August 2019 E-Newsletter



Support Clean Water Today

Seafari Educational Cruises 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 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 kelp forest by using an underwater video camera connected to a monitor on the boat, while our on-deck scientist interprets what they are seeing. We shared this exhilarating and educational on-the-water experience with 118 students and their chaperones this summer. Our target audience for these tours is underserved and at-risk youth 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.

Channelkeeper Submits Stream Team Data to State Water Board

Santa Barbara Channelkeeper collects a lot of data on



water quality in creeks all across the South Coast, thanks in large part to help from the many volunteers that participate in our monthly Stream Team sampling events. You may wonder - what we do with all this data? For one, we make it accessible to students, researchers and anyone who's interested by posting it on our website. We also periodically submit our water quality data to the State Water Board in response to its Public Solicitations of Water Quality Data and Information, including most recently this past month. The Water Board uses submitted data to assess overall surface water quality conditions across the state and to identify polluted waterways for inclusion on the 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies. The Water Board must formulate Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), which are determinations of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive while still meeting water quality standards, for all waterways on the 303(d) List. TMDLs are designed to bring impaired waterways back into compliance with water quality standards. Over the years, Channelkeeper's

Stream Team data has led the Water Board to add numerous waterways in our region to the 303(d) List, slating them for clean-up under a TMDL. Many thanks to all our volunteers who help us gather this important water quality data!

Goleta Bay Turbidity Monitoring

In April, Channelkeeper initiated a new ocean sampling effort to help assess the impacts of beach disposal of dredged material from County debris basins. We're collecting monthly turbidity (water clarity) samples from just above the seafloor in three offshore locations in Goleta Bay in order to establish a baseline that will enable us to detect environmental impacts when the County resumes beach disposal of debris basin mud in the future.





Celebrate Fiesta AND Protect our Ocean!

Please celebrate responsibly while enjoying the Fiesta festivities this weekend by avoiding plastic confetti, which is harmful to our environment and difficult and expensive to clean up. Shiny metallic confetti, sequins, and glitter are all made of plastic, which is not biodegradable and can quickly wash or blow into our storm drains, creeks, and the ocean, where it poses a threat to aquatic life. Please help keep Santa Barbara clean and beautiful by choosing paper confetti and using it sparingly. Thank you and viva la Fiesta!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stream Team August 3 & 4 Surf 'n Suds Beer Festival August 10



Stream Team is Channelkeeper's volunteer-based water quality monitoring program. Come join us to help monitor and protect our local waterways. Ventura Stream Team will meet on Saturday, August 3rd at 9 am. Goleta Stream Team will meet on Sunday, August 4th at 10 am. Please RSVP via email. For more information, visit our website, email or call us at 805.563.3377 ext. 3.

SEPF 'N' SUOS

Join Channelkeeper at the Carpinteria Surf 'n Suds festival on Saturday, August 10th. This awesome beer festival with a surf twist will feature over 75+ craft breweries and ciders, live bands and plenty of food trucks, more than a dozen local surfboard shapers, and several ocean-related nonprofits, including Channelkeeper. Click here for tickets and more info!

Dive in and Explore Our MPAs August 11 & September 8



Join Channelkeeper and Truth Aquatics on two special, limited-time discounted SCUBA diving trips to the Naples and Campus Point Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) on **Sunday**, August 11th and Sunday, September 8th 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. Check out Channelkeeper's Naples Reef and Campus Point Dive Portals for a glimpse at what you might see beneath the surface! Excursions cost \$70 per person (including meals and air fills); dive gear and snorkeling available rentals are at additional expense. LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE! Call Truth Aquatics at 805.962.1127 or click here to reserve your spot on the August 11 dive or **here** for the September 8 dive.

Ventura Land Trust Wild & Scenic Film Festival August 17



Come visit Channelkeeper's booth at the Ventura Land Trust's Wild & Scenic Film Festival under the stars on the campus of the Ventura County Credit Union on Saturday, August 17th. The Film Festival offers attendees the chance to enjoy a series of award-winning short films that celebrate the beauty and bounty of our natural world. With live music, food trucks, outdoor games, and more, this year's festival will be fun for the whole community to enjoy. Doors open and activities begin at 5pm; films start at 8pm. Click here to buy tickets!

Congressman Carbajal August 24



Channelkeeper and Congressman Salud Carbajal invite you to join us for a summer beach clean-up on Saturday, August 24th from 10 am-11:30 am at West Beach. Bring friends and family - it's kid-friendly! We will meet volunteers on the beach just off the bike path near the intersection of Bath and Cabrillo, on the harbor side. Clean-up supplies will be provided, but we ask that volunteers help us generate less waste by bringing reusable gloves and a bucket if you have them. We hope to see you there!

Beneficiary of Biltmore Cup September 8



Santa Barbara Channelkeeper has been selected as the beneficiary of the 2019 Biltmore Cup, a paddle race for members of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club and Coral Casino and their guests, which will take place on Sunday, September 8. All types of human-powered watercraft may be used (stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, surfboards, etc). If you're a member of the Yacht Club or Coral Casino, please sign up and paddle in the race, and invite friends to join you! You can also visit our table at the post-race festivities at the Coral Casino.



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.



