



Conejo Open Space Newsletter

Fall of 2014 www.cosf.org

The Loss of a Great Man

The Conejo and Santa Monica Mountains open space communities lost a tireless advocate this past month. Burt Elliott was a force of nature -- a quiet man with an indomitable sense of purpose. He gave countless hours to building and maintaining trails, attending meetings, participating in open space programs, writing letters to editors, and doing everything in his power to gain support for and improve open space. Those of us who knew and worked with Burt felt great affection for him and tremendous gratitude for all that he championed and accomplished. He'll always be with us on our trails.



Fall Trail Work Day

This fall's volunteer Trail Work Day will be held on Saturday, October 18th on the White Horse Canyon Trail in the Los Robles area of the Conejo Open Space and will include a morning of Trail Building followed by a Volunteer Thank You Lunch.

There will be a variety of projects ranging from a trail building site where workers will hike more than a mile in & out with 500' elevation gain/loss, to projects near the meeting place for Families & Scout Groups.

After the trail work, volunteers will be treated to burgers & hot dogs barbecued and served by COSCA Rangers. Also, drawings for a Giant Bicycle mountain bike and other door prizes to be awarded to some lucky volunteers.

For more information on the upcoming Trail Work Day, [Click here!](#)

Non-Native Plant Removal

Our fearless weed warriors are making great progress in ridding the Western Plateau of of non-native fennel. To date, volunteers spent over 500 hours reclaiming this area. A big thank



you to all that are part of this effort! To join future events email Julie at:
conejoopenspacefdn@gmail.com

COSF on Amazon Smile

Support the Conejo Open Space Foundation when shopping on on smile.amazon.com by selecting us as your charitable organization. We receive 0.5% of any purchase, so don't shop just for us, but we'd certainly be thankful if you linked to our organization!

Trail Watch Volunteer Tales

Recently on our trails, a few of our ever helpful trail watch volunteers; Gale Hutchins, Ginny Bowers, and Nancy Taylor, were riding down the Western Plateau Trail where they ran into a student from the Camarillo track team, who had somehow gotten lost from her team. She was unfamiliar with the trails but mentioned a big "bridge" and that's when they figured she started at the Santa Rosa Park. Fortunately, these helpful volunteers were able to give her directions on how to get back to her starting point. After a few minutes they heard voices of excitement and were glad to know that she'd reconnected with her team mates.

To become a Trail Watch Volunteer, [click here!](#)

Submit your Open Space Photos

We are interested in seeing some of the amazing photos that trail users shoot while in the open space. Please send us your photos at news@cosf.org for a chance to be recognized in the upcoming newsletter.

We also encourage you to share your photos and experiences on our [facebook page](#) so you can connect with other trail advocates.

Happy Trails!

Donate

Volunteer

Want to Volunteer? Here's How!

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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