



February 2017 E-Newsletter

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We're Social!



Did You Know?

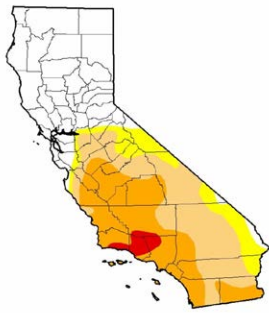
Make conservation a way of life.

SUCCESS! Channelkeeper Compels City of Santa Barbara to Reduce Sewage Spills

In mid-January, Channelkeeper and the City of Santa Barbara finalized an agreement to extend the settlement we signed in 2012 to reduce sewage spills. The 2012 agreement, which was set to expire in early 2017, required the City to increase the level of effort and funding to repair and replace leaking sewer pipes and progressively reduce sewage spills. Unfortunately, however, the City exceeded the maximum number of spills allowed under our 2012 settlement in 3 of the first 4 years of the 5-year agreement. Therefore, in 2016 Channelkeeper initiated negotiations with the City, which culminated in an agreement to extend our 2012 settlement for an additional 3 years, require specific improvements to the City's sewer pipe cleaning, assessment, and spill response protocols, and further reduce sewage spills. Channelkeeper commends the City for committing to these actions, and we look forward to working with them to better protect public health, aquatic life and our local economy from harmful sewage spills.



Rein the Rain with Rain Barrels



Despite the recent rainfall throughout California, Santa Barbara's main water supply, [Lake Cachuma](#), is only at 12.9% capacity and our region remains in an extreme drought. Water conservation must continue to be a way of life for the South Coast. Sustainable and water-wise landscapes can save water and look pretty too. Many local water districts have [rebates](#) available to make landscapes more sustainable with water-wise plants and smart irrigation.



Download the Waterkeeper Swim Guide app for real-time water quality data at local beaches



There's more rain in the forecast! Capture some of that free, clean water in a rain barrel to save for future outdoor watering needs. Through our Rein the Rain Project, Channelkeeper is partnering with local vintners and brewers to secure oak barrels previously used to age wine and beer and convert them into rain barrels to help our community conserve water. We have several beautiful, repurposed oak rain barrels available for sale for \$100, which includes a DIY kit to connect the barrel to your rectangular roof downspout. Rain barrels not only promote water conservation but also reduce stormwater runoff, our number one source of water pollution. Many thanks to our barrel

donors, Figueroa Mountain Brewery, Beckmen Winery, Buttonwood Winery, and Imagine Wines, and to SoCalGas for supporting the project. [Email](#) us to get your rain barrel today!

World Premier of *Gaviota: The End of Southern California* February 11th



Gaviota: The End of Southern California explores one of the most threatened biodiversity hotspots in the world. Filmed over five years by Santa Barbara filmmakers Shaw Leonard and Tamorn Chase, this film leads audiences from the ocean floor of the Santa Barbara Channel to the peaks of the jagged Santa Ynez Mountains. Check out this inspiring film at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival on Saturday, February 11th at 7 pm at the Lobero Theater. The screening will be followed by a Q & A with the filmmakers and a reception hosted by Gaviota Coast Conservancy and Naples Coalition. For more information, click [here](#).



Visit Website



Channelkeeper Student Art Show March 2nd

Channelkeeper is proud to host our 14th annual ocean-inspired Student Art Show, "What the Channel Means to Me." Please save the date for the opening exhibit, public reception and awards ceremony on Thursday, March 2nd (1st Thursday) from 5-8 pm at the Jodi House Gallery at 625 Chapala Street in Santa Barbara. The goal of the show, which is open to high school students from Carpinteria to Goleta, is to inspire local youth to create art that celebrates the natural beauty and biodiversity of the Santa Barbara Channel, and for their art to inspire others in our community. This year's show is sponsored by the Montecito Rotary Club Foundation. The awards ceremony will take place at 6:30 pm. We hope to see you on March 2nd!



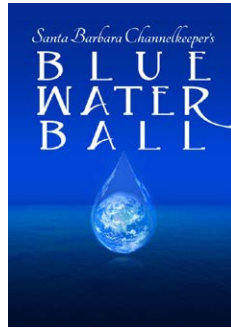
Stream Team February 4th & 5th



Stream Team is Channelkeeper's volunteer-based water quality monitoring program. Every month, volunteers join Channelkeeper staff to test for common water quality parameters at numerous stream sites

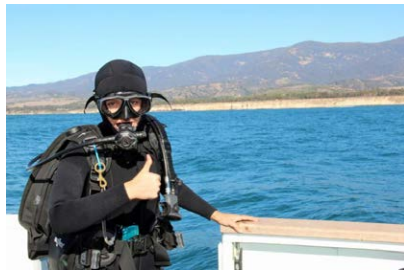
across the South Coast. Come join us to help protect our local waterways. Ventura Stream Team will meet at 9 am on Saturday, February 4th. Goleta Stream Team will meet at 10 am on Sunday, February 5th. For more information, visit our [website](#), [email](#) us or call 805.563.3377 ext. 5.

Save the Date! 17th Annual Blue Water Ball! Saturday, April 22nd, 2017



Save the date! Channelkeeper's 17th annual Blue Water Ball fundraising gala is set for Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd at 5:30 pm in the beautiful rotunda at Deckers' LEED-certified headquarters. This fun event will feature a gourmet dinner, fine local wines, an awesome auction, dancing and a celebration of Channelkeeper's recent victories for clean water. To reserve your seats today or become a sponsor, auction donor or volunteer, [email](#) or call Morgan at 805.563.3377 x2. We look forward to seeing you there! For more information click [here](#).

Become a Channelkeeper Member



Your support for Channelkeeper's efforts is needed now more than ever. [Become a member](#) of the Channelkeeper crew today with your [tax-deductible donation](#). You'll be investing in clean water and healthy communities along the Santa Barbara Channel today and for future generations. With your membership, you will receive our regular newsletters, news updates and action alerts, invitations to special Channelkeeper events and fun volunteer opportunities, and a free Channelkeeper sticker. All new donors contributing \$50 or more can also receive a Channelkeeper t-shirt, and for donations of \$250 or more, bi-annual issues of [Waterkeeper](#) magazine. Sign up today by calling 805.563.3377 ext. 2, [emailing](#) us, or clicking [here](#).