



January 2017 E-Newsletter

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✉ **Forward to a Friend**

We're Social!



Did You Know?

The City of Santa Barbara's lawn watering ban took effect on January 1, 2017. More than 50% of residential water use is for outdoor irrigation, so we

THANK YOU and Happy New Year!

The Santa Barbara Channelkeeper crew wishes you a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2017! We would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to the many generous, water-loving donors who helped us reach our fundraising goal for 2016. We face some tough challenges to our water and environmental laws in the year ahead, but thanks to broad-based support from our community, Channelkeeper will be on the front lines working tirelessly to defend our environmental laws and protect your right to clean water. **THANK YOU for your support!!**



Rein the Rain with Rain Barrels

At long last, a series of welcome winter storms is dropping some much-needed rain on the South Coast, so let's capture some of that free, clean water and put it to good use! Through our Rein the Rain Project, Channelkeeper has several beautiful, repurposed wood rain barrels available for sale for \$100, which includes a DIY kit to connect the barrel to your rectangular

need to make a permanent shift to more sustainable, water-wise landscaping. Many local water districts have rebates to help you you're your landscaping more sustainable with water-wise plants and smart irrigation. Click here for more info.



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



downspout. Channelkeeper is partnering with local vintners and brewers to secure oak barrels previously used to age wine and beer and then convert them into rain barrels and distribute them to people who want to conserve water. As we enter into the sixth year of a historic drought, tools like rain barrels promote water conservation while also reducing 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 yours today!

Long Term Habitat and Water Quality Protections Secured at the Ojai Quarry



Channelkeeper secured long-term habitat and water quality protections for North Fork Matilija Creek last month, when the Ventura County Planning Division adopted new conditions for the continued operation of the Ojai Quarry. Erosion and rock slides from the steep slopes at the Ojai Quarry have historically impacted critical habitat for endangered steelhead trout in the creek. In 2013, Channelkeeper and the Environmental Defense Center filed a lawsuit in federal court alleging that inadequate stormwater management practices at the quarry were violating requirements of the Clean

Water Act and Endangered Species Act. We reached a settlement in 2014, and the quarry agreed to implement a suite of new features and practices to prevent landslides and minimize erosion and impacts to water quality.

Channelkeeper coordinated extensively with the Ventura County Planning Division to ensure that these measures were incorporated into the quarry's recently updated Conditional Use Permit, so the County itself will now require these measures to

protect habitat and water quality for the duration of the quarry's new 30-year permit. Channelkeeper's ongoing monitoring indicates that the new measures are working to protect the creek, and we will continue to monitor their implementation and effectiveness moving forward.

Resurrect the River

Check out Channelkeeper's latest video, which is part of our ongoing campaign to save the Ventura River from over-pumping. Click [here](#) to learn more and take action to support our campaign.



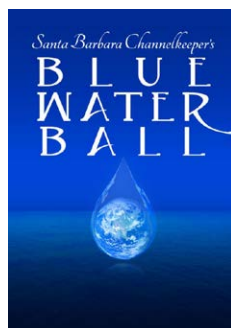
"Of course it's possible to have enough water both for people and for the environment. Even during drought years, you still have to leave enough in there to keep the river alive." - Paul Jenkin, Environmental Director of the Surfrider Foundation.

Want to know what sea level rise might look like in the future? Check out the #KingTides



King Tides will be hitting our shores again next week, providing a glimpse of how rising sea levels caused by climate change could impact our shoreline. Although king tides are naturally occurring and predictable, they are particularly high compared to tides throughout the rest of the year and thus offer an opportunity to see how infrastructure and ecosystems may be impacted as sea level rises due to climate change, since the high tides of today could be the norm in the future. Check out our [photo album and interactive google map](#) to see how our local beaches could be impacted. You can also head out to the coast on January 10, 11 and 12 to witness these high tides yourself. [Email](#) us your photos and share on social media using #kingtides.

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

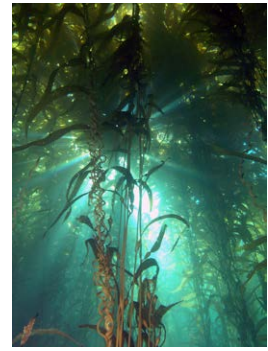


Save the date! Channelkeeper's 17th annual Blue Water Ball fundraising gala is set for Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd at 5:30pm in the beautiful rotunda at Deckers' LEED-certified headquarters. This fun event will feature a gourmet dinner, fine local wines, an awesome auction, dancing and a celebration 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](#).

Celebrate our MPAs at Underwater Parks Day Saturday, January 21

January 21st is Underwater Parks Day - a day dedicated to educating the public about [Marine Protected Areas](#) (MPAs) and

California's landmark initiative to establish a network of MPAs along its entire coast. Please join us in celebrating our local MPAs at the Sea Center's [Underwater Parks Day Festival](#) on Saturday, January 21st from 10am-3pm. This is a fun event for kids and adults alike, with hands-on activities and marine science investigations. Stop by Channelkeeper's table to learn more about MPAs and how you can help monitor and promote them.

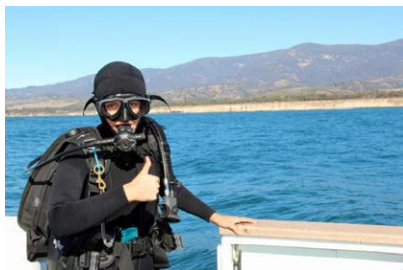


Stream Team January 8th



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. Goleta Stream Team will meet at 10am on Sunday, January 8th. For more information, visit our [website](#), [email](#) us or call 805.563.3377 ext. 5.

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](#).