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CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
*San Diego Chapter Newsletter*

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## CHAPTER MEETING

Tuesday, March 21; 7 p.m.  
Room 104, Casa del Prado  
Balboa Park

## Watershed Avengers

by Carla Pisbe

The Ocean Discovery Institute empowers young people from urban and diverse backgrounds to create safe and healthy habitats. These efforts focus on City Heights' canyons, where the community is actively transforming nature into safe and healthy places for urban youth to play, learn and explore.

Carla Pisbe is the Environmental Stewardship Coordinator at Ocean Discovery Institute. Her work engages the community she grew up in, involving toddlers through seniors in science and conservation programs. She holds a B.A. in Politics and Latin American Latino Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

**6:30 p.m. Natives for Novices** – Scott Jones - Native Habitats & Communities.

**7:00 p.m.** – refreshments, book browsing, socializing.

**7:30 p.m.** – presentation

Chapter meetings are free and open to the public. They are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month (except Aug.) in the Casa del Prado Room 104, just west of the San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park.

## Garden Tour Sponsor Spotlight

As we approach the Garden Tour, we are taking a little space here to highlight some of our sponsors. These organizations make it possible for us to create such a wide-spread and ambitious program for your benefit.

## Rainscape Environmental Management

<http://www.rainscape.com>

In 1982, Rainscape Environmental Management was established to service the landscaping needs of Southern California homeowners. They focus on maintaining beautiful landscapes for HOAs and Commercial Interests, and have seen the need for changing practices. Water conservation is only part of the picture, as Rainscape President, Steve Economou says, "We pride ourselves on providing superior customer service and that means creating and maintaining landscapes that offer a sense of place as well as sensible practices. We have found our clients receptive to the removal of turf in common areas so that native plants, bird and butterfly habitats are the focus. We work hard to encourage and implement environmentally-friendly practices. This Garden Tour is an example of how we have committed ourselves to a new vision for our shared future."



# BOARD MEETING

**Wednesday, March 7, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**, monthly CNPS San Diego Chapter board meeting to be held at 4010 Morena Blvd, Suite 100, San Diego (Thomas Guide 1248 C4). Exit I-5 to Balboa Dr. east and turn north on Morena Drive. Proceed 1/2 mile and make a u-turn at the Avati Street signal and turn into the driveway for 4010. Drive to the parking lot on the west side (away from Morena). Members are welcome to attend as observers. If you want to discuss an issue, please ask to get on the agenda by sending an email to [president@cnpsd.org](mailto:president@cnpsd.org).

## RENEW ONLINE

Renew your CNPS membership online using a credit card  
It is quick, easy, convenient, and reduces mailing costs.

[www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org)

Click on the JOIN button

# CONSERVATION

## Old Growth and Stand Dynamics

Many of us have heard the term "old growth," as in "old growth forests," but I suspect that most people don't really know where it comes from, or that there are pockets of old growth here in San Diego.

The idea of old growth comes from a model of forest development called Stand Dynamics, developed by Chadwick Oliver and Bruce Larson. IN this model, a stand of trees goes through four stages, starting from bare ground:

1. Stem initiation. Seedlings sprout in an initial cohort, until all available growing space is filled. How long this takes depends on the species.
2. Stem exclusion. Plants keep growing, and once all the growing space is filled, they start competing for space and resources. Some plants will be excluded through competition and die off. In this stage, any seedlings that sprout are doomed, because the first cohort dominates the stand. Forests in this stage are fairly monotonous and dense, with little or no understory.
3. Understory Reinitiation. Once competition has thinned out a stand, there are gaps between the mature plants. An understory germinates in the gaps, composed both of understory species and tree seedlings. This is perhaps the least-understood stage, but it is where things get interesting, because as the seedlings mature, it becomes
4. Old Growth. Old growth is so named because it's impossible to determine how old the stand is by counting tree rings of the oldest trees. The trees come from multiple generations, due to continual formation of gaps and growth of new trees in those gaps. In the first three stages, all the dominant trees are about the same age. After a stand has reached the old growth stage, it can stay that way indefinitely.

If you've been thinking that chaparral shows these stages too, you're right. Old growth chaparral is typically dominated by shrubs whose seeds do not need fire to germinate, species like scrub oaks, mission manzanita, toyon, or summer holly. There's still a bit of old growth chaparral left in the county, even in the city of San Diego.

In Los Angeles and increasingly in San Diego, chaparral islands surrounded by houses are becoming old growth, because the houses exclude fires. In San Diego, this may be a problem for the rare wart-stemmed ceanothus (*Ceanothus verrucosus*) which grows in some urban canyons. This ceanothus mostly germinates after fire, and some urban populations haven't burned in a century. It can live for a century or more, but botanists wonder whether these stands need to be burned to encourage the next cohort (reinitiate the stand), or whether it is possible to germinate new ceanothus seedlings in the gaps between the old plants (old growth). Obviously, fire in our urban canyons is a contentious subject, but so is losing a rare ceanothus.

Old growth chaparral is sometimes regarded as some sort of ticking time bomb, something that's "senescent" and "ready to burn." While old growth chaparral plants can be quite large, the very fact that the stand *hasn't* burned in a long time really says that normally it rarely burns, not that it is due to burn any time soon. These stands should be treasured, not feared. It takes a long time to grow old growth.

~ **Frank Landis**, Conservation Committee Chair

## TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK

**March 4; 9 a.m. to noon.**

A relaxed opportunity to learn

plant lore of this coastal natural reserve from a CNPS member. Meet at the Tecolote Nature Center. Wear sun protection and comfortable walking shoes, bring water. Rain at 8 a.m. cancels the walk Directions: exit I-5 at Seaworld/Tecolote exit. Go east (away from Mission Bay) on Tecolote, past the ball fields, along the driveway to the very end. Free and open to the public, and parking is also free. The walk is repeated the first Sunday of each month.



## Public Outreach

The Public Outreach Committee is preparing for the busy spring season of garden and environmental festivals. Look for us at Earth Fair in Balboa Park on April 22 and Mission Trails Days on May 19. If you can help represent CNPS at upcoming events, please sign up at our chapter meeting, or contact Margy Day, [publicoutreach@cnpsd.org](mailto:publicoutreach@cnpsd.org).

# Members Field Trips

**Sunday, March 18. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. : Ancient Tecate Cypresses of Guatay Mountain. Leader: Bob Greenberg**

CNPS members and their guests will get to see the oldest and highest elevation stand of Tecate cypress (*Hesperocyparis forbesii*) known: at least 145 years old and elevation 4,000-4,500 ft. The mature trees appear healthy and vigorous, with lots of cones of various ages. The field trip will be a 5.2 mile (round trip) hike thru old growth chaparral, including redshank, manzanita, mountain mahogany and creeping sage - at least 100 plant taxa have been identified in the vicinity. The route is an unmarked trail with a 1,600 ft elevation gain/loss, "moderately strenuous" - suitable for experienced and fit hikers only. We'll go slow, looking at plants (and resting!)...so we may take 4-5 hours for the round trip.

We will meet 9 a.m. at the Pine Valley Trailhead parking area in the Cleveland National Forest. From San Diego, drive east on I-8 to Pine Valley exit (about 45 miles). Turn north (left) and drive 0.3 mile to junction with old Hwy 80 in downtown Pine Valley. Turn left (NW) and proceed 1.5 miles to signed turnoff (on left) for Pine Valley Trailhead. Drive 0.5 mile down entrance road to parking area, where we will meet. (see Thomas Guide Map 1237, A4 and A5, shown as Pine Valley - Las Bancas Rd on the map). Nice restrooms are available.

Cars should have a National Forest Adventure Pass to park in national forest land. You can buy one up en route by exiting from I-8 at the Tavern Road exit in Alpine, and going to either the Chevron or Valera gas stations that are right next to the freeway. Both are open at 6 AM, and you can be back on the road quickly.

RSVP at [fieldtrips@cnpsd.org](mailto:fieldtrips@cnpsd.org) . Please note the number in your party, and a cell phone number to help coordinate lost or late attendees. Bring lunch and water, wear good hiking boots and sun protection. Members may bring a guest, or non-members, who want to attend, can join CNPS by completing a membership form and paying membership dues at the trailhead. Membership information is at [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org) Rain at 8 a.m. will cancel the field trip.

**Saturday, March 31, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lake Calavera and Calavera Heights Preserves. Leader: James Dillane.**

Wildflowers, clay endemics and rare plants are found on these adjacent preserves in northeast Carlsbad. Marine terraces, clay pans, and an ancient volcanic neck yield high diversity of soils and terrain for over 390 kinds of plants, including 16 CNPS listed species in less than one square mile of preserved landscape. CNPS members (and their guests) will explore some of the most botanically interesting areas including the top of the hill for a total distance of less than 3 miles, with only moderate slopes to walk. We hope to find the sensitive golden-rayed pentachaeta (*Pentachaeta aurea*), small-flowered microseris (*Microseris douglasii* var. *platycarpa*), small-flowered morning-glory (*Convolvulus simulans*), San Diego

adolphia (*Adolphia californica*) and sea dahlia (*Coreopsis maritima*) in flower.

The Calavera Heights Preserve was mitigation for a large housing project and also preserves Calavera Hill, an ancient volcanic neck. Lake Calavera Preserve was established as part of Carlsbad's Habitat Management Plan.

Meet at the Skyhaven Lane Trailhead (Thomas Guide p. 1107, C3). From the I-5 in Oceanside, take HWY 78 East. Take the College Blvd exit and go right (south). At the second light, turn left on Lake Drive. After about 1 mile, turn right on Skyhaven Lane and follow the road until you see the lake to the left. Park on the street.

Wear good walking shoes, sun protection, and long pants or gaiters. Bring water and a lunch, the group will pause and picnic at a scenic location and then work our way back to the cars. RSVP to [fieldtrips@cnpsd.org](mailto:fieldtrips@cnpsd.org). Non-members may join at the trailhead, go to [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org) for membership rates. Rain at 8 a.m. will cancel the field trip.

## Public Plant Walks

**Saturday, March 10. 10:00 a.m. - noon. Swan Canyon. Leaders: JR Sundberg and Paul Hormick.** From Interstate 15, exit University Ave. Turn right on Fairmont Ave, heading south. Make a left on Olive and head east. Meet at the corner of Olive and Highland by the elementary school (Thomas Guide 1269 J7).

**Sunday, March 11. 9:00-11:00 a.m.: Native Plants of the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge.** CNPS teams up with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to teach visitors about the plants in one corner of the huge San Diego National Wildlife Refuge just south of El Cajon. We'll be exploring the east side of Mt. Miguel. Leader **Lisa Cox** of the USFWS will be joined by CNPS members **Jan** and **Don Maxted**, who have learned dozens of the local species by volunteering as parobotanists for the Natural History Museum. A few rare plants will be seen, and we hope to see some of the wildlife for which the Refuge was created, too.

Kids and "plant greenhorns" are welcome. The 2-hour round trip walk will be leisurely without any steep slopes. Wear good walking shoes, sun protection, and bring water. If you have them, binoculars will help you spot critters.

Meet at 8:45 a.m. next to the Staples store in the Rancho San Diego shopping center on Jamacha Road just past where Highway 94 bends right and becomes Campo Road (Thomas Guide 1271-J6). We will ride share from there to meet at the trailhead at 9 AM, to reduce the number of cars. The trailhead is at the end of Par 4 Drive. Take Jamacha Drive past the shopping centers, turn right on Willow Glen Drive, next right onto Steele Canyon Road, and second right onto Par 4 Drive.

To assure your spot in the walk, RSVP to Lisa Cox, (619) 476-9150 x 106. Heavy rain at 8 AM on Sunday will cancel the trip.



**Saturday, March 31. 10 a.m. - noon. Daley Ranch. Leaders: Michael Murphy and Adrienne Heinzelman.** Meet at La Honda Trailhead. From I-15, take the El Norte Parkway exit in Escondido and go east four miles to La Honda Drive. (Residential street, no stoplight or stop sign. If you've reached a school on the left you've gone too far.) Turn left on La Honda Drive. Drive one mile. Park in dirt lot on left (Thomas Guide 1110 C3).

## RARE PLANT SURVEYS

We've been hitting the beach since early February, surveying dune plants as we did last year. This year has been a little different. With fewer storms earlier in the year, many of the dune plants bloomed early. They're also smaller. We have also been lucky enough to survey in some of the nesting areas for the snowy plover and least tern, areas which were fenced off on February 15.

We aren't done with the survey yet. If you're interested, most of our surveys last about four hours, and most (not all) of them take place on weekday mornings, to avoid the weekend crowds. If you are interested, contact Frank Landis ([franklandiso3@cnpsd.org](mailto:franklandiso3@cnpsd.org)) to volunteer.

~ **Frank Landis**, Rare Plant Surveys Committee Chair

### DID YOU KNOW?

- **CNPS is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and donations to the CNPS San Diego Chapter are tax deductible.**

## INVASIVE PLANTS



### RESTORATION OPEN HOUSE



**Dates and times: Sunday, March 11, noon; Friday, March 30, 9:00 a.m.; Saturday, April 7, 9:00 a.m. (Other dates & times may be arranged.)**

**You are invited** to tour the restoration areas along Artesian Creek, west of Rancho Bernardo. This is your chance to tour a successful on-going restoration of some 300 to 400 acres of coastal sage with a riparian corridor. There are large areas of native vegetation, lots of native wildlife and a gorge with waterfalls. There are also areas in before and intermediate states that show what has been done.

**Reservations are required;** we are limited as to how many we can take at any given time. Terrain varies from easy to very rugged. We can accommodate most people so please indicate your ability/limitations and we will plan accordingly. Refreshments will be served after the tour. **RSVP to [invasiveplants@cnpsd.org](mailto:invasiveplants@cnpsd.org).**

## THE BRADLEY METHOD OF ELIMINATING EXOTIC PLANTS FROM NATURAL RESERVES

(re-written from an article by T. C. Fuller and G. Douglas Barbe in Fremontia, July 1985)

The system gets its name from two sisters (both over 50) who maintained open space in Australia.

### Preliminaries

**Permits and Permission** must be obtained to carry out weed control.

**Plant Identification.** Although it is not necessary to know every species in the area, it is essential to be sure that no natives are pulled or killed and that no weeds are left behind. If in doubt about a plant, leave it and get help in identification.

**Labor.** A single person working intelligently will do more good than many people crashing through an area.

**Strategy.** The basis of this method is the native species' ability to recolonize by tipping the ecological balance away from the weeds and toward the native plants. If one begins by clearing the weeds out of the most heavily infested areas, the weeds will come right back because they are provided ideal conditions- bare, disturbed soil exposed to full sunlight. Instead, by working a little at a time, from the strongholds of natural vegetation towards the weeds, the native vegetation is favored and its natural regenerative power will prevail over the weeds.

### Plan the Work

In this sequence the Bradleys designed work for one person to follow, working from the best stand of native vegetation to the worst infestation of weeds. By keeping the sequence always the same, it can be by any number of people in any number of places.

1. **Prevent Deterioration of Good Areas.** Start by getting rid of weeds that occur singly or in small groups. Check once or twice a year for new or missed weeds.

2. **Improve the Next Best.** Choose a place that you can visit easily and often, where the native vegetation is pushing against a mixture of weeds, preferably not worse than one weed to two natives. Start with a strip about 12 feet wide and no longer than you can cover about once a month during the growing season. If this boundary is on a slope that might erode, clear small patches instead, but still no more than a dozen feet from vigorous native vegetation. Let a few months go by. Your experience will dictate how much more is warranted.

3. **Hold the Advantage Gained.** Resist the temptation to push deeper into the weeds before the regenerating natives have stabilized each cleared area. The natives need not be very tall but should but should form a dense cover.

4. **Cautiously Move Into the Really Bad Areas.** When the new growth consists almost entirely of native species with only a few weeds, it is safe to move further into the weeds. *Don't start to clear a block of solid weeds until you have brought the good native vegetation right up to that area.* Solid infestations of weeds can be worked on the edges by forming peninsulas of weeds, small clearings less than six feet in diameter. Also removing weeds from around a single native within an infestation can allow it to grow much faster. There is no

reason to hurry this process; much more is gained by allowing the native plant to grow well before removing another adjacent weed.

### Records

Make periodic surveys and map infestations.

For more information about the Invasive Plant group contact: [invasiveplants@cnpsd.org](mailto:invasiveplants@cnpsd.org) or call 858-759-4769.

## Spring Plant Sale March 17

The spring plant sale and membership day will be held at Tree of Life Nursery on Saturday, March 17, 2012, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The nursery is located at 33201 Ortega Highway, 92675, 7 miles east of San Juan Capistrano on the Ortega Highway (Highway 74).

The nursery is situated in a grove of large trees and specializes in growing California native plants. Numerous areas are landscaped with native plants, allowing visitors to experience an environment that preserves the look and feel of a native landscape in a park-like setting. The nursery has a large selection of plants in several sizes and extensive growing fields nearby.



Tree of Life Nursery

There will be a series of speakers throughout the day. Connie Beck will present "Natives for Wildlife," a discussion of native plants that attract wildlife, including birds, butterflies, bats, and bees. Amy Huie will talk about plants that are appropriate for shady areas. In addition, some of our colleagues from the Orange County chapter will give talks that address different garden situations.

All CNPS members will receive a 10% discount to celebrate membership day. You can join or renew your membership the day of the sale. Arrive early for best selection. CNPS members will be available to help people choose plants and provide free native plant gardening advice. If you are interested in volunteering for this sale please contact Kristen Olafson, CNPS San Diego spring plant sale chair, at [springplantsale@cnpsd.org](mailto:springplantsale@cnpsd.org). For more information, contact Tree of Life Nursery at [www.californianativeplants.com](http://www.californianativeplants.com) or 949-728-0685, or the CNPS San Diego chapter at [www.cnpsd.org](http://www.cnpsd.org).

## First CNPS Garden Tour April 28 & 29

Buy tickets now...The web site is up and running! We have a beautiful new web page for the 2012 Garden Tour: <http://www.cnpsd.org/tour/>

The price is \$20 per ticket and the chance drawing tickets are priced as follows: minimum buy: five tickets at \$2 each.

Our inaugural, region-wide, native garden tour is coming soon: Saturday April 28th, and Sunday April 29th. Rain this winter means we will have some gorgeous gardens to view. The gardens are scattered from Chula Vista to Fallbrook, and show off such a diversity of garden types: public, private, formal, casual, naturalistic and more. In addition to our wonderful assortment of gardens, come see the on-site lectures by native horticultural professionals, enjoy discounts for businesses, gourmet food, and a chance drawing for 5 custom landscape plans donated by local designers.

Check out our new tour web pages on the website where you can register for the event and purchase tickets for the chance drawing. Please spread the word! Tell your friends and help us make this new San Diego Native Plant Garden Tour a success.

We can still accept docent volunteers - the training class is Friday March the 2nd, 6-9 PM at Balboa Park Casa del Prado Building, Room 104. The training hike will be Saturday, March the 10th, 9-11 AM - we'll send out location info shortly. Please register as a docent by emailing [gardening@cnpsd.org](mailto:gardening@cnpsd.org).

Send an email or call either Clayton Tschudy (858-774 7692; [tschudycodesigns@gmail.com](mailto:tschudycodesigns@gmail.com)) or Susan Krzywicki ([gardening@cnpsd.org](mailto:gardening@cnpsd.org)).

## Garden Work Parties

### Old Town Historic State Park Native Garden: March 10 (Saturday), 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The Garden illustrates the landscape that was by the San Diego River when Europeans arrived and established Old Town San Diego at the site of a Native American village called Kosoy. Trees, shrubs, grasses, and other plants that were useful for making tools, shelter, weapons, clothing, ornaments, toys, food, medicine, or that were forage for the animals that were part of the diet of the original Native American peoples, are being added every year.

Every month the work party volunteers care for the Garden. Most months that means weeding, sometimes things need to be pruned, or mulch needs to be spread, and in the November when the rains begin, volunteers are planting. The planting was begun in earnest in 2007 and

will continue until 2020 if all goes as planned. When the plantings are healthy and abundant and able to provide enough material, workshops to harvest and weave or otherwise demonstrate how to use the plants will be planned.

The work party in March will focus on thinning out seedlings and removing unwanted weeds.

The Native Plant Garden is at the far west end of Old Town, at the corner of Taylor and Congress Streets (Thomas Guide 1248 F5), right across from the depot building at the train/trolley/bus station. Come by mass transit and cross at the corner and you are there; or if you drive, park in the free state park parking lot at Calhoun and Taylor, or across Taylor in the CalTrans Parking lot. Bring your garden gloves and planting tools, or share the tools and gloves that the organizers will provide. Bring water if you would rather not use the drinking fountain. Restrooms on site. Rain cancels the work party.

The Old Town State Park Native Plant Garden Work Parties are monthly on the second Saturday, from 1 PM to 3 PM.

**Point Loma Native Plant Garden: March 3 and 18, 9:00 – noon.** Rain cancels; bring water; no facilities; tools/supplies provided. Usually the first Saturday & third Sunday of each month. Contact [Richard@sandiegoriver.org](mailto:Richard@sandiegoriver.org) for more info.



## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIVITIES RELATED TO NATIVE PLANTS

(included in CNPS-SD newsletter as space allows)

### WORK PARTIES

**March 3, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Willow and Acorn Planting at BLM's Sycamore Canyon.** Help restore an area that's been hard hit by past over-grazing and multiple fires. Willow cuttings and acorns will be planted to help restore a creek/riparian area upon which many native animal species depend, including the endangered Least Bell's vireo. Wear long pants, a hat, gloves (if you have them) and sturdy shoes. Bring sunscreen or rain protection, as the weather indicates. Bring water and a water bottle if you have one. Gloves, tools, water and snacks will be provided. No restroom at this location. We are happy to sign for community service or extra credit hours. To RSVP, and for directions or more information, contact Cathy Chadwick, [chadgroup@cox.net](mailto:chadgroup@cox.net) or 619-277-3605.

**March 10, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Famosa Slough:** Work party at Famosa Slough to take care of California native plants and remove invasive plants on Saturday, MARCH

10, 9:00 AM to Noon. Meet at SE corner, W. Pt. Loma Blvd. and Famosa Blvd. (zip=92107). For details, call (619)224-4591 or see [www.FamosaSlough.org](http://www.FamosaSlough.org). The Friends of Famosa Slough have work parties the 2nd Saturday of all odd-numbered months. The next ones are May 12, July 14, Sept. 8 and Nov. 10.

**March 10, 2012, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Native Plant Landscaping at Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve** Help the California Department of Fish and Game with landscaping at the budding Conservation Education Center at Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve. To demonstrate water-wise and habitat friendly practices, the entrance area of the facility will be transformed from lawn and water-hungry ornamental plants, to native plants with several interpretive features such as plants used by native Americans, a wildlife 'tracking pond,' and an information kiosk. This work day will consist of planting and. Wear long pants, a hat, gloves (if you have them) and sturdy shoes. Bring sunscreen or rain protection, as the weather indicates. Bring water and a water bottle if you have one. Gloves, tools, water and snacks will be provided. We are happy to sign for community service or extra credit hours. To RSVP, and for directions or more information, contact Cathy Chadwick, [chadgroup@cox.net](mailto:chadgroup@cox.net) or 619-277-3605. This project is being conducted with support from the US Fish and Wildlife Service Schoolyard Habitats program.

**March 10 and 24, 9 a.m. – Noon. Chaparral Lands Conservancy Event.** We begin with a short walk to introduce the special nature of the preserve followed by fence construction. Want to help protect rare vernal pools? Join The Chaparral Lands Conservancy and the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department for a "Backyard Wilderness" work party to install fencing around vernal pools at the Carmel Mountain Preserve in Carmel Valley. Please bring water and suitable work clothing you don't mind getting dirty and to keep the sun off. Please RSVP to David Hogan for directions: [director@chaparralconservancy.org](mailto:director@chaparralconservancy.org) or 619-756-3864. Participants will be required to sign a liability waiver, and parents or guardians must sign a waiver for minors. Heavy rain cancels. For more information on The Chaparral Lands Conservancy and projects please visit our website: [www.chaparralconservancy.org](http://www.chaparralconservancy.org).

### WORKSHOP

**Grass Identification Workshop. April 14 - 15, 2012.** Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, CA – Grasses are the second most diverse plant family in California. This class will focus on learning to use the identification keys in The Jepson Manual. Participants will learn how to determine major tribes and common genera by use of microscopes and diagnostic characteristics. On Sunday, the class will test its knowledge in Joshua Tree National Park for an afternoon field session.

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. each day.

Meet at: Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, East Classroom, 1500 N. College Ave, Claremont, CA 91711

Fee: \$110 (\$100 for JTNPA/PINE members)

Contact: Kevin Wong, Desert Institute, 760-367-5535



# San Diego Natural History Museum

## FREE Guided Nature Hikes

For more information or directions, visit <http://www.sdnhm.org/calendar> or call (619) 232-3821; option 4 (M-F).

**Saturday, March 3; 8 a.m.-noon. El Monte Park.** Near Lakeside, hike a switchback trail through chaparral and sage scrub to an area where a flume was built to carry water from El Capitan Reservoir.

**Sunday, March 4; 10-11:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Louis A. Stelzer County Park.**

Near Lakeside, take a short walk along Wildcat Creek or opt for a longer hike that gradually climbs grassy slopes to a ridge. Parking \$3.

**Saturday, March 10; 8-10 a.m. Ruffin Canyon Open Space.** In San Diego's Serra Mesa neighborhood, explore a rocky trail and streambed.

**Sunday, March 11; 9 a.m. -1 p.m. McCain Valley.** Near Boulevard, experience the high desert while hiking to a year-round spring and remnant grove of California bay laurel trees.

**Saturday, March 17; 9-11 a.m. Kate O. Sessions Memorial Park.** In Pacific Beach overlooking Mission Bay, explore the park's less-visited natural area on a sometimes-rough trail.

**Saturday, March 17; 7:00-8:30 a.m. Santee Lakes.** In Santee, water birds will be the focus of this early-morning ramble.

**Sunday, March 18; 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. William Heise County Park.** Near Julian, a five-mile hike through forests of oak, pine and cedar. Be prepared for temperature changes. Parking \$8.

**Saturday, March 24; 8-11 a.m. Cowles Mountain.** Hike to the top from the east side of the mountain, an elevation gain of 1,000 feet.

**Sunday, March 25; 9-11 a.m. Del Rey Canyon.** In Chula Vista, take an easy springtime walk to see a variety of native chaparral and streamside plants.

**Saturday, March 31; 9 a.m. -1:30 p.m. Eagle Rock.** Near Warner Springs, hike a section of the Pacific Crest Trail to a formation known as Eagle Rock. The 7-mile hike passes under oaks and through chaparral and grassland.

## PRESENTATION

**March 12, Anza-Borrego Botany Society.** Archeologist Daniel F. McCarthy will talk about 'Cahuilla Agave Harvesting Strategies' at a meeting of the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Botany Society March 12 in Borrego Springs. The illustrated presentation will begin at 10 a.m. in the state park Visitor Center. It is free and open to the public. The talk will focus on the Agave plant, its habitat and cultural importance to the desert Native Americans. McCarthy, tribal relations program manager for the San Bernardino National Forest, will also discuss other plants the Cahuilla relied on for food. McCarthy has a master's degree in anthropology from the University of

California at Riverside. His research interests include desert archeology and rock art distribution, and he is the organizer for the annual Malki Museum Agave Harvest and Tasting. He also teaches Native American cultural awareness classes in Southern California.

The CNPS-SD Newsletter is published 12 times a year. The newsletter is not peer reviewed and any opinions expressed are those of the author identified at the end of each notice or article. The newsletter editor may edit the submittal to improve accuracy, improve readability, shorten articles to fit the space, and reduce the potential for legal challenges against CNPS. If an article, as edited, is not satisfactory to the author, the author can appeal to the board. The author has the final say on whether the article, as edited, is printed in the newsletter. Submissions are due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the newsletter; that is, March 10 for the April newsletter, etc. Please send submittals to [newsletter@cnpsd.org](mailto:newsletter@cnpsd.org).



See the rare Tecate cypress on the Members Only field trip on March 18 to the Guatay Mountain grove near Pine Valley (see p. 3). (Photo from [http://www.fourdir.com/p\\_tecate\\_cypress.htm](http://www.fourdir.com/p_tecate_cypress.htm))

## CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2012

- 3/3: Point Loma Native Garden Work Party (p. 6)
- 3/4: Tecolote Canyon Public Walk (p.2)
- 3/7: **Board Meeting (p. 2)**
- 3/10: Public Plant Walk – Swan Cyn (p.3)
- 3/10: Old Town Work Party (p. 5)
- 3/11: Public Plant Walk – SD NWR (p.3)
- 3/11: Restoration Open House (p. 4)
- 3/17: Spring Plant Sale (p.5)
- 3/18: Member Field Trip - Guatay Mountain (p.3)
- 3/18: Point Loma Native Garden Work Party (p. 6)
- 3/21: **Chapter Meeting (p. 1)**
- 3/31: Member Field Trip - Lake Calavera & Calavera Heights Preserves (p.3)
- 3/31: Public Plant Walk – Daley Ranch (p.4)



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

\_\_\_ Student or Limited Income \$25; \_\_\_ Individual \$45; \_\_\_ Family or Library \$75  
\_\_\_ Plant Lover \$100; \_\_\_ Patron \$300; \_\_\_ Benefactor \$600; \_\_\_ Mariposa Lily \$1,500

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
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**CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

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**CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY – SAN DIEGO**

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