

Read about our local Ranger's up close and personal encounter with a rattlesnake, here: [The Calavera Glove.](#)



Photo by Todd Nordness

The big news of note- after months of delay the City of Carlsbad has reissued portions of the EIR for the General Plan for further public comment. There were 291 comment letters on the original General Plan- and the majority of them raised concerns about parks and open space. Is that why this is being redone? Unfortunately, no. The city realized they had not done an adequate analysis of Air Quality impacts- all of that pollution from so many more cars. To address those impacts they provided some additional mitigation, and also developed a new alternative to the General Plan- one with 40% less development - fewer homes, commercial and hotel rooms.

Is it likely this reduced development alternate actually gets adopted? Of course not. We expect they will declare "overriding considerations" and adopt the EIR in spite of significant adverse impacts to air quality, traffic, and greenhouse gasses. But the additional analysis and mitigation will make it easier to ward off any legal challenges. Where does that leave all of us concerned about parks and open space? It leaves us right where we were last May- no commitment to maintain the promised 40% open space. Double counting of land as both natural open space and parks. Counting fenced, gated and locked school yards as parks. And counting Veteran's Park in all four quadrants of the city in order to meet the minimum requirements of 3 acres of parkland/1,000 residents/quadrant.

Please take a few minutes, read and comment on this latest version and let the city know that you want to see them actually do something about the shortage of parks and open space.

The deadline for comments is **May 4th, 2015**. The revised sections and entire GP/EIR can be found at www.carlsbadca.gov. If you have difficulty accessing the document online or would prefer to review a hardcopy, the document is also on file with the City of Carlsbad Planning Division at 1635 Faraday Avenue, Carlsbad CA 92008, and a copy is available at (1) City Clerk's Office, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive; (2) Carlsbad Main Library, 1775 Dove Lane; and (3) Georgina Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive.

Comments can be submitted via email to Jennifer.Jesser@carlsbadca.gov

April of course is the month we all celebrate Earth Day. There are lots of ways to celebrate this year- from fairs in Vista and Oceanside, climate change talks, and even our annual wildflower hike on Sunday April 19th.

But to get you started off with a reminder of why we love Mother Earth- and yes there are things we can each do to help her- please see this short film by Bill Moyers.

<http://billmoyers.com/segment/whats-possible/>

Happy Earth Day!

U-T San Diego: Coastkeeper Report Shows Excessive Pollutants in Water

To read this report, and learn more about the water quality analyses that showed unhealthy levels of pollutants in our watersheds here in San Diego County, see this [link](#).

Our all-volunteer organization can't do what we do without your help. Your time, talent and donation can make a difference - right here in your own backyard. Call or email us to see how else you could get involved.

To donate online: <http://preservecalavera.org>

APRIL ACTIVITIES:

April 11 Sat: 10 AM - 3 PM

Annual Earth Day Fair at Alta Vista Gardens in Vista

This special event is planned with something for all ages, from kids activities to healing in the garden. We will be participating as part of our Clean Green Vista Coalition working on local climate change. The AVBG is located in Brengle Terrace Park- enter by the Senior Center and continue up the hill. Free parking near the garden entrance. Arrive by 11:30 am and participate in the special tree planting project.

April 11 Sat: 2:30 - 4:30 PM

Vista Library (Vista, CA)

Why We Need To Implement Climate Action Plans In North County

We welcome Nicole Capritz, Executive Director of Climate Action Campaign who is an environmental attorney and legal advisor for local government and the nonprofit sector in San Diego. She was one of the primary authors for the San Diego CAP and served as the chair of the city's Economic and Environment Commission.

April 19 Sun: 8:30 - 11:30 AM

Annual Lake Calavera Wildflower Hike

James Dillane of CNPS will join Preserve Calavera for a botanical exploration in the Calavera Preserve. This rich area includes varied habitats with several rare species. A preliminary plant list will be available to aide in learning. Beginners welcome. For those who can't get enough of our native plants the hike may continue up to the summit of Mt. Calavera.

Meet in Oak Riparian Park in Oceanside. Hike includes undeveloped trails, some rough terrain, and 500' elevation gain. Wear good hiking boots/shoes with good tread, hat and bring water, sunscreen and snack if you are planning on staying for the entire hike. Space is limited; RSVP required (pdecino@preservecalavera.org). Park entrance is at 4625 Lake Blvd.

April 19 Sun: 10 AM - 3 PM

Annual Earthday Fair in Oceanside

This fair is in conjunction with Days of Art in downtown Oceanside. You get to see great art work- and learn about local groups working to help Mother Earth.

April 19 Sun: 2 PM

Annual Native Plant Garden Walking Tour in Oceanside

Come see 15 native plant gardens in the historic Seaside neighborhood in downtown Oceanside. Meet at 2 pm in the parking lot of St Mary's School at 515 Wisconsin St. (1 block east of 101 Café on Coast Highway) For more info see BV Audubon.org.

April 25 Sat: 8:30 to 11:30 AM

Trail Volunteer Work at Hosp Grove in Carlsbad

This is the monthly trail volunteer work session with the city of Carlsbad. Wear closed toe shoes, pants, long sleeved shirt, gloves, hat and sunscreen. Tools, water and snacks will be provided. Meet at the trailhead on Monroe between Marron and Wickham. For more info call 434-2834.

Upcoming Events:

May 9 Sat

Trail work at Lake Calavera

May 16 Sat

Endangered Species Day Event at BV Nature Center

TBD - Hearing on City of Carlsbad General Plan-- expected in June