



Butte Environmental Council

Educating and advocating for the land, air and water

Butte Environmental Council e-News *Your Environmental Sentinel*

April 2013

In This Issue

[Endangered Species Faire May 4th](#)

[Code Blue Activist Training](#)

[Earth Day at Wildwood Park](#)

[Check Our Crazy Calendar](#)

[Stream Team Turns 10](#)

[Mt. Lassen CNPS Salutes Volunteer](#)

Quick Links

[BEC Website](#)

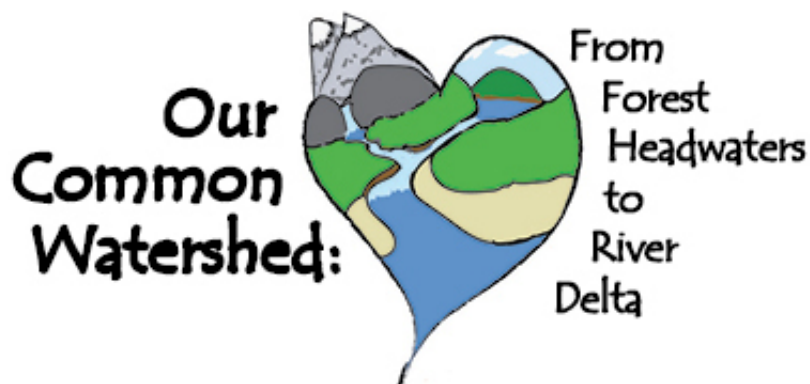
[BEC Event Calendar](#)

[Renew BEC Membership](#)

Dear Robyn,

Thank you for your ongoing support of BEC. It is because of you that we can do this important work to protect our local resources.

May 4th is the 34th Annual Endangered Species Faire



Since 1979, the Butte Environmental Council has been hosting the annual **Endangered Species Faire** to promote and encourage environmental education with a local bio-regional emphasis. The Faire features a full day of exhibits, activities, presentations and entertainment, with approximately 5,000 individuals of all ages participating in Northern California's oldest annual environmental fair, held at Cedar Grove in Bidwell Park.

We've amassed a giant stockpile of happy memories from past Faires. Many friends, members and educators who have grown up coming to the Faire now bring their children to experience the thrill of Wild Things, or delight in Jon Hooper's environmental education students' booths (to name but two of our favorite ESF offerings). In fact, we've noticed over the last couple of years that we're starting in on our **third generation** of Faire-goers.

The Procession of the Species promises to be utterly fantastic this year; a group of puppets from the Procession will be **leading the Pioneer Day Parade at 10:30 in downtown Chico!** The Procession puppets will then reappear at Cedar Grove, and the rest of the **Procession will begin at 12:00.** With **over 250 kids from five different schools, dancers,** and live music, the Procession will enthrall Faire-goers from 12:00 to 1:00, to be followed by the previously mentioned and much-loved **Wild Things live animal show at 1:00.**

This year's theme is **"Our Common Watershed: From Forest Headwaters to River Delta."** Water continues to be primary in BEC's advocacy work, as demand for North State water grows and increasingly complex and ambitious plans for exporting North State water are unveiled. This is a perfect segue into our next article...

BUTTE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Stemen, *Chair*
Michael McGinnis, *Treasurer*
Amanda Freeman
Tom Haithcock
Steve Handy
Mark Herrera
John Howlett
Kevin Killion

Melody Leppara
Skye Li
Luann Manss
Grace Marvin
John Scott

STAFF

Robyn DiFalco
Executive Director
Maggi Barry
Office Coordinator
Julia Murphy
Project & Admin. Assistant

CONSULTANTS

Carol Perkins
Water
Nani Teves
Land Use/Planning

116 W. 2nd St.
Chico CA 95928
Phone (530) 891-6424
Fax: (530) 891-6426

Join Our Mailing List!

Forward to a Friend

Like us on Facebook 

Endangered

Thursday, April 18 Code Blue: Water Activist Training

Join in, become empowered, and learn from those on the front lines of activism!

Do you suffer from documentary depression, information overload, and an overwhelming sense that the problems are too many and solutions too late?



Water demonstration, Cochabamba, Bolivia

We watch the solutions roll up with the credits at the end of 'An Inconvenient Truth,' or read articles about Governor Brown rerouting the Sacramento River around the delta as if it is a done deal and hoping the north-state will remain quiet.

During the Water Activist Training, we will be building a bridge between passion and activism. Not only it is going to take a *lot* of us working on these water issues to make change happen, but there is also no better cure to feeling sad about a problem than to actively participate in the solution.

- **5:30-5:45** Introductions
- **5:45-6:30** Kelly Munson (Butte College)- Stages of Change and Effective Communication
- **6:30-7:00** Organic white bean and kale soup with Tin Roof sourdough bread
- **7:00-7:45** Marti Dunlap (Citizens Water Watch) - Civic engagement, a process and a legal right
- **7:45-8:30** Carol Perkins (Butte Environmental Council) and Grace Marvin (Sierra Club) - Project specific activism start to finish; the activists' story about working to stop the Crystal Geyser bottling plant in Orland.

Visit our [website](#) for event details or click on the link to read [Christine LaPado's 4/11 article](#) about this event in the Chico News & Review. We invite you to join in, become empowered, and learn from those on the front lines of local activism!

Sunday, April 21 Earth Day Celebration at Wildwood Park

Species Faire
Sponsors
THANK YOU!!



[website](#)



[website](#)

PULLINS CYCLERY

Steve & Katy O'Bryan

801 Main St.

Chico CA 95928

Ph: (530)342-1055

Email: pullinsusa@aol.com



[website](#)



Horseshoe Lake by Grayson Hartman, [Grayhart Photography](#)

This Earth Day, we're celebrating years of successfully protecting the treasured lands of Butte County. Join us at Wildwood Park for a family-friendly afternoon of live music, food, kids activities and guided tours of Bidwell Ranch. This event is **FREE** and open to the general public.

- * **Location:** group picnic area at Wildwood Park
- * **Guided Tours** of Bidwell Ranch depart at **3:00, 3:30, 4:00** and **4:30** featuring wildflowers, vernal pools, and the history and future of the Bidwell Ranch property.
- * **Live music** begins at **5:00** by the Railflowers and Lisa Valentine
- * **Family-friendly activities** include face painting or crafts for the kids, kite flying, frisbee tossing, and more.
- * **Food** provided by local food trucks or BYO barbeque or picnic
- * **Cake-cutting** in honor of Sierra Club founder John Muir's birthday

Join us in one of our favorite places, for one of our favorite holidays!

Earth Day Film Showing of "Trashed" is a Benefit for BEC, Kids & Creeks

Chico Bag hosts 5 Gyres exhibit & film on April 22 at Big Room



ChicoBag is presenting the North Valley premier of the award winning documentary '[TRASHED](#)', benefiting local environmental nonprofits

This public screening of the film Trashed will forever change your outlook on waste. Academy award winning actor Jeremy Irons explores some of the most pressing environmental issues in an eye-opening film.



"We hope the film will demonstrate that by changing the way we live our lives, we can contribute to our own survival and well-being and ultimately that of the planet." -Jeremy Irons

Come out for an inspiring night benefiting local nonprofits: Kids and Creeks, Butte Environmental Council and 5Gyres.

Doors open at 6:00 and the film will begin at 7:00. Arrive early to get a beverage, talk with representatives from the organizations involved and check out the exhibit on display by 5Gyres in the Mezzanine.

Saving Our Synthetic Seas is a traveling exhibition on the global impact of plastic on terrestrial and marine ecosystems. The exhibit also reflects on the cultural response adaptation to this growing ecological threat. Developed by 5 Gyres Institute, Saving Our Synthetic Seas includes collected objects and castings made from plastic trash.

A donation of any amount gets you in the door. Special gifts from ChicoBag and Klean Kanteen will be given to those who donate \$10 or more. This will be a waste-free event so bring a reusable pint or get one as a gift for your donation.

All donations will go toward education on water conservation and protection, waste reduction and plastic pollution. In particular, funds will be raised for the Butte Environmental Council's efforts to reestablish a recycling education outreach program in the community.

A short discussion on what the organizations are working to accomplish and solutions for preventing plastic pollution will be lead by Marcus Erickson, Executive Director of 5Gyres and Andy Keller, President of ChicoBag, before the film begins.

So Many Events...

Did we mention that it's Event Season? In addition to the Environmental Coalition articles (below), we want to be able to promote All The Things. We're going to recommend again that you visit our **Calendar**, instead of getting writer's cramp listing all of the upcoming events in April and May again here.



We don't have Bike Month in the calendar yet, but hey! **May is Bike Month**, and the culminating event for that funfest is the **Chico Bicycle Music Festival**. The Bike Music Fezzie is sponsored by BEC and created by Magic Pedal Productions. CBMF features live music with a sound system powered by YOU, pedaling your biscuits off, generating power through a system created by local bike engineering wizards.

This is the fifth annual Bike Music Festival and if you have never been--

Oh, Man, you're in for a treat. **This year's CBMF is June 1st**, and the Grand Bike PooBahs are starting to look for **volunteers**. See the link for **more information...**

The Stream Team Kicks Off 10th Season of Monitoring--You're Invited!

by Timmarie Hamill

The Stream Team collects data from Big Chico Creek that is used to inform local and regional resource management decisions by providing baseline water quality data. The Stream Team tracks long-term trends in watershed health associated with land use practices used to reduce non-point source pollution including creek-side restoration (Verbena Fields).



Non-point source pollution has been identified as one of our nation's largest remaining water quality problems. It's not caused by discharges from big factories or from sewage treatment plants, but is generated by all of us as a result of the choices we make in our everyday lives (EPA, 2003).

Non-point source pollution from over-fertilizing lawns, letting oil drip from our cars, littering, paving parking lots, and reducing pervious surfaces are human practices causing cumulative impacts to water quality in Big Chico Creek. Population growth in the Sacramento Valley is projected to double by 2040 (Johnson & Hayes, 2004), which implies that associated sources of non-point source pollutants from small tributaries, such as Big Chico Creek, will become increasingly important to pinpoint and control.

For this reason, The Stream Team encourages volunteers to become more aware of the effects their actions have on water quality, while also developing water-wise habits and making informed choices. All of these are important to ensure clean water is available in the future.

Please join us in one of our upcoming events and get involved. Find out more at www.thestreamteam.org.



Mt. Lassen California Native Plant Society: Volunteer Award

by Cindy Weiner



Aristolochia californica (Pipevine, or Dutchman's Pipe)

Catie Bishop, long-time member of [Mount Lassen Chapter California Native Plant Society](#), was recently honored with the chapter's Volunteer Award.

Catie has been a board member for numerous terms. She has been steadfast in volunteering her time and expertise in staffing tables and providing displays for many CNPS activities, including the Snow Goose Festival, Oroville Wildflower Weekend, Wildflower Show and the Endangered Species Fair. She developed and used a simple pictorial flower key which she used while leading field trips on Table Mountain to engage the participants more fully in looking at plants.

Catie initiated and organized two popular and successful native plant garden tours, a first for this chapter. She has also grown and contributed many plants for our chapter plant sales.

She has played a large role in the success of the Wildflower Show by



initiating several ways to improve it. Catie has succeeded in organizing with CSU Chico Herbarium, a workshop on Nature Journaling, and a special evening program by noted author and illustrator John Muir Laws.

At the state level, Catie has been Chapter Council Delegate from 2008 until the present. She also sits on the state Volunteer Recognition Committee. She and her husband Jim are volunteers in the international GLORIA project, helping to survey plants in alpine environments in California and Nevada.

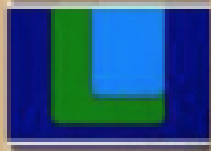
Catie Bishop has done an outstanding job of promoting, supporting and representing our Mount Lassen Chapter.

Thank you again for your continued support of BEC's efforts. Your input or participation is always welcome. Simply reply to this email to tell me what's on your mind.

Hope to see you at our upcoming events. Together we can accomplish what is impossible alone.

Robyn DiFalco

Executive Director
Butte Environmental Council



CHICO U-LOCK-IT
SELF STORAGE

(530) 895-9999 // 1909 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR PKWY.

LOCATED BEHIND MEEKS LUMBER AT THE CORNER OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING & E. 20TH

Now Accepting E-Waste for Recycling!

Visit them at <http://www.chicoulockit.com/>

[Forward this email](#)

 **SafeUnsubscribe™**

This email was sent to robynd@becnet.org by robynd@becprotects.org |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [About our service provider.](#)



Try it FREE today.

Butte Environmental Council | 116 W 2nd Street, Suite 3 | Chico | CA | 95928