



NATURE ENJOYMENT & EDUCATION

June 19 - California Native Plant Society June General Meeting

- Tuesday, 7:30pm at Luther Burbank Art & Garden Center, 2050 Yulupa Ave, Santa Rosa **Rincon Ridge: A Local Botanical Treasure.** Beautiful chaparral and woodland plants are highlighted in this presentation representing local flora, plus chapter efforts in conservation and education. The hill in northeast Santa Rosa that is crossed by Fountaingrove Parkway is historically called Rincon Ridge, known for many years for its botanical diversity and volcanic rhyolite geology. Lynn Houser, steward of Rincon Ridge Park Sensitive Plant Area and chapter President, has been working for several years with the city parks, homeowners' association, and fire department to conserve the rare plants and unique chaparral that occurs on Rincon Ridge in the open space that remains.

CNPS has been striving to obtain continuing protections for the native plants despite harsh fire clearing regulations, through field trips, work days at the park, and several meetings with interested parties. The plants continue to amaze us with their tenacity and beauty. Come see what is blooming in the Fountaingrove area and learn about our unique Rincon Ridge chaparral.

June 21 - TOLAY LAKE REGIONAL PARK:

3-hour hikes from 9am - noon **Saturday, June 23, 2007..RSVP by Thursday, June 21 - 2-hour hike from 10am - noon - Note:** You are advised to wear sturdy boots, long sleeves and long pants on this hike. The tours will be moderately strenuous. Please, no pets. Although children are welcome on the tour, please note that the terrain on the walk is too rugged for most strollers.

Inclement weather will cancel the tour. A message with information regarding the current status of the tour (to go on as scheduled or not) will be recorded on the on the Regional Parks Special Events Hotline (707) 565-2730 the morning of the tour.

Tours allow a limited number of participants, and reservations are mandatory. Please call the Regional Parks Special Events Hotline at (707) 565-2730 to make a reservation. If you cannot reserve a place on your date of choice, add your name to our waitlist for notification of future tour dates. Check our website at www.sonoma-county.org/parks/pk_tolay.htm

June 27 - On Nature's Trail.

Explore the mysteries of nature at Sonoma County Regional Parks this summer and unearth some of its secrets. The Environmental Discovery Center (EDC) of Sonoma County presents **On Nature's Trail**, a self-paced, drop-in program, running June 27 through August 12, focusing on natural history including geology, archaeology, astronomy, and marine biology. The EDC is open Noon - 5pm Wednesday ^ Sunday each week. Admission is free with paid park entry.

The EDC partners with local agencies to provide fun, interactive, educational programs for children ages 4-12. The creative activities include crafts, games, art and nature. The EDC is a partnership established by the Sonoma County Regional Parks Foundation. Sponsors include: Sonoma County Water Agency, Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works - Integrated Waste Management, Sonoma County Department

of Health Services ^ Environmental Health, City of Santa Rosa ^ Public Works Department, Sonoma County Agricultural and Open Space District and the Sonoma County Regional Parks Department.

For more information on programs and volunteer opportunities with the EDC, call (707) 539-2865. Visit the Regional Parks website at www.sonoma-county.org/parks for information on our County parks.

Daily Acts Tours

Saturday, June 23rd, 10am to 3pm,

\$25 There has never been a time when our simple choices can have a greater impact on the health of our families, community and world. Come gather the inspiration, tools and support to green your life by harnessing the impact of your daily habits and actions. We will bike through a western Petaluma neighborhood to see, touch and learn about the amazing green efforts in our community. Specific topics include eco-assessment tools and creating your global cooling action plan; green choices in food, transportation, home and garden; and growing a healthy local food system. This tour is in partnership with the City of Petaluma Green Team, www.petalumabuilditgreen.org.

Tour: Food, Fuel And Fruitful Living

Saturday, June 30th, 9am to 4pm, \$35

We begin this fine day with farmer Scott Mathieson of Laguna Farm. Scott has farmed for over 17 years, ever adjusting his standards to go WAYYYY beyond organic, including tractors run on recycled veggie oil, straw bale insulated food storage, bio-dynamics, wind and solar power!! Laguna Farm is a CSA, which means Community Shared Agriculture, creating a direct REALationship between consumer and farm. receive a weekly box of fresh, sustainably grown, seasonal produce while directly supporting local farmers. Other tour presenters and locations include Catchtail Farm, Vincent Scholten with over 55varieties of bananas and Katia Vincent who will share the beauty of beekeeping.

Register at: www.daily-acts.org or (707) 789-9664

June 30th - July 28th SONOMA COAST STATE BEACH MARINE DEBRIS Clean-Up

(Note: Volunteers meet in the lower parking lot at Salmon Creek State Beach at 10 am the clean up starts by 10:30)

Volunteers for the Marine Debris Monitoring Program are part of the California State Parks, "Volunteers in Parks" program that is supported by Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods, the nonprofit interpretive association that works cooperatively with California State Parks. If you are interested in volunteering in the Sonoma Coast State Beach Marine Debris Program please contact: Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods at 869-9177 or email: volparks@mcn.org. Volunteers who work 16 hours receive a free Day Use Pass for State Parks in the Russian River area

ENMANJI TEMPLE Celebrates 73 Years in Sonoma County

53rd Annual Enmanji Temple

Teriyaki Barbecue and Bazaar

Featuring Sonoma County Taiko, Japanese Ikebana Flower and Redwood Empire Bonsai Society Demonstrations

July 8 - Highlight Enmanji Temple Bazaar and BBQ - 10AM-5PM

July 14 - Obon Odori - 7-9PM

Enmanji Buddhist Temple, 1200 Gravenstein Hwy. So. Sebastopol -Enmanji Temple 707-823-2252

This year's menu includes barbecued teriyaki chicken lunch (hot or cold), and other Japanese delicacies including a sweeten bean filled pastry called imagawa yaki resembling a small stuffed pancake, sushi, kushi yaki and locally made desserts.

Traditionally summer festivals are held in the church grounds during the months of July and August to celebrate Obon Odori, outdoor lantern dancing to honor the ancestors. Similar Bay Area events will be held in San Francisco, San Mateo, Palo Alto, Mt View, San Jose, Union City, Alameda and Oakland. Much like the Hispanic celebration Dia de La Muertos, Day of the Dead, this community celebration is based upon the belief that all who have passed away will return once a year to enjoy the earthly pleasures.

Cultural activities fill out the Bazaar. Activities range from Redwood Empire Bonsai Society displays, an extensive outdoor plantsale, Ikebana flower arranging demonstrations and sale, Buddhist dharma talk, games for the kids, handicrafts, raffle drawing, bingo, cultural arts displays and taiko drumming by Sonoma County Taiko.

Proceeds from the Teriyaki Bazaar will support the local Enmanji Buddhist Temple and community activities. Teriyaki chicken plate: \$10 and the drive up pick-up window is available for those who do not want to attend the festivities- please enter at Elphick Rd. Sunday, July 8th 10A-5PM.

Obon Odori

On Saturday July 14th Enmanji Temple will host a free Obon Odori dancing event at 7 PM. Outdoor community dances are performed in two or more concentric circles with the dance instructors in the center. Instructors dancing on the inside circles allows the rest of the participants to watch the simple steps and follow along. Cultural dress returns with this annual event, many women and children wear kimonos and the men don their yukata and happi coats.

The uchiwa fan and round paper lanterns are the symbols and are featured in this celebration as they both represent the full moon and the light to guide those who have passed back to the heavens after their visit.

Learn How to Dance

Preceding Obon on Saturday July 14th will be dance practices for anyone interested in learning the dance steps. The practices will be from Tuesday, July 10th through Friday, July 13th from 7-9PM each evening and will take place at Enmanji Memorial Hall. This event is open to the public and free. For more information, call Enmanji Temple at 707-823-2252.

Occidental Arts and Ecology Center

2007 Courses & Events Following is a brief schedule of our courses and events for 2007. Please see our website for full details.

We hope you will join us this year!

Courses:

School Garden Teacher Training

June 25 - 29

July 16 - 20

July 30 - August 3

Starting and Sustaining Intentional Communities

July 13 - 15

November 2 - 4

Woodshop For Women

July 27 - 29

Remembering Our Way: Healing Through Food, Gardening, Herbs, and Ceremony: June 22- 24

Events

Medicinal Plant Walk

August 19, 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Chautauqua Music Series

On June 20, July 11, August 15, and September 26 local and touring musicians will give acoustic performances at the North Garden Theater at 8:00 pm. Please see our website for updated information.

Tours

Tours are roughly 1 1/2 hours in duration unless noted otherwise below. We request a \$10 donation per person. We thank you for not bringing dogs on site.

June 16, Garden Tour at 10:00 am

July 7, Garden Tour at 10:00 am

July 21, Permaculture Site Tour at 9:00 am (3 hours)

July 22, Sudden Oak Death Tour at 9:00 am (3 hours)

Garden Volunteer Wednesdays

Please join us in the garden on Wednesdays for Garden Volunteer Day. Drop by between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm most Wednesdays (except the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Wednesday on either side of Christmas). A vegetarian lunch is served at 12:30 - bring a potluck dish to share if you like. Please bring a hat, sunscreen, and a water bottle.

Contact Information

(707) 874-1557 x 201

www.oaec.org

Occidental Arts and Ecology Center

5290 Coleman Valley Road

Occidental, CA 95465

Eco Adventures

www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org

June 25 - Armstrong Woods Horeseback Trail Ride & Picnic

July 8 - Russian Rver Paddle and WaterTreks

July 19 - Full Moon Paddle on the Russian River

Every Saturday at Noon- Docent led walks throgh Armstrong Woods

First Saturday - Docent led hikes in Willow Creek State park

July 18 - 21 - Sonoma Coast family Camping

Info: EM: stewards@mcn.org - 707-869-3263

Don't let summer slip away - get outside - move - enjoy time with your family.