



Solano Land Trust News April 2013

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Get Moving Outside

King-Swett Ranches

Docent-led Hike

Saturday, May 4
Saturday, June 1
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Jepson Prairie

Docent-led Wildflower & Aquatic Critters Walk

Saturdays & Sundays
Now thru May 12
10 a.m. to noon

Lynch Canyon

5th Annual Kite Festival

Saturday, April 13
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Rockville Trails: Opening for docent-led hikes this spring

By Deanna Mott, Associate Director



Springtime at Rockville Trails

Photo by Nicole Byrd

Spring is an appropriate season to show off Rockville Trails to the public for the first time. As the last rains of the season fall and new blooms push through the soil and the colors on the landscape change, we will host our first-ever docent-led hike for the public on April 20. We are excited to share this new, awe-inspiring park with you!

Education and Outreach Coordinator Natalie DuMont has been working for several months to recruit and train docents to lead safe and informative tours on the property, and the docents are helping to coordinate the outings to help us share this special place.

We anticipate offering hikes most Saturdays. Simultaneously, the Rockville Trails sub-committee will continue to meet and discuss elements that need to be included in the management plan, and we will plot our way through the required processes.

Initially there will be two temporary parking areas that can accommodate 10 vehicles each during dry weather. We encourage everyone to carpool to maximize the number of visitors and reduce



Photo by Anne DeLozier

Lynch Canyon is open
Saturdays & Sundays
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Lynch Canyon
Sunset & Full Moon Hike**
Friday, May 24
6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
RSVP required

[See website for instructions](#)

**Lynch Canyon
6th Annual Trail Run &
Community Hike**
Saturday, June 1
8 a.m. to Noon

www.lynchcanyontrailrun.com

**Rockville Trails
Docent-led Hike**
Weekly on Saturdays
Details vary and RSVP required
[See website for instructions](#)

**Rush Ranch
Get the Rush!**
[See website for activities](#)
Saturday, April 20
Saturday, May 18
Saturday, June 15
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Rush Ranch
23rd Annual Open House**
Saturday, April 27
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more event information and directions go to www.solanolandtrust.org

Volunteers Needed

**Citizen Science Fridays
(Location varies)**
Friday, April 12*
Friday, May 17
Friday, June 21

[See website for details](#)

RSVP required to (707) 432-0150 x207 or sue@solanolandtrust.org



Docents in training
Photo by Lorenzo Burchielli

traffic and parking constraints.

It is important to know that access to Rockville Trails is only by docent-led hikes at this time. Capacity is limited, and a [RSVP is required](#).

Science on the Land: Volunteers help track seasonal changes with phenology

Aleta George, *eVistas* editor



Volunteers John Federowicz (front) and Steven Chun

Photo by Aleta George

A group of Solano land Trust volunteers are joining citizen scientists in California and across the nation to practice the science of phenology, the study of seasonal changes in plants and animals.

Project Manager Sue Wickham led several workshops at Lynch Canyon, Rockville Trails, and Rush Ranch. Eventually, the data gathered will contribute to the California Phenology Project.

[Read the full article here.](#)

Lynch Canyon News: Call for trail crew & trail run volunteers!



Ken Poerner at work
Photo by Solano Land Trust

Land Steward Ken Poerner can't possibly groom all the trails on Solano Land Trust's 10,000-plus acres all by himself. He needs our help!

If you have experience working on trails, or want to gain some, join the Solano Land Trust trail crew this spring. First up are the trails at Lynch Canyon Open Space Park, which need attention before upcoming events, including the

6th Annual Trail Run and Community Hike.

The trail crew meets on Saturdays, April 13, May 11, and May 18, and works from 9 a.m. to noon. Help on one or all of the days.

We also need volunteers for the 6th Annual Lynch Canyon Trail Run and Community Hike, Solano Land Trust's biggest volunteer event of the year. Set aside Saturday, June 1, now to help at this important (and fun!) fundraising event.

Please RSVP for these volunteer opportunities with Natalie DuMont at (707) 432-0150 x200 or [by email](#).

* Note changed date

**King Ranch
Tree & Grassland Maintenance**

Wednesday, April 17
9 a.m. to noon

[See website for details](#)

RSVP required to
3rview@gmail.com

**Lynch Canyon
6th Annual Trail Run &
Community Hike**

Saturday, June 1
To volunteer contact
pcauffield@gmail.com

**Rush Ranch
Community Workday**

Saturday, May 4
Saturday, June 1
9 a.m. to Noon

To volunteer contact
(707) 580-6277 or
ken@solanolandtrust.org

**Lake Solano Park &
Campground
Community Workday**

Sunday, April 21
Sunday, May 19
Sunday, June 16
9 a.m. to noon

To volunteer contact
(707) 432-0150 x200 or
volunteer@solanolandtrust.org

Save the Date

**Aim for Ag & Open Space
Sporting Clay Shoot**

Birds Landing
Saturday, August 17
Time TBD



Associate Director
Deanna Mott and
husband Daman Mott

Community Events



Runners are grateful for volunteers!
Photo by Dave Reider

**Lynch Canyon News: Sign up now for the
6th Annual Lynch Canyon Trail Run and
Community Hike**



Looking for a challenge in your exercise regime?

Hit the most challenging trail run in Solano County on Saturday, June 1!

Run the half-marathon, 10K, or 5K, or walk the 2.5-mile community hike (the community hike is free).

Tell your friends! We want to blow out registration this year! Proceeds go to improve Lynch Canyon.

Sponsored by Solano Land Trust and Solano County Department of Parks & Recreation.

lynchcanyontrailrun.com

**Rush Ranch Roundup: Come to the Rush
Ranch Open House for fun and learning**



Learn about the Suisun Marsh
Photo by Barbara L. Steinberg

Passport Sunday Showcasing
Wines of Suisun Valley

Sunday, April 14
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Art on the Vine
Wooden Valley Winery

Saturday & Sunday
June 1 & 2
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sundays in the Country &
Certified Farmers Market

(Hosted by Green Valley
Agricultural Conservancy)
Sunday, July 7
Sunday, August 4
Sunday, September 1
Sunday, October 6

Lake Solano Park &
Campground

Docent-led Walk
Saturday, April 20
Saturday, June 8
10 a.m. to noon

Second Annual
Rio Vista Slow Food Event

Saturday, June 22



Benicia Farmers Market

Begins April 25

Vacaville Farmers Market

Begins May 4

Fairfield Farmers Market

Begins May 2

Vallejo Farmers Market

Year round

Sightings

What: Bobcat on Bobcat Trail
Where: Lynch Canyon
When: March 21
Who: Robert Hale

What: Checker lily
Where: Rockville Trails
When: Early April
Who: Nicole Byrd

- Take a marsh walk on your own or with a docent
- Ride in a horse-drawn wagon with Access Adventure
- Watch demos of horseshoeing, blacksmithing & weaving
- Learn about Native American culture
- View live bats, birds of prey, and farm animals
- See the art show and take kids to the art activity station
- Watch the dogs of Monterey Bay Hunting Retriever Club

Saturday, April 27, 2013
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

It's free!

(except for the hotdogs!)
Rush Ranch Open Space

Two miles south of CA-12 on Grizzly Island Rd.

Hosted by the Rush Ranch Educational Council
for 23 years! [More details here.](#)

Jepson Prairie Field Notes:
It's showtime!



Goldfields and blue skies

Photo by Karlyn Lewis

The flowers are popping and the native bees are buzzing at Jepson Prairie. Don't miss the show!

Docent Kate Mawdsley reported on March 29 that several areas were about to "burst into solid goldfields, lupine, biscuit root, muilla, golden violet, and some wooly marbles."

Every Saturday and Sunday until Mother's Day, trained and knowledgeable docents lead visitors on tours of Jepson Prairie. A licensed dipper shows you what invertebrates are in the pool and docents lead you to the flowers. The tours start at 10 a.m. and end at noon.

Donations are requested but not required. [Find directions here.](#)

Solano County's first Breeding Bird Atlas
to be published later this year



Photo by
Nicole Byrd

What: Purple sanilce, sticky
monkey flower, & blue-eyed grass
Where: Lynch Canyon
When: March & April
Who: Docent Lawrence Sander



Photo by
Aleta George

What: CA tiger salamanders
leaving Olcott Pool after late rains
Where: Jepson Prairie
When: Early April
Who: Chris Searcy via docent Jim
Litsinger

**Solano Land Trust
has been protecting
working farms and natural
areas in Solano County since
1986.**



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Editor: Aleta George



Great horned owl nestling in Suisun Marsh

Photo by Phil Gulley

The Napa-Solano Audubon Society has been trekking across the fields and wetlands of Solano County for six years in preparation for the county's first Breeding Bird Atlas. Local birders are excited for this long overdue resource that lists where each species nests in Solano County.

The publication of the printed book is slated for December 2013. An interactive eBook will also be available.

Napa-Solano Audubon is actively seeking photos, sponsors, and donations to wrap things up.

[Learn more here.](#)

Thank you Solano Land Trust Business Partners in Conservation: We couldn't do it without you



- Cowgirl Creamery
- Davis Environmental L.L.C.
- Dixon Ridge Farms
- EDF Renewable Energy
- Favaro Lavezzo Gill Caretti & Heppell
- First Northern Bank
- Fleet Feet Sports, Vacaville
- Grant Bennett Associates
- Kaiser Permanente
- KUIC Radio
- MagPies Catering

(partial list)

We will be thanking our business partners throughout the year.
Please remember to support those who support us.

Got the photo bug?

Send your best Jepson Prairie photos to the 2013 National Natural Landmarks photo contest. This is the 10th Annual contest of photos taken of the nearly 600 officially-designated National Natural Landmarks in America. The winners will be featured in a 2014 calendar.

Jepson Prairie is part of the National Park Service "Dixon Vernal Pools

National Natural Landmark" and eligible for inclusion in the contest. In a previous contest, Doug Wirtz got a photograph of a Delta Green ground beetle into the calendar!

"Get out your cameras. Represent!" says Ben Wallace, Solano Land Trust's conservation project manager.

Deadline is June 30, 2013. [Contest details here.](#)

[Forward email](#)



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