



# Butte Environmental Council

Protecting Butte County's Land,  
Air and Water Since 1975

E-Sentinel – October 2016

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## Action Alerts!

### PUBLIC HEARING

**Durham Villas**

Water Supply  
Verification

**Thursday, October 6**

Durham Memorial Hall  
9319 Midway,  
Durham.

## Greetings!

Here at Butte Environmental Council we are all busily preparing for this month's 41st Anniversary Gala. As a busy summer event season winds down, we come together to celebrate our success in the past year and recognize those in our community that have kept us striving toward our mission to protect the land, air and water of Butte County for more than 40 years!

Please join us this year to celebrate clean creeks, increased environmental awareness, and our collective voice speaking out on behalf of our precious natural resources!

## BEC's 41st Anniversary Gala

### Early Bird Prices until October 10

We want to **THANK YOU** for your past support of our organization and invite you to our **41st Anniversary Gala on Saturday, October 22nd.**



Join us in celebrating BEC's history and commitment to our local environment with a fantastic meal, live music, and great

[More](#)

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**PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Chico Walmart**  
**Expansion Project**  
**Thursday, October 6**  
Municipal Center, 421  
Main Street, Chico.  
6:30 p.m.  
[Planning Commission](#)  
[Item 4.1](#)

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**BEC Proudly**  
**Endorses a**  
**YES on CA Prop 67**  
Protect the plastic bag  
ban!



Stop by the BEC  
offices to pick up you  
lawn sign TODAY!

company.

Make sure to purchase your [ticket](#) soon in order to reserve a table before tickets run out! We appreciate all of your support and hope to see you there!

**As someone who supports BEC but is not yet a member,** now is the perfect opportunity to [sign up for a membership](#), and enjoy an event with BEC members old and new. We appreciate all of your support and hope to see you there!

**Early Bird Discount!**

[Tickets](#) purchased by October 10 are **ONLY \$45**.

**\*\*\*ACT NOW ticket prices increase to \$50 Tuesday, October 11!\*\*\***

If you are unable to attend, we hope you will consider sending a student environmental leader in your place. Contact [Katie](#) for details.

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and the awards go to...



**Claire Hutkins Seda &**  
**Jake Davis**  
*The Barris Farms Service*  
*Award 2016*

For founding the local  
action  
and advocacy organization  
**Chico 350**, which has led  
the way on climate action  
with marches, rallies, and  
press conferences. Calling  
public attention to the  
realities of climate change  
and continued threats to  
our environmental health.



**Paul W. Rea**  
*The Colleen Jarvis*  
*Environmentalist of the Year*  
*Award 2016*

For his Direction of  
**On The Wrong Track:**  
**Crude Oil Trains in**  
**California's Feather River**  
**Canyon**  
California's Feather River  
Canyon is identified as a  
hazardous rail route yet  
crude oil trains use it as a  
primary route to the  
refineries. This film explores



**Kelly Meagher**  
*The Michael McGinnis*  
*Lifetime Achievement Award*  
*2016*

**"The original BEC Angel"**  
and an active voice in  
local politics, for over 30  
years. Kelly has been a  
HUGE supporter of BEC  
through direct and indirect  
contributions. Organizing  
and funding numerous  
campaigns, in the name of  
environmental protection.  
More than anyone, he's

[2015 KZFR interview with Claire and Jake](#)

these risk and begs the question: What can we do to STOP OIL TRANS?

used his own money to support BEC and environmental justice in our community.

[Watch "On The Wrong Track"](#)

[Read more about Kelly in this CN&R article from 2011](#)

Please [join us](#) in recognizing the work of these truly amazing members of our community at the ***[BEC 41st Anniversary Gala - Saturday, October 22](#)***

*Arc Pavilion - 2040 Park Ave.  
Doors open at 5 p.m. - Dinner at 6 p.m.*

## BEC Advocacy



### STOP the Oil Trains Workshop and Fundraiser Concert

Our "Stop the Oil" Trains Workshop & Fundraiser Concert Co-hosted by [Chico350](#), [STAND](#) and [Butte Environmental Council](#) was a SUCCESS!

Dozens of community members came out to learn about Oil Trains in Butte County, eat some delicious food from [ChicObi's Mobile Catering](#), and enjoy a concert for a good cause!

A huge thank to all of you who joined us! Check out [becnet.org/events](http://becnet.org/events) for more chances to get involved!



### Butte Creek Canyon Conservation Overlay Zone

A second public workshop has been scheduled before the Planning Commission on **Tuesday, October 27, 2016**.

Designed to facilitate the protection and preservation of the historical and ecological foundation of Butte Creek Canyon, including the survival of salmon, steelhead and other sensitive plants and animals such as the East Tehama Deer Herd, preservation of historical sites and ecological preserves, and the optimum balance of recreation and residential use. [More](#)

Please join BEC in supporting the efforts to put long-term protections in place for Butte Creek Canyon.

## Community Water Forum

Wednesday, October 12 - 6:00-7:30 p.m.

[California's Plumbing:  
Moving Water Around California](#)

Presented by Lucas RossMerz of the Sacramento River Preservation Trust

In an effort to provide entry-level water knowledge to the citizens of both the campus and



local communities, local environmental groups have come together to host educational water forums where these individuals can learn about California's water issues through informational presentations and collaborative discussions.

Forums Will be Held on the **Second Wednesday of Every Month**  
**ARTS\* Room 111** on the *CSU Chico Campus*  
**6:00-7:30 p.m.**

\*New Building Adjacent to Madison Bear Garden

## Intern Spotlight

As each semester begins and new interns join our ranks, Butte Environmental Council is flooded with new ideas, new passions, a bunch of curiosity, and a ton of spirit. The Watershed Program received two very talented and promising interns this time around, Anna Nattress and Jessica Shippen. I am glad to have this opportunity to introduce them.



### **Anna Nattress**

is a recent Chico State graduate who has received a Bachelor of Science in Geology. Her interests are mainly in conservation and remediation, but is hoping to expand her knowledge by digging into the world of water laws. Before the end of her internship, Anna will compile and synthesize the mounds of often conflicting water rights policies and the history behind their creation into a fun, easy to follow, easy to understand set of documents and webpages. These will then be made available through our website, [becnet.org](http://becnet.org).

### **Jessica Shippen**

is a former Oregon Duck & soon-to-be Wildcat who is passionate about educating people on important environmental issues. She is currently halfway through obtaining a B.S. in Environmental Science. Her focus is on Applied Ecology. During her internship, Jessica hopes to combine her love of educating and her environmental knowledge to create informative, yet easy to understand lessons and materials. Her main intern project will be a presentation on how various biota (i.e. grasses, fish, trees, mammals, birds, etc) affects the health of Butte County's waterways and vice versa.



[Learn more about BEC's Watershed Program](#)

## Only ONE Sunday Oaks Watering Left!

The [Oaks Restoration Program](#) had a great summer. Every Sunday a group of faithful volunteers came out and watered over 200 tree plots.

**We now have only one Sunday watering day left!** Please take this opportunity to come check out the fruits of their labor and help us cage as many oak trees as possible before the cold weather rolls around.

**The Sunday after our last watering day will be an Oak Assessment Day.** We will be collecting information about the status of our oak seedlings to measure our success! We need citizen scientists to come out and help us collect this information; **we need you!** All tools will be provided, just bring drinking water for yourself, weather appropriate attire, and a smile.

For both the last watering and the assessment day, we will meet at Upper Park Parking Lot E at 8 a.m. If you have any questions you can contact BEC at (530) 891-6424, or email the Oaks Program Coordinator Lexi: [oaks@becnet.org](mailto:oaks@becnet.org)

## BEC Green Living Tips

### Energy Conservation:

#### *Can your home be a Smart Home?*

Yes! Check out the new line of home automation and smart home products that make managing your home's energy use as easy as a tap on your phone screen. Products such as NEST, and Wink let you take control of your home's energy use through your smart phone. Also, make sure you are taking advantage of PG&E's free programs to make your home more efficient. What makes a home smart? You do! Making simple changes to the way you use energy within your home can automatically make it run "smarter." For example: switching lights off when you leave a room, fully loading the dishwasher before you run it, or unplugging appliances and gaming consoles when they're not in use are all easy habits that make a big impact on your home's energy savings.



For outdoors, upgrade to new smart sprinkler and water timer products to manage your watering routine down to the drop.

Want to learn more about ways to better manage your energy use? Go to [www.energyupgradeca.org](http://www.energyupgradeca.org) and find rebates, know-how, and recommendations.

### Recycling:

#### *E-Waste is Not Going Away*

Every year, hundreds of thousands of old computers and mobile phones are disposed of unsustainably. Electronic waste now makes up 5 percent of all municipal solid waste worldwide-nearly the same amount as all plastic packaging-but it is much more hazardous.



It is possible to make clean, durable products that can be upgraded, recycled, or disposed of safely and don't end up as hazardous waste in someone's backyard.

Support companies that make clean products. Before you make a purchase, consider checking out [GreenPeace's Guide to Greener Electronics](#) . Think twice whether you really need a new device before buying one; and return your equipment to the manufacturer when you have finished with it.

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(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!**

## Upcoming Community Events



### **LUSH de LUXE**

pop-up-shop + CBMF 2017 Fundraiser!

***Saturday, October 8 12-5 p.m.***

Hang out, have a drink, and shop local, unique and handmade items. Goods from: Chikoko, Sadedeluxe, Turkey Tail Farm, Everything Herbal, Telos, and Henna Trails.

***DJ Mojohito and Carribbean Dance Radio/ Grant Djphg Parks and DJ Hocus Pocus will be keeping it fresh and funky for dancers and shoppers alike.***

Chico Bike Music Festival will be selling beers from the Sierra Nevada Brewery to benefit the 2017 festival and tickets to the Butte Environmental Council 41st Anniversary Gala will also be available. [Facebook Event](#)

## **Carriers of the New Story version 2.0**

As a final piece of news, I am excited to share with you that Carriers of the New Story is back for a second season! A collaborative effort, sponsored by Butte Environmental Council and Butte College, Carriers of the New Story is a 6-week program aiming to motivate and inspire the next generation of environmental leaders to become engaged, empowered, and organized to advocate for environmental interests and meaningful positive change in their local communities and beyond.

Each week, participants will participate in various forms of "council" with local elders and experienced change agents. Council is an ancient and modern form of communication, a way to be together as people, in community with each other and the natural world. As humans, we have made our way by sharing our stories, be it around the fire, in tribal

Councils or through bedtime stories. Practiced around the world in communities, organizations, prisons, families, intimate relationships, corporations and educational settings, Council helps to nurture the deep, authentic connections often neglected in our ever-faster, multi-tasking-oriented culture.

Please look forward to more updates on this exciting program!

Sincerely,

Natalie Carter  
Executive Director  
Butte Environmental Council

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

**Stay Connected**



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Support Butte Environmental Council | <http://www.becnet.org/donate>

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