



Support Clean Water Today



Take the Pledge: Go Plastic Free this July!

Join Channelkeeper and Community Environmental Council (CEC) in Santa Barbara, and partners around the world, in the challenge to 'Choose to Refuse' single-use plastic during the month of July. We can all be part of the solution to plastic pollution! The challenge is simple; commit to refusing ALL single-use plastic, or try the top 4: plastic bags, water bottles, takeaway coffee cups and straws. [Email us](#) to let us know you're taking the pledge. The first 10 people who sign up will receive a fun assortment of reusable goodies from Channelkeeper and CEC! Click [here](#) to learn more!

Locally, Channelkeeper and CEC have been working to reducing single-use plastic for over a decade. We first championed a reduction in the use of single-use plastic grocery bags, giving away thousands of free reusable bags, advocating for local bag ban ordinances, and supporting the statewide bag ban as well. Channelkeeper and CEC have also been supporting local Styrofoam bans and efforts to reduce the use of plastic straws, including through the Skip the Straw campaign we launched earlier this year, all while raising public awareness about the impacts of single-use plastics on wildlife and our oceans.

Hold the Foam & Skip the Straw!

Channelkeeper continues our work to stem the tide of plastic pollution to our oceans, and we're thrilled to report that the City of Santa Barbara is one step closer to banning Styrofoam, also known as Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam. After more than a year of advocacy by Channelkeeper and CEC, the Santa Barbara City Council will vote to adopt an ordinance later this month, tentatively agendized for the July 17th Council meeting. We are excited to see Santa Barbara join the growing list of 116 California cities taking action to reduce foam pollution! The Santa Barbara City Council will also be considering an ordinance to reduce plastic straw use as well, following the lead of the City of Carpinteria, who voted in May to draft regulations requiring certain businesses to provide plastic straws only upon request and to develop a straw reduction education and outreach plan. Channelkeeper is actively supporting these efforts and will be assisting with outreach to Carpinteria businesses over the summer. Cheers to going plastic free for the sea!



Channelkeeper Featured in *Vanity Fair*!

We are thrilled to report that Channelkeeper and our sister Waterkeepers across California are featured in an [article](#) in the Summer 2018 issue of *Vanity Fair*

magazine! The piece explores our fight to protect our most important resource - water - and dubs the Waterkeepers "the closest thing to aquatic superheroes the Golden State's got." It describes the range of threats that our waters face, including the full-frontal attack by the Trump Administration to dismantle bedrock environmental protections, and highlights several strategies and solutions that Waterkeepers have championed, including storm water capture, water conservation, wastewater recycling, and stronger rules and enforcement to keep agricultural and industrial runoff out of our rivers, drinking water, and coastal waters. Click [here](#) to read the article today!

**Support Legislation
to Protect California
from Offshore Drilling**

The Trump Administration's Draft 2019-2024 National Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Leasing Plan proposes to open more than 90% of the total OCS to potential new and expanded oil drilling, including the Santa Barbara Channel. This new plan threatens the progress California has made to protect our coastal resources and to transition from dirty fossil fuels toward cleaner, renewable energy sources.



California legislators are fighting back and have introduced two bills that urgently need your support! Senate Bill 834 (Jackson-Lara) and Assembly Bill 1775 (Muratsuchi-Limón) would help protect the California coast by prohibiting the State Lands Commission from approving new, modified, or extended leases for oil and gas production or associated infrastructure (including pipelines) in state waters that would result in an increase of production from federal waters.

If you haven't already, please join us in voicing your support for these important bills! Click [here](#) for more information and a sample email of support.



Seafari Educational Tours Getting Youth Out on the Water

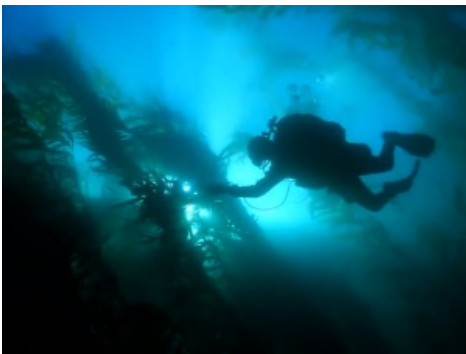
Channelkeeper is excited to share the unique and extraordinary wonders of the Santa Barbara Channel by bringing local youth out on the water to experience it firsthand through our

"Seafari" experiential education cruises on our boat, the *R/V Channelkeeper*. On a Seafari, we take groups of up to six students on a free, 1-2 hour cruise along the Santa Barbara coast, where they learn about marine conservation, Marine Protected Areas, and the incredible biodiversity of the Santa Barbara Channel. Channelkeeper divers provide passengers with a unique live tour of the wonders below the surface by using an underwater video camera connected to a monitor on board, while our on-deck scientist interprets what they are seeing. Our target audience for these tours is underserved youth groups and families who may lack the means or opportunity to get out on the water. Have a group in mind for a Seafari? [Contact us](#) or call 805.563.3377 ext. 4.

Surf & Swim Safely -

Use Swim Guide!

With the summer beach season upon us, stay in the know about water quality conditions at local beaches and throughout the nation with the free [Waterkeeper Swim Guide](#) app! This app provides up-to-date information about water quality conditions at more than 7,000 beaches, coves, rivers, parks, piers and creeks. Swim Guide also helps users get directions to nearby beaches, view photos, learn what beaches are good for children, and more. Users can and also report pollution immediately to the nearest local Waterkeeper. [Download the app](#) today and surf and swim safely this summer!



Dive Naples and Campus Point MPAs! July 15th & August 26th

Join [Truth Aquatics](#) and Channelkeeper on two special, limited-time discounted trips to the Naples and Campus Point Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) on

Sunday, July 15th and Sunday, August 26th from 7 am-4 pm. Dive in and experience the breathtaking beauty of this stunning stretch of coastline and the diversity of marine life that makes these MPAs so unique. For a glimpse at what's under the surface, [check out Channelkeeper's Naples Reef and Campus Point Dive Portals](#), including dive maps and videos. Excursions cost \$70 per person (including meals and air fills). **LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE SO RESERVE NOW by clicking [here](#)** or calling 805.962.1127. Dive gear and snorkeling rentals are available at your own expense.

Channelkeeper Staff at the 2018 Waterkeeper Conference

Thanks to support from the [Campbell Foundation](#), Channelkeeper's Education and Community Outreach Director Penny Owens and Watershed and Marine Program Associate Jenna Driscoll were able to attend

the 2018 Waterkeeper Conference in Buffalo, NY last month. From educational workshops, to inspiring messages from [Robert F. Kennedy, Jr](#) and other enviro leaders, to on-the-water adventures and service projects, our staff experienced



Photo credit: John Wathen

an amazing conference with nearly 300 fellow clean water advocates. A huge thanks to [Waterkeeper Alliance](#) and [Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper](#) for hosting this educational and inspiring experience, and to all our sister Waterkeepers out there keeping watch for clean water in rivers, lakes and coastal waters around the world!



Summer Solstice Gratitude to Patagonia and The Shopkeepers

Many thanks to [Patagonia](#) and [The Shopkeepers](#) for hosting summer solstice events to benefit Channelkeeper! We joined 150 ocean-lovers for a special screening

of [Belinda Baggs](#)' awesome film *The Reef Beneath* at Patagonia's headquarters in Ventura, and scores of shoppers at The Shopkeepers in the Funk Zone for a rockin' performance by [Conner Coffin](#) and the [Doublewide Kings](#) (featuring Channelkeeper Board member and Shopkeeper owner John Simpson) and an exhibit of stunning surf photography by Colin McCrindle, [Hutch Axilrod](#), and [Daniel Dreifuss](#). Together these events raised nearly \$3,000 for Channelkeeper! Thanks to all who attended and shopped and donated to support our work!

Stream Team July 8, August 11 & 12

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 on Sunday, July 8th and Sunday, August 12th at 10 am, and Ventura Stream Team will meet on Saturday, August 11th at 9 am. For more information, visit our [website](#), or [email](#) us or call 805.563.3377 ext. 5.



Become a 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. 1, [emailing](#) us, or clicking [here](#).

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