See a video of one of our Carlsbad residents who likes to hang out at night. Click on bobcat footage at: http://preservecalavera.org/?page_id=360

But how well will our local wildlife fare as we keep adding thousands of homes and businesses- and lose hundreds of acres of open space? The City of Carlsbad recently issued the draft of their new General Plan. We were shocked to learn that the promise for 40% open space at buildout is being ignored, some open space is being double counted, and the long established performance standards for open space and parks are violated. Of course this loss of parks and open space doesn’t just effect wildlife- everyone who lives here will feel the loss. See the Plan http://www.carlsbadca.gov/services/departments/community/envision-carlsbad/Pages/Documents.aspx

We will be holding a series of community meetings to explain what is proposed for parks and open space- NW quadrant meeting will be held on Thurs April 24 (see below for details) and three other quadrants in May. If you can’t make the meeting for your quadrant feel free to attend any of the meetings. This General Plan will determine what kind of community Carlsbad will become. If you think parks and open space are a key part of the fabric of your community the time to act is now!

April Activities

April 12 Sat  8:30 – and 10:30 AM
City of Carlsbad opening of the Boardwalk Trail and Wildflower Hike
After months of construction, the new Boardwalk sections of trails at Calavera are now open! Come and walk the trails on your own or join special wildflower hikes with native plant expert James Dillane. Both hikes will leave from the Skyhaven trail head. The 8:30 am hike will include the new Boardwalk creek crossing and is a slower paced hike. 10:30 am is a faster paced hike on the western side of Lake Calavera. Wear good
hiking boots/shoes with good tread, hat and bring water, sunscreen For more details see this flier: http://www.carlsbadca.gov/services/departments/parksandrec/trails/Documents/saturday-trail-event.pdf

April 12 Sat 10 AM – 3 PM
Earth Day Festival at Alta Vista Gardens in Vista
Attend this special Earth Day celebration that starts with a ceremonial healing of the garden and ends with a drum circle. Special events include music and dance performances, children’s activities, poets patio and artist and eco-vendor booths. For more details see http://www.altavistagardens.org/html/earth_day_2014.html

April 24 Thurs 6- 7:30 PM
Where’s Our Park ?- Community meeting for NW Quadrant of Carlsbad
There have been lots of promises about parks and open space but the new General Plan does not deliver. If we don’t have adequate parks and open space included in the Plan we will never have them! In 1986 the Growth Management Plan promised 40% open space, including parks. Over $ 100m has been spent on the golf course but many neighborhoods still do not have a playground or ballfield they can walk to. The new General Plan is adding thousands of homes and businesses, but just a little sliver of green space along the coast. Come and learn what is included in the General Plan and what we can do to fix it so every neighborhood has the kind of parks, trails and open space that are part of the core values of our community. Meeting will be held at the Carlsbad Senior Center at 799 Pine Ave./Garfield. Bring your friends and neighbors – it's time for parks!

April 26 Sat 9 AM -12 Noon ( or later)
Annual Wildflower Hike At Calavera with CNPS
James Dillane of the California Native Plant Society will lead this annual visit to the Lake Calavera Preserve. This is co-sponsored with the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and is geared for the serious plant enthusiast- from the beginner to the expert. This rich area includes varied habitats with several rare species. First hour will be a slow teaching hike, 2nd hour (and beyond) will be a faster paced plant assessment. For those who can’t get enough of our native plants the hike may continue to the summit of Mt. Calavera where we will stop for snacks. 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 the longer hike. Meet at Calavera trailhead next to Sky Haven near Azure Lado Drive in Oceanside. (Thomas Guide p 1107 C3). Space is limited- RSVP
required. Email info@preservecalavera.org or call 760-724-3887.

April 27 Sun 10 AM - 5 PM
Oceanside Green Fair – Culmination of Earth Month Celebration
This will be the highlight of a month long series of special events in Oceanside. Come to the fair and see environmentally friendly businesses and local organizations (stop by our booth and play with our wildlife tracking box.) Event also includes Vintage Market, Green Home Improvement area, a Water-Friendly plant sale, and of course food and entertainment. Fair is in downtown Oceanside at weekly market site along Pier View Way and Tremont St. Come and celebrate Mother Earth! For more information see www.greenoceanside@ci.oceanside.ca.us. (Also Check out the other events of the month including compost classes at El Corazon, used oil filter exchange, and Loma Alta creek clean-up).

April 27 Sun 2 PM
California Native Garden Walking Tour
Come see 18 native plant gardens in the historic Seaside neighborhood of Oceanside. Plant experts and neighborhood locals lead 1.5 mi walking tour of these wonderful front yard gardens. Meet at St. Mary’s School parking lot at 515 Wisconsin Ave in Oceanside. (1 Block east of 101 Café on Coast Hwy. in Oceanside). Sponsored by the Buena Vista Native Plant Club and Oceanside Coastal Neighborhood Association. Walk is free, kids will be selling cookies and lemonade along the route. For more info go to www.OCNA.info or call the Nature Center at 760-439-2473.

Future Events

May 17 Sat – Special Endangered Species Day Event with Buena Vista Audubon Society
Throughout May- meetings on new General Plan and shortage of parks and open space

Our all volunteer organization can't do what we do without your help. Your time, talent and donations can make a difference - right here in your own backyard. Call or email us to see how else you could get involved. Donations can be made through our website at http://www.preservecalavera.org or by mailing a check.

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