



AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY FOUNDATION

Preserving the legacy through community stewardship

OUTLOOK

Native Plant Demonstration Garden Planted

On Saturday, Dec. 1, 60 volunteers planted over 1,100 trees, shrubs, grasses and vines in the American River Parkway Native Plant Demonstration Garden.

When completed, the demonstration garden will showcase 50 species of plants native to the Parkway. Nearly one-acre in size, the garden will be planted with over 1,700 plants native to the American River Parkway.

The garden will be a regional resource to educate people about the use of native plants in wildlife habitats and ornamental gardens. Using native plants can benefit wildlife, conserve water and protect natural resources.

A winding walkway traverses the garden, making it a pleasant place to stroll, relax and enjoy a peaceful atmosphere. Visitors can observe birds and other wildlife from benches contributed by the friends and family of Frankie Kincannon and Joe Murphy, or enjoy lunch at a picnic table.



and REI Volunteers. Bike racks were contributed by the Sacramento Wheelmen and Sacramento Bike Hikers.

Construction, operation and maintenance of the garden is a cooperative effort of the Parkway Foundation, Carmichael Water District and Sacramento Suburban Water District.

A native plant garden in the American River Parkway has special needs. For the first year or two, trees and shrubs will be surrounded by cages to protect them from nibbling deer and other “critters.” Mulching and manual methods will be used to manage weeds. Pests will be controlled using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods, which can be economical, effective and environmentally sensitive.

Special thanks go to Jennifer Stock, landscape architect, and Erik Gantenbein for overseeing the planting.

Contact the Parkway Foundation to participate in future planting events



The garden is part of the American River Parkway Foundation’s Streg Volunteer Center located at the County’s William Pond Recreation Area. Garden sponsors include: American River Parkway Foundation, California Native Plant Society, Sacramento Chapter, Sacramento County Regional Parks, Carmichael Water District, Sacramento Suburban Water District, GenCorp Foundation, Jones & Stokes,

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Outlook is published by the American River Parkway Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Founded in 1983, the mission of the Parkway Foundation is to foster environmental stewardship, facilitate volunteer opportunities and fund projects and programs on the American River Parkway that support the preservation, protection, enhancement and appreciation of the Parkway's natural resources.

New Board Members Elected

Ruth Blank is CEO of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation. She also serves on the Board of Directors of KVIE and the Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce.

Nicholas Ewing, Ph.D., is chair of the CSUS Department of Biological Sciences. He is on the board of directors of American River Watershed Institute.

Dan Hall is president of Wickland Corp. He is on the board of directors of the Point West Rotary Club, and former chair of the YMCA Sacramento Board of Directors.

Rob Henderson is manager of the Sacramento REI store. He is active in REI's public outreach program and is on the board of directors of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Erin Levi is a partner with Lehman Kelly Sadler & O'Keefe where she is a lobbyist and public policy advocate. She is past president of Capitol Network and active with the Alzheimer's Association

"I am very pleased to welcome these new board members to the Foundation," said Jeremy Hollis, Board president. "They are all dedicated users and supporters of the Parkway, as well as successful business and community leaders."

Charitable Giving – Tax Savings for 2007 & Beyond

By Tom Mischley, CPA, ARPF Treasurer

For most taxpayers, December is the last opportunity to take action to reduce their 2007 taxes. An effective way to do this is through charitable contributions. In addition to cleaning out the garage or closet to give non-cash donations to organizations like Goodwill and Weave, contributions to the American River Parkway Foundation are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

While writing a check may be simplest, an excellent alternative is contributing stock that has appreciated in value. This allows you to obtain a deduction for the full market value of the stock contributed without paying any capital gains tax. It's a win-win for both you and

the Parkway Foundation. Contact your tax preparer or stock broker for a full explanation of this tax planning technique.

However you choose to give, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are supporting one of Sacramento's most valued features, the American River Parkway.

For future planning, alternatives are:

- Set up periodic donations in 2008, via automatic transfers from your bank or through United Way. The Parkway Foundation's United Way number is 16003.
- Add a bequest to your will.
- Make a contribution in perpetuity through a donor advised fund or a charitable remainder trust.

Options for Giving

by David Dickson, Certified Financial Planner (CFP)

While the stock market is down and housing prices are in decline, chances are your stocks, mutual funds or property has appreciated dramatically in the last 15 years. This appreciation in value does create a tax problem. A charitable contribution to a nonprofit organization can alleviate the tax liability.

While there are many ways to make a gift, two of the more common and convenient solutions, donor advised funds and charitable remainder trusts, offer many advantages.

Donor advised funds are sponsored by an independent charity, educational institution or professional management company. A donor claims fair market value for the gift of appreciated stock or mutual funds to the donor advised fund, creating a tax deduction. The donor's recommendations can guide the charity in the use of the funds.

With a charitable remainder trust, a donation is made to a charity but the donor retains either the use or income from the asset during his or her lifetime. The donor does not pay tax on any appreciation in value and gets a fair market value deduction. However, the tax deduction is limited to the market value of the remainder interest and there may be some cost in setting up the trust.

Volunteers Clean Up at 29th Annual Event

Over 1100 volunteers participated in the 29th annual Great American River Cleanup (GARCU) on September 15. Volunteers worked the Parkway from Discovery Park to Negro Bar and collected an estimated 20,000 pounds of trash and recyclables.

Scuba divers supported by rafters collected 525 pounds from the river bottom between Sunrise & Goethe Park.



Watt Ave. volunteers get safety instructions.

Kayakers and canoeists scoured the river banks at Discovery Park, Gristmill, Sunrise, and Harrington.

In addition to the cans, bottles, cigarette butts and paper trash, volunteers collected bicycles, scooters, fishing nets, tires, mattresses, washing machine, chairs and umbrellas. Several volunteers reported that there appeared to be less trash than in past years, especially cans and bottles. This may be the result of continuous stewardship efforts throughout the year.

In Fond Memory

Several memorial funds were established by families and friends to honor loved ones who loved the American River Parkway. The Parkway Foundation is honored to celebrate the memories of these men and women who used and loved the Parkway.

*Vesta Griffith
Connie Henderson
Stan Johnson
Joe Murphy
Daryl Nelson*

Out of 55 county and city groups that participated in Coastal Cleanup Day statewide, Sacramento ranked 16 in the total number of volunteers and 11 in the total pounds of trash/recyclables collected, reports Lana Sumati, American River Parkway Foundation's volunteer coordinator.

The 2007 Clean Up was co-sponsored by American River Raft Rentals, California Coastal Commission, California State Parks, ECORP Consulting, Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks, McKinley East Sac Neighborhood Association, and River Park Neighborhood Association.

Special thanks goes to the site captains, the Sacramento County maintenance team, Dolphin Scuba Diving Center, Sacramento Bag Co., Whole Foods and Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

The 30th Annual Great American River Clean Up is September 13, 2008. Mark your calendars now!



Central California Canoe Club members pose by their collection.

Support the Parkway

If you park your car outside the Parkway gates when you bike, fish, picnic or walk your dog, you are missing a great opportunity to support your favorite place in Sacramento. Buy a Parks Passport and you will be directly supporting the maintenance and operation of the American River Parkway, as well as other Sacramento County regional parks. Parks Passports can be purchased at several locations, including the American River Parkway Foundation office and REI. For more information about the Parks Passport and where you can use it, visit <http://www.sacparks.net/passport-to-parks/index.html>.



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help the environment and lower our costs.
Thank you!*

I WANT TO SUPPORT MY PARKWAY

Please complete the form below and mail with your payment.

Name or Organization: _____

Street/City/State/ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

2008 ARPf Membership: _____ \$35-\$49 Friendship _____ \$50-\$249 Discovery
_____ \$250-\$499 Sunrise _____ \$500-\$999 Sustaining _____ \$1,000 up Paradise

Please reference "Membership" on your check.

American River Parkway Volunteer Center : *Contributions are being sought to complete the interpretive native plant garden adjacent to the Volunteer Center. Please reference "Volunteer Center" on your check.*
\$ _____ *Enclosed*

Parks Passport: Vehicle License #s (up to 3) _____
_____ \$50 Vehicle _____ \$75 Small Watercraft & Vehicle _____ \$75 Horse Trailer & Vehicle
_____ \$100 Oversized Boat trailer & Vehicle

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:\$ _____

Check: \$ _____ Check # _____ Please make check payable to the *American River Parkway Foundation*

Visa or Master Card # _____ Exp Date: _____ 3 digit verification code _____