



Conejo Open Space Newsletter

May 2013 www.cosf.org

Volunteer and Donor Opportunities

We are committed to educating our residents about and supporting our 14,000 acre Conejo open space. Our open space is truly a model for other communities and our volunteers are a big part of it!

There are a number of volunteer programs that help support our local open space. Our Trail Watch and Trail Patrol volunteers help our rangers keep our open space safe and enjoyable. Our volunteers for Adopt-a-Trail, annual Trail Work Day, and other trail work events help to build new trails, and maintain and repair existing trails. Our annual Trails Education Days teaches our youngsters about our open space and how to enjoy it in safe manner.

Please go to our website at www.cosf.org under 'Volunteer' to sign up or learn more about these and other volunteer opportunities.

You can also support the Foundation's work financially. After becoming a volunteer, local companies such as the ones below have matching gift or volunteer grant programs that will give a monetary donation to the Foundation after you volunteer a minimum amount of time.

- [Amgen](#)
- [AT&T](#)
- [Bank of America](#)
- [Boeing](#)
- [Edison International](#)
- [Home Depot](#)
- [JP Morgan Chase](#)
- [Kaiser Permanente](#)



- Northrop Grumman
- Pfizer
- The Capital Group Companies
- Walt Disney
- Wells Fargo

Employees that volunteer can double their cash donations or get volunteer hours matched with cash contributions.

For example, Amgen's matching gift program will double your membership dues or other monetary donations. For more information about Amgen's programs go to the Amgen Foundation's website at http://www.amgen.com/citizenship/staff_involvement.html .

Please contact your company's human resource department for more details.

Thanks to our Volunteers - Trails Education Days

The 22nd annual Trails Education Days program went off without a hitch: Perfect weather, on-time buses, and lots of assistance from volunteers and staff.

Here are a few statistics

- 1,430 Students participated from all 17 CVUSD Elementary Schools
- 146 Hiking groups
- 38 Hike leaders
- 4 Hikes Avg. per hike leader
- 10 Students Avg. per group

Additionally, 27 volunteers, 13 rangers, and 6 Animal Actors staff members coordinated the event and put on the workshops. Another 8 gave their time to judge the letter writing contest. Thank you all for your help, we couldn't do it without you.

For images of TED 2013 [Click here](#).

Non-Native Plant Removal

The May 10th fennel removal was a great success in our efforts to restore the local habitat. Thanks to the great Ranger support as well as help from the volunteers we were able to clear away 1-2 acres of fennel on the Western Plateau. Thank you all for your hard work.

For images of the Fennel Fighters [Click here](#).

If you are interested in reducing the spread of non-native plants in our local open space, join our fennel fighting team on Saturday, June 1st, to help us remove this invasive plant. The native plants and animals will be very appreciative!

Must be 18+ years of age to participate. No experience necessary. Tools and instructions will be provided.

If you are interested, please contact Julie Osborn at (805) 492-6000 or via email at volunteer@cosf.org

[Donate](#)

Want to Volunteer? Here's How!

[Volunteer](#)

The COSCA Volunteer Corps has many ways for residents to help maintain and preserve the open space that surrounds our beautiful Conejo Valley. By joining with others, we can make sure that the trails, canyons, and ridgelines will be enjoyed by visitors for generations to come. You can read about the specific volunteer opportunities below, and you can submit a request to volunteer, noting your specific interests, [here](#).

- [Adopt-a-Trail Program](#)
- [Trail Watch Program](#)
- [Trail Ambassador Program](#)
- [Trail Work Days](#)
- [Trails Education Days](#)



The Conejo Open Space Foundation was formed in 1995 to promote and maintain the open space and trail system of the Conejo Valley and to educate residents as to their roles as custodians and protectors of the open space and the environment. Our [web site](#) illustrates ongoing Conejo Open Space programs supported by the Foundation that help preserve and protect our precious open space.

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