) - Take the I-5 South to the Calgrove exit. Exit, turn right. Go through the signal and immediately turn right into the driveway for Towsley Canyon. Park OUTSIDE the gate. Look for the hiking club members and leader there. Please be on time.

From South (LA) - Take the I-5 North, kept left at HWY 5/14 split until next Exit (Calgrove Blvd.). Exit, turn left at bottom of ramp. Go through the signal and immediately turn right into the driveway for Towsley Canyon. Park OUTSIDE the gate. Look for the hiking club members and leader there.

Directions to Switzer Trail head: From the 210, take the Hwy 2 exit toward the Angeles Crest Highway / La Canada Flintridge. Continue east on CA-2 for 9.8 miles. Pass the Clear Creek Ranger Station, then look for the Switzer Falls sign on the right - carefully descend to the parking lot below.

Leader: Steve I.

(cont to next page)

**** Note: Rain falling at trailhead at start of hike will cancel the hike****

• **March 11th Sierra Madre to Orchard Camp**

Distance: 9 miles, In and Out

Gain: ~ 2000 - 2200'

Duration: 4 - 5 hours

Rating: Moderate / Strenuous, due to substantial elevation gain. Suitable for experienced hikers in good physical condition.

Description: Following an old Indian trail, Benjamin Wilson built a trail in an effort to obtain timber from the top of what is now called Mt. Wilson. Harvard University telescope was carried up this trail to occupy the first observatory on Mt. Wilson. As the trail, and later the observatory, was being built a construction camp was built in a secluded glen called Halfway House. After the observatory was built Halfway House was homesteaded by two mountaineers named George Aiken and George Islip. They planted a small grove of apple, cherry, plum and chestnut trees and the location became known as Orchard Camp.

Later Orchard Camp became a trail resort for 50 years. Today the buildings and tents are gone, but the enchanting stream side spot still holds appeal for day hikers. Our hike will follow this historic footpath from Sierra Madre to Orchard Camp and back.

Information about the trail: Our hike starts at the junction of Mira Monte Avenue and Mt. Wilson Trail Drive a private road in Sierra Madre. We will walk a short distance up Mt. Wilson Trail Drive and turn left onto a well marked trail. In a short distance the trail becomes a dirt road and later a single track trail. The first 1.5 miles are in the sun and steep, a great workout. Then we come upon a trail junction, we go straight until after a short distance we stop for a rest at Quarterway House or First Water as it was once called. In a short distance we will welcome the shade of a live-oak forest and a enjoyable hike from Quarterway House to Orchard Camp.

NOTE: Remember we are climbing a mountain so there are drop offs on the downhill side of the trail. If heights or drop offs are an issue for you, you may want to give this hike a miss.

Carpooling from Santa Clarita Valley: Meet in the front parking lot at Towsley Canyon in the front parking lot at 8:00 AM for a 8:15AM SHARP departure, arrangements for carpooling will be made there.

The hike leader will meet you at the meeting spot at 09:00 A.M.

Please be respectful of your driver's support by contributing something at the end of your carpool to help defray the cost of gas.

Directions to Towsley Canyon carpool meeting spot:

From North (Valencia) - Take the I-5 South to the Calgrove exit. Exit, turn right. Go through the signal and immediately turn right into the driveway for Towsley Canyon. Park OUTSIDE the gate. Look for the hiking club members and leader there. Please be on time.

From South (LA) - Take the I-5 North, kept left at HWY 5/14 split until next Exit (Calgrove Blvd.). Exit, turn left at bottom of ramp. Go through the signal and immediately turn right into the driveway for Towsley Canyon. Park OUTSIDE the gate. Look for the hiking club members and leader there.

Directions to the meeting spot/trail head from Towsley Canyon: From the 5 Freeway take the 210 FRWY East. In Arcadia, exit the 210 at Baldwin Ave and drive 1.5 miles towards the mountains. Turn right on Mira Monte Ave. Go two blocks east on Mira Monte until you reach the intersection with Mount Wilson Trail Drive. Park on the street, and meet your leader at 9:00AM, at Lizzie's House (Museum), located at this intersection.

Hike Leader Notes: There are no restrooms at trail head but there is a park with restrooms close to Lizzie's House. This is a popular trail, so allow time to park and walk to Lizzie's House to meet your leader.

Bring: Lots of water (2-3L), some Electrolytes like Gatorade, a hat, sunscreen, a snack and hiking poles if you have them. Good shoes with tread are a must - no flip flops or tennis shoes please. Bring a BUG NET just in case.

Adventure Pass: N/A, not required

Dogs: OK, if on a leash and well-behaved with other dogs / people carrying poles. If you bring your dog, please drive yourself.

Leader: Steve

(cont to next page)

• March 18th - Backbone trail to Sandstone Peak; completing the Mishe Mokwa trail loop via the Split Rock and Balanced Rock**Distance:** ~ 7 miles**Gain:** ~ 1300'**Rating:** Moderate + (for distance / gain - this is not one for Beginners, you need to be in good general condition to enjoy this hike).

Description: This is one of the most varied and beautiful loop hikes in the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation area, near the Boney Mountain State Wilderness. Highlights include a visit to Sandstone Peak (3111'), view of Boney Peak (2825'), Balanced rock (a house sized boulder delicately balanced on a small rock beneath), and the giant Split Rock. As we head back up the trail to the trailhead we get great views of the spectacular Echo Cliffs and the valley stretching out to the South. We will see many stunning giant sandstone and volcanic formations, and (depending on visibility) take in some ocean views from the top of Sandstone Peak and Inspiration point. We will travel along the Mishe Mokwa trail and parts of the Backbone trails.

Bring: 2 - 3L water, plus some electrolytes, a lunch / snack, sunscreen, a hat and shoes with good tread, poles recommended. trail is rocky in places.

To carpool from Santa Clarita Valley (Towsley Canyon Parking lot):

Meet your hike leader at Towsley Canyon, 24255 The Old Road, Newhall, CA, outside the gate at 7:00 AM to organize carpools. At 7:15 AM SHARP, we depart for the trailhead.

Alternatively, you can plan to meet the leader at the Sandstone Peak Trailhead by 8:15AM, details below. As always, we recommend carpooling. Please be respect-ful of your driver's sup-port by con-tribut-ing some-thing at the end of your car-pool to help defray the cost of gas — THX.

Directions to the Sandstone Peak trailhead from Santa Clarita Valley: (This route is a tad longer but in fact faster / less stressful). Take 5 Freeway North from Towsley to the Newhall Ranch exit (CA-126, heading West toward Ventura).

Follow CA-126 W, 34.9 miles until Exit 5 from CA-126 W to merge on to CA-118 East, toward Saticoy. Continue until the road T's . Turn right on to Santa Clara Ave, which becomes Rice Ave and eventually merges into Route 1 (PCH) turning South.

Stay on PCH and pass Point Mugu Naval base on the right, until you are by the ocean. Follow PCH south until you see the Neptune Net Restaurant on the left and Yerba Buena Rd. next to it. Turn left, following Yerba Buena Rd up a very curvy 6.3 miles to the parking lot/bathrooms/picnic table for the Sandstone Peak Trailhead, on the left side of the road.

NOTE: For anyone that is susceptible to car sickness, we encourage you, to pop a Dramamine/ Bonine or drive yourself - Yerba Buena Road is a twister!

There are other ways to get to the trailhead but they are more complex.

Meet your Leader: Meet at the Sandstone Peak Trailhead at 8:45AM to start up the trail at 9:00AM sharp.

Adventure Pass: Not Required.**Leader:** Steve

(cont to next page)

• March 25th - Boy Scout (Oak Flat) Trail to Whitaker Peak - Woodlands, Views and Solitude so close to SCV!

Distance: ~ 9 miles, out and back.

Gain: About 1400' (most of it is at the beginning)

Rated: Easy++ / Moderate (due to gain at start and overall distance)

Time: About 4 hours, including a 20 minute snack break.

Description: With all the rain we have had this year, the wild flowers should be more spectacular than ever on this hike! The trail departs the mellow Oak Flat Campground and climbs along switchbacks through woodlands and a geologically fascinating area to a ridge-top viewpoint. The hiker's reward for this short but stiff climb is a bird's-eye view of some of the Southland's great public works projects (Pyramid Lake, old Highway 99 and Interstate 5) and inspiring natural wonders: the dramatic gorge sculpted by Piru Creek and the mountains fractured by the San Gabriel Fault. Along the fire road at the top, outcrops are visible (see below) -- these are pudding-type conglomerate of fragmented brown rock filled with embedded stone. These enable geologists to trace displacements that occurred along the San Gabriel Fault, an early and active member of the San Andreas Fault system. We will continue along the fire road and turn West to Whitaker Peak. The first part of this hike is on single track, and then we proceed on fire roads.

Meet: At Towsley Canyon Gate, 24255 The Old Road, Newhall, CA. Be there at 7.30AM for an 7:45AM SHARP departure to the trailhead.

If you carpool from Towsley, be so good as to share the cost of gas with your driver.

Want to Meet at the Trail head?

Oak Flat Fire Station: Lat: 34.598538 Lon: -118.719182 (About 25 mins North of Towsley Canyon).

Go north of Santa Clarita on the I-5, North of Castaic, exit at Templin Hwy. At the bottom of the off ramp, turn left. Go under the 5 freeway and turn right on the road immediately past the freeway, proceed for approximately 3 miles. Watch the potholes! Stay on this road until you see a brown forest sign on the left side that says Oak Flat (be sure to ignore the Whitaker Peak sign that precedes it). Turn in to Oak Flat and carefully go up the driveway. Park on the gravel lot on the left in front of the Fire Station.

If you meet at the trail head, please be there at 8:15AM as we will be heading up the trail at 8:30AM SHARP.

Bring: Lots of water (2 - 3 liters), some electrolytes, and a lunch/snack. There is not much shade on the second half of this hike, so sunscreen and a hat are essential. Poles are helpful on this hike, especially the first 1/2, when we are climbing. Bring your camera.

NOTE: There may be small biting flies out and about, so please wear long sleeves/ bring insect repellent.

Adventure Pass: Yes , 1/car (\$5 a day/ \$30 a year). Available at Big 5 sporting Goods, REI Nothridge, Acton Ranger Station, the Little Tujunga station, or any other Ranger Station.

Dogs: OK, if well behaved around other dogs and people with hiking poles / sticks and on a leash.

Leader: Jenn

Sweep: Steve

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)

PHONE: (818) 773-3555

FACE BOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/CORBAMTB>

<http://corbamt.com/>

For schedule goto: <http://corbamt.com/Calendar/index.shtml>

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association was founded in 1987 to serve the mountain bicycling community of Los Angeles and surrounding areas including southern Ventura County. CORBA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to gaining and maintaining public trail access for mountain cyclists and the public at-large. CORBA encourages and promotes the safe and environmentally responsible use of unpaved roads and trails for bicycling and to educate the public about all aspects of off-road cycling and trails.

HABITAT WORKS

<http://www.habitatwork.org>

Kim Clark or Tom Persons 818-353-4653

For more information call or e-mail to: wildlife@habitatwork.org

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center

<http://www.haramokngna.org/> (626) 449-8975.

• **Our Center is open seasonally**, from Spring-Fall. Our normal hours are Saturday and Sunday, 10:00am-4:00pm. We are also available weekdays by appointment. Visitor Center hours may vary due to volunteer staffing. Please contact us by phone or email to confirm availability. contact@haramokngna.org

• **Volunteers** As a cultural, environmental and arts organization, Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center shares the flavor of Native American history, culture, traditions and arts with the Los Angeles community. We are always looking for energetic individuals ready to represent the Cultural Center during special events and regular office hours. If you are interested, please call us at 626-449-8975. Or email us at lorosco@haramokngna.org

High Country Riders

Forest wide equestrian volunteer group that packs Equipment, Material and Supplies etc. to your Trail or worksite. Packs Trash & Rubbish out of the Forest.

Contacts: Jonathan Schultz phone: 951-830-3400 e-mail: schultzelectric@earthlink.net

- Forest Certified Animal Packer
- Master Teacher for "LNT"
- "C" Crosscut Saw Certifier
- Chainsaw "B" faller

Contacts: Glen Foster phone: 760-949-3497 or 760-508-0344

- Certified Packer e-mail: pjgwfooster@aol.com

JPL TRAILBUILDERS

Kathie Reilly 626-379-8429

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

(Rain day before or day of outing cancels the outing)

- **Mar 3rd Outing**
- **Mar 25th Outing**

WHAT'S PLANNED Same as before: Depending upon the number of people showing up and the weather, we will do trail maintenance of tread widening and cutting back brush on any of our usual trails: 1) Mt Lowe West Trail from near the top of Mt Lowe where we left off on down until we meet our work from the bottom up. 2) Mt Lowe East Trail the mid-section that is from the junction to the summit of Mt Lowe down towards Inspiration Point. 3) Colby Canyon Trail from where we left off at Josephine Saddle down to where we left off coming up from Angeles Crest Highway. As you can see, all of the work is around the halfway points of the trails, which means more hiking, and hard to work at if weather is iffy.

BRING: Dayhike gear(daypack, lunch, lots of water), sun screen, bug repellent, hat, and work gloves. Please make sure you wear long sleeves, long pants and boots in order to be able to use tools. You can bring your own tools or are welcome to use those from our group supply. We provide hard hats.

MEET: At 8:15 am at ball diamonds parking lot in the lower part of Hahamongna Park. Get off the 210 freeway at Berkshire off-ramp and follow the signs for JPL and Hahamongna Park. Once you turn into the Park, go down the driveway, make a right at the bottom and look for us in the parking lot. (If that is full, we park in the dirt lot directly at the bottom of the driveway) We sign in and form carpools, leaving at 8:30 sharp, returning around 4 PM. The leaders take passengers, but make sure you have plenty of gas in case we need more drivers (riders can give drivers \$1 towards gas). If you need to leave early, notify the leaders at sign-in time.

Mt. Disappointment Endurance

www.mtdisappointment50k.com

Gary Hilliard, Director

- Feb 14th Registration opens
- Mar 11th Strawberry Peak Trailwork (Carpool to Red Box)
- Mar 25th Gabrielino Trailwork (Carpool to Clear Creek)
- Apr 15th Red Box Road and Gabrielino Trail (Carpool to Red Box)
- Apr 29th Kenyon Devore Trailwork (upper section) (Carpool to Red Box)
- Jun 3rd Lower Kenyon Devore Trail
- Jun 24th Trail make up day
- July 8th Race!

Mount Wilson Institute

<http://www.mtwilson.edu/>

P. O. Box 1909, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1909
(404) 413-5484

- Cosmic Cafe is now closed.
- There is no water available at Mount Wilson at this time.

We Need Your Help - Mount Wilson Observatory is privately owned and receives no continuing state or federal support. You can help ensure the continued operation of this science heritage.

- **Join** our Friends of Mount Wilson Observatory organization to receive a variety of member benefits and stay informed on the latest scientific and other activities from the mountain.
- **Contribute** to our Second Century Campaign. As Mount Wilson continues into its second century, a capital campaign is being developed to preserve this great observatory for future generations.

Mount Wilson Bicycling Association

<http://mwba.org/>

Contact: Matt Lay matt@mwba.org

- Mar 19th Outing

Our mission has changed very little over the years. MWBA still advocates responsible trail use in the San Gabriel Mountains and we still work on trails that need maintenance due to use, weather and age. If you are interested in giving back to the community by working on a trail and meeting cool mountain bikers, come on out and join us! <http://mwba.org/join/>

Mount Wilson Race <http://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com/HOME.html>

Pete Siberell Chair, Mt. Wilson Trail Race

- March 26 Outing
- April 30 Outing
- May 14 Outing
- May 21 Outing
- May 27 Mt. Wilson Trail Race

We meet at Lizzie's Trail in in Sierra Madre at 7:00A. Bring gloves, water and sun protection. Workers must RSVP to Pete Siberell at psiberell@santaanita.com so we have enough tools for all.

Thanks.
Pete Siberell

Pacific Crest Trail Association

<http://www.pcta.org>

FACE BOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/PCTAFan>

Liz Bergeron LBERGERON@PCTA.ORG

Sacramento, CA Phone: (916) 285-1846 x 26

Sign up now for this annual Trail Gorillas trail maintenance weekend. Join for a day, the weekend, or whatever works for your schedule. Volunteers will be brushing and working on tread repairs Thursday-Sunday. The exact work location is still to be determined.

Contact Don Line at donline41@gmail.com. Let Don know if you'll be camping and what meals you'd like to join.

San Gabriel Mountain Trail Builders

<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org>

The San Gabriel Mountains Trailbuilders (SGMTB) is an all-volunteer public service organization dedicated to constructing and maintaining hiking trails in the San Gabriel Mountains' Angeles National Forest in Southern California.

If you would like to volunteer your time,

Call: Ben White: 626-303-1078

Or E-Mail: benw@SGMTrailbuilders.org

If you would like to work with the Mount Baldy Group

Contact The Baldy Group: bbtbs.vsh@live.com

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

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

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/mountlowevolunteers/?fref=ts

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

E-mail: Emworks@verizon.net

Our mission is to preserve the remnants (structures, trails, artifacts) of the Mount Lowe Railway in the Angeles National Forest. We work under the authority of the Angeles National Forest along with a cadre of many other volunteers who help with various projects to protect the Forest.

Sierra Club

1750 North Altadena Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107

213-387-4287

For more calendar details go to www.angeles.sierraclub.org/pasadena/

• Mar 1st 7:00 PM Pasadena Monthly Program:

Information on the Pasadena Group's hikes, outings, and conservation activities precedes the program. Doors open at 7 PM for socializing and refreshments. Program starts 7:30 PM, at Eaton Canyon Nature Center, 1750 N Altadena Dr in NE Pasadena. Newcomers always welcome! For information contact Group Membership Chair, Bill Joyce

• Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Car Camp Mar 31st to April 2nd

• Devil's Gate Dam Update Tour Mar 4th

• Golden Streets: Celebration of 1st Anniversary of opening of Gold Line Mar 5th

• Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike Mar 2nd/9th/16th/23rd/30th

• La Cañada Trails Day Hike Mar 19th

• Rubio Canyon Hike Mar 12th

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINS FOUNDATION

<http://mountainsfoundation.org/>

Sarah Miggins smiggins@fs.fed.us 909-382-2796
602 South Tippecanoe, San Bernardino, California 92408

For more calendar details go to

<http://mountainsfoundation.org/calendar>

- Animal Tracking Mar 11th/25th
- Bald Eagle Celebration Mar 11th
- Bald Eagle Volunteer Count Mar 11th
- Guided Snowshoe EcoTour Mar 4th
- Nature Craft Mar 4th
- Nature Walk Mar 4th/5th/11th/12th/18th/19th/25th
- Story Time Mar 4th/5th/11th

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Tree People

<https://www.treepeople.org/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/TreePeople1/?fref=ts>

12601 Mulholland Drive

Beverly Hills, CA 90210 Telephone (818) 753-4600

For more calendar details go to: <http://www.treepeople.org/calendar>

- Angeles Forest Restoration Mar 4th/5th/19th/
- Citizen Forester Workshop: How to Organize a community Tree Planting Mar 18th
- Group Dog Hike Mar 11th
- Drought Solutions Tour and Native Plant Walk Mar 4th
- Family Tours and Native Plant Exploration Mar 26th
- Fruit Tree Care Workshop Mar 11th
- Generation Earth Campus Recycling Workshop Mar 11th
- Moonlight Hike Mar 17th
- Park Tree Care Mar 11th/12th
- Park work day Mar 2nd/9th/11th/16th/30th
- Rain Barrel Distribution Mar 18th
- Park Tree Care Mar 11th
- Volunteer Supervisor Training Mar 25th/

Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest

Wrightwood, CA

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

Visitor Center Phone #: (626) 821-6737

Loren Lake lorenll@verizon.net

The Grassy Hollow Visitor Center and Grounds are open for day-use only

Hours: Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Weekdays- for school groups, youth organizations, etc. By Appointment

William S Hart UHSD of Santa Clarita ANF Crew 135

Kevin Sarkissian

Lead Instructor

W S Hart Union High School District

Outdoor Recreation and Wilderness Conservation - ANF Crew 135

Regional Occupational Program

21380 Centre Pointe Parkway

Santa Clarita, CA 91350

661.250.0022 X 552

<https://www.facebook.com/rootrails/>

Los Angeles River Ranger District
12371 North Little Tujunga Canyon Road
San Fernando, CA 91342

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter, Los Angeles Times Sept 24, 2012 email: tundra@tundracomics.com



Volunteer Today

Send this in Right Away to

**Dennis Merkel —12371 N. Little Tujunga Canyon Rd
San Fernando, CA 91342**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # (hm) _____

e-mail _____

Interests

Indicate what you would like to do. Circle area or enter your interests.

Campground Host/ Visitor Information/ Smokey Bear - Fire Prevention/

Recreation Aid / Forest Patrol /Resource Management / Computers/

Research-Librarian / Office Clerical / Tour guide/ Fire Lookout/

Conservation Education / habitat restoration and tree planting

Other: _____
