December 2018 E-Newsletter



**Support Clean Water Today** 



# Thank You for Supporting Seafaris on Giving Tuesday!

A HUGE thank you to everyone who contributed to our Giving Tuesday campaign in the past week! Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise 3,300 to provide free, "Seafari" educational cruises for underserved youth in our community, teaching them about marine conservation and inspiring love and stewardship for the ocean. We're so grateful for our amazing supporters, and we can't wait to pay it forward to our local youth. THANK YOU!!

# Federal Judge Halts Offshore Fracking Pending Further Review



Channelkeeper and EDC recently scored a big victory in our effort to stop the federal government from heedlessly allowing fracking and other "well stimulation techniques" (WSTs) at offshore oil platforms in southern California. Channelkeeper and the Environmental Defense Center filed a lawsuit in 2016 challenging the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement for approving permits for WSTs at offshore platforms without first fully assessing and addressing potential impacts to the environment and threatened and endangered species. On November 9th, the court issued an injunction **PROHIBITING THE APPROVAL OF ANY NEW PERMITS** for WSTs until the US Fish and Wildlife Service completes its review of potential impacts to threatened and endangered species. The court also ruled that WSTs cannot occur offshore of California until the Coastal Commission can review potential harms to the coastal zone.

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# Progress on the Frontline Battle Against Agricultural Pollution



On the heels of our September <u>court</u> <u>victory</u>, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board is now proposing to take a huge step forward in how it protects surface waters and groundwater from agricultural pollution. Citing guidance from the recent Appellate Court ruling in our favor, the Regional Board is, for the first time ever, proposing actual limits on how much nitrogen (fertilizer) can be

applied by farmers in order to protect groundwater from contamination. Other new mechanisms being proposed, such as firm timelines for compliance to achieve water quality standards, should help improve water quality conditions throughout the Central Coast if adopted and implemented. The Regional Board is currently soliciting public comments on its proposed new Central Coast Ag Order, and Channelkeeper will continue to advocate for stronger protections against agricultural pollution as the process unfolds.

# **!!URGENT!!** The Ventura River needs your help!

Channelkeeper has been providing <u>updates</u> on our work to stop the City of Ventura from pumping



the Ventura River dry. For the past two weeks we have been asking community members to email the Ventura City Council to urge them to manage this water resource responsibly and to engage in a productive dialogue that results in measures that balance the needs of the river with the City's water supply needs. And your voices are being heard! We continue to encourage people to send emails to the Ventura City Council - click <u>here</u> to send one now and show your support for a living Ventura River.



# Rein the Rain with Rain Barrels!

As we head into the rainy season, don't miss the opportunity to 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 convert oak barrels previously used to age wine and beer 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 partners who have donated barrels -Figueroa Mountain Brewery, Beckmen Winery, Buttonwood Winery, Melville Winery, and Imagine Wines. Email us to get your rain barrel today!

# Goleta Stream Team Sunday, December 2nd

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, December 2nd at 10

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am. Please RSVP via <u>email</u>. For more information, visit our <u>website</u>, or <u>email</u> us or call 805.563.3377 ext. 3.



# Gift Some Ocean-Inspired Art, Support SB Channelkeeper

If you missed our November Art & Ocean event, you can still view and purchase these stunning works of art from local artists <u>Kelly Clause</u>,

Kevin Gleason, and Emilie Lee. The artists have generously offered to keep their art on display at the Waterline (120 Santa Barbara St.) until December 4th, and will continue to donate 30-40% of each piece sold to support Channelkeeper's work to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds. So head on over to the Waterline before December 4th and get yourself and your loved ones some gorgeous ocean-inspired art while supporting clean water at the same time!



## King Tides are Returning to Santa Barbara

King Tides will be hitting our shores again on December 22-23 and January 20-21, 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, 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 during the mornings on December 22-23 and January 20-21 to witness and photograph these high tides yourself. **Email** us your photos and share on social media using #kingtides. State and local officials and climate change researchers use the images taken during king tides to validate sea level rise models and better assess local flood vulnerabilities for planning purposes.

# Support Channelkeeper While You Do Your Holiday Shopping!

'Tis the season! Did you know that you can support Channelkeeper while doing your holiday shopping? <u>Sign up</u> for Amazon Smile and <u>select Santa Barbara</u>



Channelkeeper as your beneficiary of choice. Amazon will then donate a portion of what you pay to Channelkeeper - at no added cost to you! Channelkeeper t-shirts and tote bags, 2019 Tidelines calendars, botanical beeswax Honeypot candleholders, and Channelkeeper Memberships also make great holiday gifts for you and yours. Your purchases support our mission to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds - a win-win!



# Buy Axxess Books and Support Channelkeeper

Santa Barbara Axxess features exclusive discounts at more than 550 local merchants, including unbeatable savings on restaurants, wine tasting, home, fitness and more! Buy your Axxess books from Channelkeeper and Axxess will

donate \$13 of your \$40 purchase price back to us! Swing by our office at 714 Bond Avenue, contact us by <u>email</u>, or call 805.563.3377 ext. 2 to get yours today.

# Protect Your Skin AND Our Oceans While Supporting SBCK!

Heading to the beach for winter break? Then stock up on some chemical-free, human- and ocean-friendly biodegradable sunscreen made by Santa Barbara-based <u>Two Peas Organics</u>, while also supporting Channelkeeper's work for clean water! Two Peas Organics will



donate 10% of sales made through <u>this link</u> to Channelkeeper. So click <u>here</u> to get some Santa Barbara-local Two Peas Organics sunscreen while also supporting Channelkeeper at the same time!



### **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 <u>tax-deductible donation</u>. 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, biannual issues of <u>Waterkeeper magazine</u>. Sign up today by calling 805.563.3377 ext.1, <u>emailing</u> us, or clicking <u>here</u>.

# STAY CONNECTED





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