



# Environmental Sentinel

Your source for Butte County's environmental news and events

Brought to you by the **Butte Environmental Council**  
Protecting Butte County's land, air, and water since 1975

## Butte Environmental Council Newsletter

August 2016



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[Join Our Mailing List!](#)


### Greetings!

Our mission is to protect and defend the land, air and water. That's a lot of protection! Someone asked me the other day, "How do you protect land?". I thought I would share my answer with you, in case you were wondering. BEC protects the land by monitoring local development and land use planning, and speaks out against development that threatens critical habitat. BEC supports community efforts to conserve our most valuable natural resources, and collaborates with City and County representatives for responsible land management.

We could not do it without [support](#) from community members like you! Thank you for protecting our environment by supporting BEC's work, you make it all possible!

Sincerely,  
Natalie Carter  
530-891-6424

 Forward to a Friend

 Like us on Facebook

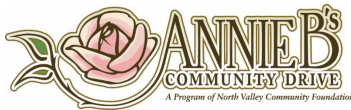
#### Quick Links

[BEC Website](#)

[BEC Event Calendar](#)

[Renew BEC Membership](#)

[Last Month's E-Sentinel](#)



Donations accepted  
August 1 -Sept 30

Will you [pitch in](#) and help BEC reach our \$25,000 goal?

## Upcoming BEC Events

### **Saturday, August 6**

[Rain Barrel Building Demonstration](#)

RSVP [here!](#)

### **Saturday, August 20**

BEC at the Saturday Morning Farmers Market  
2nd & Wall St, Downtown Chico

### **Sunday, August 21**

[Community Garden Festival & Plant Sale](#)

### **Thursday, August 25** 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

CN&R/Ray's Liquor - [Wine Tasting Fundraiser](#)  
Bidwell Golf Course

### **Saturday, August 27**

[BEC House Party Awareness Fundraiser](#)

### **Saturday, September 17** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

[Bidwell Park & Chico Creeks Cleanup](#)

(See articles below for all event details or visit our website at [www.becnet.org/events](http://www.becnet.org/events) )

## Long Term Canyon Protections in the Works

Butte Creek Canyon residents and local community groups have been working with the County drafting of a zoning overlay for Butte Creek Canyon which will help protect the historic, scenic, and ecologically rich Canyon while providing for the optimum balance of recreation and residential use. The Overlay was developed under direction of General Plan Conservation and Open Space Element Action Item COS-A6.2, if adopted the Canyon Overlay would be included in the County's General Plan.

You can find the [Staff Report](#), [Draft Overlay Map](#) and [Draft Overlay Ordinance](#) on the Butte County Website, along with the [presentation given by The Butte Creek Canyon Overlay Committee](#) to the Planning Commission at a Public Workshop on June 30, 2016.

A second public workshop before the Planning Commission has been scheduled on Tuesday, October 27, 2016 in the Board of Supervisors' Room, County Administration Center, 25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965.

## Community Garden Festival & Plant Sale, August 21st

BEC is hosting a [Community Garden Festival & Plant Sale](#) at the Humboldt Community Garden. We will have multiple booths for everyone to learn about plants and sustainability, and multiple vendors selling plants of all sorts. Come visit us at our booth and learn more about how The Butte Environmental Council influences plant life in Butte County!



Confirmed vendors include: GRUB Grown, [Edible Pedal](#) and [Air Plant Addict](#)

## House Party Fundraiser, August 27th

Please join us on Saturday, August 27 from 5 P.M to 10 P.M. at our [House Party Fundraiser](#) to raise awareness of local land use issues, and to support BEC's work.  
40 Quadra Court, Chico CA.  
Hosted by: Kaelen Davis.



- \$5 suggested minimum donation
- Live Music featuring: **Jasuka with BOGG** and **DJ Martha!**
- Parking is limited please RIDE YOUR BIKE, or CARPOOL!
- Taco truck on-site
- Alcohol for sale
- Gated pool
- Kids welcome

## Friends of the Cleanup

**DON'T BE TRASHY  
KEEP IT CLEAN**



Since our very first Bidwell Park and Chico Creeks Cleanup in 1987 over 8,000 volunteers have collected approximately 167 tons of trash, scrap metal and recyclables from Chico's waterways! We need your help to cover the expenses of this huge annual event that has such a powerful impact on our community and the environment. Become a Friend of the Cleanup today and donate to this amazing cause!

How your donation could help us:

- \$5** - A pair of gloves
- \$10** - 3 buckets OR a trash grabber
- \$16** - \$1 for every mile of creek that is cleaned
- \$32\*\*** - DOUBLE your support with \$2 for every mile of creek that is cleaned
- \$50** - Sponsor a cleanup TEAM
- \$75** - Appreciation lunch for 10 volunteers
- \$100** - Coffee for 80 volunteers
- \$500** - The cost of one 40 yd. waste bin for garbage disposal

[Donate now!](#)

\*\*We are offering a special Friends of the Cleanup membership renewal rate of \$32 or, if you're not already a member, will get you a membership! If you do not wish to be a BEC member, but want to donate, just let us know at the time of your donation. In order to qualify for this deal, you must donate to our Friends of the Cleanup campaign.

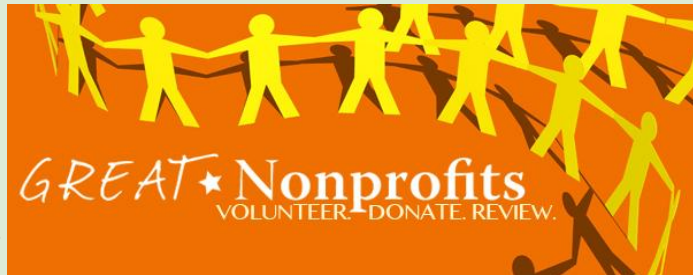
Visit our event page if you are interested in [volunteering!](#)

## Rate Us on GreatNonprofits.org

If you love our work, *tell the world!*

You have an opportunity to help us make even more of a difference in our community. GreatNonprofits, a review site like TripAdvisor, is honoring highly reviewed nonprofits with their 2016 Top-Rated Awards.

Won't you help us raise visibility for our work by posting a review of your experience with us?



All reviews will be visible to potential donors and volunteers. It's easy and only takes 3 minutes!

[Click here](#) to get started!

## Future Oaks Mighty Oaks are now caged every Sunday!



We are now halfway through our summer watering season in the Oak Restoration Program. Many of our oaks are growing strong, and we have several dozen now that are in need of a housing upgrade.

Every Sunday that our amazing volunteers are out watering we will also be upgrading a select few trees that need it the most to cages.

Only about ten trees so far have had this privilege but the more volunteers that come out, the more we can do!

If you would like to take part in this project, or you would like weekly updates and reminders, please sign up for our [Tree People List](#), or learn more about our Oak Restoration Project by visiting our [Oaks Page](#).

## #BECProtector of the Month!

A [#BECProtector](#) is a staff member or intern who we are featuring to introduce them to our members and thank for all their hard work.

In August meet staff member Becky Holden!



### **Favorite part of BEC?**

The work we do. We have had the support of the community in protecting the environment from short-sighted development, and BEC's programs focus on educating and empowering individuals in our area to do even more. This is the right place for me. This is the good fight.

### **Your dream vacation?**

Anywhere with running creeks or a waterfall, and pine trees!

### **Anything you'd like to add?**

I wish to convey my greetings and express my appreciation to our supporters who contribute to this great work.

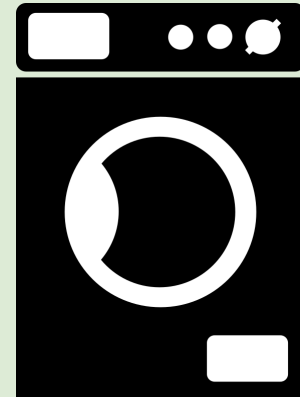
## Energy Conservation Tip: Use cold water when washing!

For most washing machines, running loads in cold water cleans just as well as hot water, and has less of an impact on some fabrics!

BONUS: You save energy, because you're not heating the water!

Interested in learning more about energy conservation?

Please visit [Energy Upgrade California](#)



**Go Green and Support BEC in One Step!**

Send funds back to BEC by going solar with SolarCity, America's #1 full-service solar provider.

For more information, visit [www.becnet.org/solar](http://www.becnet.org/solar)



We've been sittin', waitin', wishin'...

**Thanks SO much to one of our amazing BEC Angels for making our wish come true of having an espresso machine for the office!**

We have a revised wish list of used items (but good) items to keep us working hard and allow moving forward. We are so grateful for any donation. To make it easy, we can

make arrangements to pick up items directly from you and can provide tax receipts.



- Heavy duty stapler
- Misc. office supplies (pens, pencils, note pads, sharpies, etc.)
- Sturdy wooden
- Vacuum cleaner
- Little broom & dustpan set
- Hot water heater/boiler
- Artwork (to be hung in our office or put in our silent auctions)
- Crafting materials (glue, crayons, coloring pencils, etc.)
- Financial record/Bankers boxes
- Items to be used in our silent auctions
- Children's toys for Eco-Scavenger hunt at ESF
- Small reusable cups (NOT glass; do not need to be in a matching set; for hydration station at ESF)
- Holiday Decoration items
- Books for BEC's Library (accessible to BEC Members only; preferably environmental- or nature-themed)
- Bookshelf

### Recycling Education Tip: "Do all of my plastics get recycled?"



**Nope.** Although you might think that all plastics should be recycled, simply adding it to your recycling bin is actually degrading the rest of the good plastics and is still most likely ending up in the landfill.

**Why?** Not all plastics are created equally and recycling is a market driven industry. Food for thought: Plastic recycling is Down-Cycling, and all plastics eventually are incinerated

or land-filled.

**More to chew on:** Compostable plastics in the landfill actually do more harm than good. If the cup is just going to be thrown away, it is best to use a traditional plastic cup.



(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!

## Environmental Events in the Community



### **August 11 - Sustainability Expo and Happy Hour**

Hosted at **Sierra Nevada Brewery** and is for business owners & managers! Get introduced to local resources to help expand sustainability efforts for profitable and practical change. Topics include energy generation and efficiency, alternative transportation, zero waste & water conservation.

### **August 1 - Sept 30 - [Annie B's Community Fund Drive](#)**

Participate in this amazing local fundraising drive and have your donation to BEC be matched in percentage by North Valley Community Foundation! Checks and online payment are accepted. Thank you so much!

For more information about upcoming local events please visit [BEC's Environmental Events Calendar](#).