

## Shasta Environmental Alliance Newsletter September 17, 2019

[www.ecoshasta.org](http://www.ecoshasta.org)

### ARE YOU “WISH-CYCLING” OR RECYCLING?

Read the article at the end of this newsletter or go to [www.ecoshasta.org](http://www.ecoshasta.org)

#### **New Supporting Organizations.**

This is to let you know that SEA has two new supporting organizations: **Butte County 350** and **Friends of Redding Eagles**. Butte County 350 was Chico 350 and they grew so much that they changed the name. They are very active in fighting climate change in Butte County and have also been helpful to another SEA organization, North State Climate Action in provide advice on lobbying government officials. Some NSCA members have been working with them via email, video conferencing and attending each other's events. SEA hopes to learn from their success in getting Chico to pass a strong resolution to work fighting climate change.

**Friends of Redding Eagles** has been in Redding for many years and started by adopting a pair of nesting eagles, helping get a video camera installed near their nest so they could show people the progress of the eagles in raising young eaglets. They also wrote a children's book about the eagles and lead bird walks specializing in eagles. Founder Terri Lhuillier could probably spot a soaring bald eagle five miles away. They are a great addition to Wintu Audubon as a supporting organization.

**New SEA Tree Committee:** Shasta Environmental Alliance has formed a new Tree Committee of experts in the field of horticulture, landscaping and native plants. This will help SEA to send comments and advice to the various cities of Shasta County: Redding, Anderson and Shasta Lake as well as Shasta County on various issues that affect our important urban forests, natural woodlands and forests primarily related to trees. SEA is very fortunate that these individuals have volunteered to help. Combined, they have well over 100 years of experience. We hope to be working cooperatively with the various governmental agencies. The Tree Committee and their expertise will be on our website in a few days. Members include: Rico Montenegro, Leimone Waite, Kirkwood Hale, Doug Mandel, John Alderson and Don Owen.

**SEA Appointment to REU Solar Power Committee.** SEA President David Ledger was appointed to a Redding Electric Utility Committee to study the reimbursement rate of electricity that homes and business with solar panels generate and feed into the REU power. The Redding City Council sent the reimbursement rate for solar electricity back to REU following an outcry from citizens and solar power installers after REU proposed a cut in reimbursements for electric power by about 75%. The new Committee will study what a fair rate of reimbursement should be.

#### **Costco Final EIR Hearing Postponed *again* until 2020 Redding City Council Chambers**

The Redding City Council hearing on Costco will be postponed until as long as early 2020 because of last minute information submitted by an attorney for opponents of the Project. The issues were over air pollution and traffic.

**SEA Website Upgrade:** We have upgraded our website recently and it has more content on it. Mauro Oliviera has changed the design and Gary Lauben has helped out as well. If you go to EcoNetwork you can see your organization logo, a short description and a link to your website and Facebook page. Let us know if your organization is not listed. Butte County 350 and Friends of Redding Eagles will go up this weekend. [www.ecoshasta.org](http://www.ecoshasta.org).

**Biomass in California and Shasta County**  
**Presented by Sierra Club and Shasta Environmental Alliance**  
**Redding Library Community Room**  
**Wednesday, September 25, 6pm**

The Shasta Group of Sierra Club and Shasta Environmental Alliance will have Daniel Barad of the Sierra Club California give a presentation on biomass electricity generation in California and relate it to Shasta County. He will discuss the air quality and forest impacts of existing biomass facilities, some of the policies and subsidies propping them up and whether they are truly renewable. For more information contact David Ledger at [dledger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dledger@sbcglobal.net) or John Livingston at 356-8847. This presentation will provide an informative presentation of the good and the bad of biomass electricity generation.

Biomass plants in California can burn agricultural waste such as nut shells, trees from old orchards, wood from dead and pruned urban trees and forest slash. Some of this can be used to produce electricity by burning excess woody products that might end up in land fills or pollute the air from open burn piles.

However, with California now providing subsidies to biomass electricity, logs that could be left on the forest floor to recycle carbon and nutrients into the soil through the food web will be more likely to be burned releasing huge bursts of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere. Burned trees that are left standing in the forest are important as habitat if left standing as snags and later return nutrients to the soil as they decompose. Now these trees are counted as renewable energy when burned to generate electricity. They are renewable after 50 to 100 years, however, our greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are so high that scientist state that earth does not have that much time to stop increased global warming from becoming catastrophic. Thus, these dead trees that are burned can produce a burst of CO<sub>2</sub> that would naturally be released over several decades and much would be reincorporated into the natural carbon cycle as it circulates through the carbon cycle of food webs.

**When the Salmon Speak Forum**  
**Shasta County Arts Council**  
**Wednesday, September 25, 6 to 8 pm**

The When Salmon Speak forum is part of the two-week Run4Salmon prayer journey led by the Winnemem Wintu. Learn more at [Run4Salmon.org](http://Run4Salmon.org)

This forum will feature various speakers on the threats to salmon from various wealthy interests to take water from the Sacramento River for Big Ag and Southern California water districts. Join us to

learn from California water experts how water policy and infrastructure projects like the Delta tunnel threaten the survival of California's salmon and threaten our communities' water quality.

Featured speakers include: Caleen Sisk - Chief and Spiritual Leader of the Winnemem Wintu, Barbara Barrigan-Parrilla - Executive Director of Restore the Delta, Tom Stokely - Salmon and Water Policy Consultant, Don Hankins, Chico State Geography Professor and Plains Miwok speaker. This event will be held at the Shasta County Arts Council, 1313 Market Street.

**Wintu Audubon Bird Walk  
Turtle Bay  
Saturday, October 5, 9 am**

Join Wintu Audubon Family/Beginner Bird Walk at Turtle Bay, Saturday, October 5th @ 9:00 am. They invite beginners of all ages to our introductory walks on the first Saturday of each month. The walks begin at 9am and meet in the parking lot near the Monolith structure at the end of the Sheraton Hotel. Binoculars and field guides will be available to loan. Call Terri Lhuillier, 515-3504, for more information. Terri is also President and Founder of Friends of Redding Eagles.

**Carr Fire Restoration Work on Sacramento River Trail  
Volunteer Event with Redding Community Services  
Saturday, October 5, 8:30 am to noon**

Redding Community Services is working with community members to initiate a native plant restoration project along the Sacramento River Trail. The event takes place October 5<sup>th</sup> from 8am to Noon at the Harlan Drive trailhead (3399 Harlan Drive). Participants will be provided tools and supplies needed to complete the project. Through this effort hundreds of trees will be planted and several acres of grassland will be restored. For more information or to sign up visit [www.shastacreeks.com](http://www.shastacreeks.com) This is a great project, make sure you bring your own water in reusable containers, although there is a drinking fountain nearby.

**Wintu Audubon Meeting - The Birds of Cambodia,  
One Safe Place, 2250 Benton Dr. (In Back)  
Wednesday, October 9th @ 7pm**

We all get to see our North American birds. Some of us slip down to South America, and few make it over to Europe or Africa. But rarely do we see the birds of Asia! Andrea Claassen, now working for the Western Shasta Resource Conservation District, will share the birds of Cambodia with us. Come join us for this view of the other side of the world. The public is invited.

**Bird Walk at Clear Creek Wastewater Treatment Ponds,  
Saturday October 12th @ 8 am**

Join Wintu Audubon for a visit to the ponds hoping to find migrating waterfowl, shorebirds and passerines. Assemble at the Treatment Plant's locked gate at the end of Metz Road at 8:00 OR meet at Kutras Park at 7:30 am to carpool with your leader, Larry Jordan. This is a 1/2-day trip that may end in the early afternoon if the birding is good. Directions to the Clear Creek Plant: Take Hwy 273

and look for River Ranch Road after crossing Clear Creek. Cross over the Railroad tracks and turn left on Eastside Rd. Entrance is on Metz Road on the right.

### **“GOLD RUSH HISTORY WALK”**

**Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve**

**Saturday, October 12, 10 am**

The community of Horsetown was established near the second major gold discovery in California at Reading's Bar on Clear Creek during the gold rush of 1849. Enjoy a pleasant fall walk with a view of that site with Cathy Scott, Horsetown-Clear Creek Preserve Board member. Learn about our local gold rush history and Horsetown. Bring some friends and walking shoes. **Meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Road, about 7 miles west of highway 273, west of the Clear Creek Bridge.**

### **Redding Recycling Center Field Trip and Tour**

**Shasta Environmental Alliance**

**Wednesday October 16, 10 am**

Shasta Environmental Alliance will be taking a tour of the City of Redding Recycling Center to learn firsthand issues now faced by recyclers nationwide with China no longer accepting contaminated recycled products from the United States. We will watch the recycling plant while the sorting process is going on and all of the contaminated products people put in their recycling bins. A city employee will explain the process and how Redding is still able to sell its recycled products. This will be about a 90 minute tour and talk. Following the tour, we will have lunch at a local restaurant after the tour for those wishing to attend. Meet at the City of Redding Solid Waste Division at 2255 Abernathy Road, Redding off of Old Oregon Trail. If going, please contact David Ledger so we can give a count to the city. For more information, email or phone David Ledger at [dledger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dledger@sbcglobal.net) or 530-355-8542. *See article at end of newsletter.*

### **Enterprise Anderson Groundwater Management Agency Meeting**

**First United Methodist Church**

**Wednesday, October 16 5:30 to 7:30.**

Learn about the new Enterprise Anderson Groundwater Management Agency and provide your input. The EAGSA consulting team will share information on the planning process and current information on the status of groundwater in the Redding Area. After these presentations, participants will be asked to give their input on their interests and concerns with regards to the planning process and issues. The EAGSA will consider the public's input when developing its groundwater plan. Representatives from the EAGSA will be available to speak with the public at the public meeting, from 5:30-7:30 PM at the First United Methodist Church of Redding at 1825 East St, Redding, CA 96001.

### **Return of the Salmon Festival**

**Coleman Fish Hatchery**

**Saturday, October 19, 9 am to 4 pm**

Annual Return of the Salmon Festival at the Coleman National Fish Hatchery on Battle Creek. Observe the migrating salmon and watch the fish hatchery in action as workers collect and fertilize salmon eggs. All aspects of the hatchery are on display. Many organizations will have booths setup around the hatchery. For more information, go to [www.fws.gov/coleman](http://www.fws.gov/coleman).

### **CNPS Fall Native Plant Sale**

**Shasta College Farm**

**Saturday, October 19, 9 am**

37th Annual Fall Native Plant Sale for the Shasta Chapter of California Native Plant Society. This sale, open to the general public, will be from 9 am to 3 pm at the Shasta College farm and greenhouses, located at the northeast end of the Shasta College campus, near the livestock barns. Gates open at 9 am. Please contact us at [ShastaCNPSPropagation@gmail.com](mailto:ShastaCNPSPropagation@gmail.com) or call or text Margaret Widdowson (916/752- 0941) or Susan Libonati-Barnes (530/515-9247) for more information or to volunteer on the day of the sale. Proceeds from this annual plant sale helps provide scholarships for local area students.

### **CNPS East Weaver Creek Field Trip**

**Shasta Trinity National Forest, Weaverville**

**Saturday, October 26**

Join the Shasta Chapter of California Native Plant Society on East Weaver Creek, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Weaverville. We will enjoy fall colors on this 4-mile roundtrip walk along East Weaver Creek. Dogwood, big-leaf maple, and California hazelnut will provide some of the color. We should also see various fruits of the season in this Douglas-fir-ponderosa pine- incense-cedar forest. Dogs welcome on this walk! Bring water and a snack; we'll finish before lunch. Meet at Redding's Placer Street Holiday Market parking lot near CVS at 8 am for carpooling, or at Holiday Market in Weaverville at 9 am. Call John Springer at 530/917-0567 for more information

### **SEARCH FOR THE SPAWNING SALMON**

**Gold Dredge Trailhead on Clear Creek Road**

**Saturday, October 26, 10 am**

The salmon run is good this year! Join Department of Fish & Wildlife biologist Matt Johnson for a walk along Clear Creek to observe spawning salmon – up close! Get up-to-date information about restoration projects on Clear Creek designed to help the salmon and the status of salmon runs in Clear Creek. Don't miss this chance for a personal guided tour. This moderate walk should have it all – exercise, natural beauty, salmon, and intriguing information. Bring polarized sunglasses for better visibility into the water and wear walking shoes. Meet at the Gold Dredge Trailhead on Clear Creek Road about 2 miles west of highway 273, just west of Sunrise Excavating. Presented by Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve.

### **Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve: ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP**

**Saturday, October 27, 9 am**

Horsetown Clear Creek preserve annual Adopt a Highway Cleanup. Volunteers will clean up a stretch of Clear Creek Road around the Preserve for 2 – 3 hours. We provide vests for visibility, tools to pick up small items and garbage bags. Please bring gloves. Lunch/snacks on us afterwards location to be determined.

## **ACORNS: A NATIVE AMERICAN STAPLE**

**Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve**

**Sunday, November 3, 1 p.m.**

Native Wintu herbalist Ted Dawson will discuss the acorn, from harvest to food items. You'll be invited to join in grinding acorns with mortar and pestle and be rewarded with the best acorn dishes in Shasta County. You're probably aware that acorns were a staple food of the Native Americans of California, but there's more. Bring the family. **Meet at the HCCP parking area on Clear Creek Road, about 7 miles west of highway 273, west of the Clear Creek Bridge.**

## **Shasta Environmental Alliance First Annual Environmental Awards**

**First United Methodist Church Social Hall**

**Friday, November 22, 6:30 pm**

Shasta Environmental Alliance will be holding its First Annual Environmental Awards Ceremony honoring those individuals who have been working to protect the environment in the greater Shasta County area. We will be honoring people in areas such as climate change, forest or woodland protection of native plants, native animals, water and air. Recognition will go to a local high school person, two environmentalists in the greater Shasta County area and an agency person whose work goes above and beyond their job description. If you know of anyone who should be recognized, please send your nomination to [ecoshasta@gmail.com](mailto:ecoshasta@gmail.com) and include reasons they should be nominated from several sentences to a page. This will also be a social mixer with a short film and possible music, so expect to mill around and socialize and then sit down for a ceremony where we recognize area environmentalists and the work they have done. SEA will provide refreshments. We are asking for a \$10 donation, but any students and low-income people are free. This will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 1825 East St. in the social hall, first floor, enter on South Street.

## **Recycling Basics: Don't be a "Wish-cycler"**

By Christina Piles

How to be a better recycler.

Do you feel that you're a good recycler? While many people place items in their curbside cart for recycling, very few people are clear about what can and can't go in that cart. Have you ever walked up to your recycling cart with an item, but you're not completely sure it can be recycled, but just in case, you toss it in. This common practice is called "wish-cycling" by recyclers. No big deal right? The recycling facility will just pick it out if you're wrong. The problem is that when the wrong items are placed in your cart, it costs time and money to sort them out, and can often contaminate the other recyclables so that they have to be thrown away.

What can you do? Start by finding out what your refuse company can recycle, since not all sorting facilities are set up to process the same materials and please don't wish-cycle. Please don't place items in plastic bags and make sure containers are relatively clean. They don't have to be spotless, but most of the food residue should be cleaned out.

If the City of Redding picks up your recyclables, here's a short list on what can be placed in your blue curbside cart:

- #1 and #2 plastic bottles and jugs. Generally, if the top is smaller than the bottom, it can be recycled.
- Tin or steel cans - it's okay to leave the labels on.
- Aluminum beverage cans.
- Clean cardboard, newspaper, junk mail and paper.
- Magazines

These are some of the most common items that should **NOT** go in your recycling cart:

- Pizza boxes - the grease and food residue contaminate the clean paper.
- #1 plastic clamshell containers.
- Aluminum pet food cans.
- Plastic bags
- Styrofoam

A more detailed list can be found by going to: <https://www.cityofredding.org/departments/solid-waste/residential-customers/recycling>. The City does recycle additional materials at their recycling/drop-off area at the Transfer Station at 2255 Abernathy Lane. Items such as: clean, dry, clear or light colored plastic bags, #5 plastic tubs, rigid plastics, shredded paper, and clean, dry styrofoam (#6 only).

If your solid waste pickup is done by Waste Management, go to: <https://www.wm.com/location/california/north-valley/shasta-county/residential/recycle.jsp>

*Join us on October 16 to see recycling in action and just how bad Wish-cycling is with the Shasta Environmental Alliance tour of the City of Redding Solid Waste Division Recycling Center. See calendar above, October 16.*