

December 2019 E-Newsletter



Support Clean Water and Double Your Impact!

Want to make a real difference for the environment and your community this holiday season? We can help! Make a tax-deductible [contribution](#) to Santa Barbara Channelkeeper today and you'll be making a direct investment in clean beaches, healthy watersheds and a more sustainable future. And, RIGHT NOW, you have the opportunity to DOUBLE your impact for clean water, because Patagonia will match all [donations](#) made to Santa Barbara Channelkeeper before December 31st!!! Don't miss this awesome opportunity to [make twice the impact for our environment!](#) Thank for your support!

[Support Clean Water Today](#)

Channelkeeper Earns Gold on GuideStar!

Channelkeeper has earned a 2019 Gold Seal on [GuideStar!](#) GuideStar Gold status demonstrates our commitment to transparency by providing qualitative information about our goals, strategies, and vision, as well as current information about our mission, programs, leadership, and financial health. Check out our GuideStar profile [here](#), and have the confidence of knowing you're supporting a healthy and transparent organization when you [donate](#) to Channelkeeper!





Channelkeeper is Hiring!

Santa Barbara Channelkeeper is seeking a creative, personable, energetic, well-organized, detail-oriented, independent, flexible and hard-working individual to join our awesome team as our new Communications Manager. Click [here](#) to learn more.

First Flush Creek Clean-Up

Polluted runoff is the single biggest source of pollution to the Santa Barbara Channel. When it rains, stormwater runs over dirty streets, rooftops, parking lots and lawns, carrying with it a toxic cocktail of pollutants, including disease-causing pathogens, gasoline and lubricants, pesticides, fertilizers, trash, sediment and heavy metals. This runoff does not undergo treatment like sewage does, but flows untreated directly to our creeks and ocean, threatening marine life and making swimming and surfing unsafe.

The first big rain storm of the winter season, referred to as the "first flush," is particularly harmful because it carries a concentrated load of trash and contaminants that have accumulated over several months of dry weather.



Just before Thanksgiving, we partnered with the City of Carpinteria and local volunteers to help protect the Santa Barbara Channel from the first flush wave of pollution by cleaning up sections of Santa Monica and Franklin Creeks. We collected over 100 pounds of trash in 2.5 hours, including bike tires, a bike frame, a soggy rug, a mattress, several articles of clothing, a backpack, and lots of discarded food packaging, and drink bottles and cans. A big thank you to our volunteers and to the City of Carpinteria for providing clean-up supplies and disposing of all the trash we pulled from the creeks!



Denounce US Withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement

The Trump Administration has now taken the earliest opportunity—under United Nations rules—to begin the year-long process of extracting the US from the 2015 Paris climate accord signed by nearly 200 nations. America will be the only country to leave the accord.

The United States is the world's second biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, behind only China, and is by far the largest cumulative greenhouse gas emitter in history. With the US abdicating any responsibility for curbing emissions, it will be that much tougher to convince other countries that they have to do more.

Our planet is facing a climate emergency and we have no time to take steps backward. Join us and Waterkeeper Alliance in denouncing the US's withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement. Click [here](#) to sign the petition today.

Support Channelkeeper While You Do Your Holiday Shopping!



'Tis the season! Did you know that you can support Channelkeeper while doing your holiday shopping? [Sign up](#) for Amazon Smile and [select Santa Barbara 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 \(limited sizes\)](#), [hats](#), [tote bags](#), and [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

Axxess Books also make great holiday gifts! [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 in Santa Barbara, contact us by [email](#), or call 805.563.3377 ext. 2 to get yours today.

Holiday Waste

Did you know that between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, Americans' household waste increases by more than 25 percent? That's an additional one million tons of trash a week to our landfills - yikes!! But there are plenty of easy ways to cut down on holiday waste that can ease the strain on both your wallet and the environment. Reusing packing and shipping materials, giving personal treasures like a favorite book, plant, or antique, or choosing Energy Star energy-efficient lighting for decorations are just a few tips!



Also, be sure that you're [recycling properly](#) and only putting accepted items in the blue bin: clean and dry metal, #1 and #2 plastic (greater than 6"), and all clean paper and glass. You can also recycle your clean and dry film (stretchy) film plastic as part an independent recycling initiative spearheaded by Ablitt's Fine Cleaners and supported by Channelkeeper and CEC by dropping it off at any of our locations (Channelkeeper at 714 Bond Ave, CEC at 26 W. Anapamu St. or Ablitt's at 14 W. Gutierrez St.).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parade of Lights
December 8

Stream Team
December 8



Join in the festivities at the Santa Barbara Harbor for the 33rd Annual Parade of Lights on Sunday, December 8h! Channelkeeper's boat, the *R/V Channelkeeper*, will be participating in the boat parade again this year. The theme for this year's parade is "Deep Space Holiday." Parade activities will begin at 3 pm with Santa's Village on the City Pier in the Santa Barbara Harbor, with snow, elves and Santa himself! The boat parade begins at 5:30 pm. Judging will take place at Stearns Wharf and boats will be awarded prizes in five categories. The best viewing locations are Stearns Wharf and the breakwater. The evening will wrap up with a short fireworks display around 7 pm.



Stream Team is Channelkeeper's volunteer-based water quality monitoring program. Come join us to help monitor and protect our local waterways. Goleta Stream Team will meet on Sunday, December 8 at 10 am. Please RSVP via [email](#). For more information, visit our [website](#), [email](#) or call us at 805.563.3377 ext. 3.

Save the Date! The 20th Annual Blue Water Ball is Saturday, March 14, 2020!



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](#).

Santa Barbara Channelkeeper



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