



February eNewsletter

SHAPING THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA'S CRUISE SHIP PROGRAM

Cruise ships generate tremendous amounts of pollution and waste that can harm public health, our oceans, and atmosphere. Channelkeeper is working to highlight the environmental risks and impacts of the cruise ship industry in our area. We are calling upon the City of Santa Barbara to reassess the cruise ship program and make changes to meet the community's environmental priorities.

Last week, in collaboration with other local environmental leaders, Executive Director Ted Morton published an editorial in the Santa Barbara Independent about how limiting cruise ships also helps limit air and water pollution in our area.

[Click here to read:](#)

[Shaping the Future of Santa Barbara's Cruise Ship Program.](#)

Next week, the public is invited to participate and provide comments in an important cruise ship discussion. On Thursday, February 15th, the Harbor Commission will discuss the City's Cruise Ship Program and will consider recommendations proposed by the Harbor Commission's Cruise Ship Subcommittee. This meeting represents an important opportunity for community members to provide public comment and help shape the future of the City of Santa Barbara's Cruise Ship Program.

Please consider joining us at the February 15 Harbor Commission meeting to share your perspectives.

Date: Thursday, February 15

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: City Council Chambers in Santa Barbara City Hall,

Address: 735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA.

Watch our new video below!





HELP IDENTIFY AND TRACK LOST LOBSTER TRAPS

During winter months, storms can bring lobster traps onshore. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife initiated a lobster trap tag program in 2016 to help track fishing gear. The tags attached to every trap contain information that identifies the owner and the year the trap was set.

With the help of volunteers, Channelkeeper monitors trap activity and alerts both the Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife of gear that has washed ashore so that traps can be removed from the beach and recovered by their owners for reuse or disposal. Channelkeeper also collaborates with local fishermen on cleanup events. Following the lobster season's closure this spring, we plan to coordinate a lobster trap cleanup at a local "hotspot" and will reach out for volunteers when the details are finalized.

If you see a lobster trap on the beach in the meantime, please take a photo of the tag and complete our simple form with detailed information about the location. Our staff will report the tag to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and we will track it to see that it has been removed from the beach.

[Report Lobster Traps](#)



Santa Barbara Channelkeeper

Blue Water Ball

March 16, 2024



Artwork by Chris Potter

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE FOR THE BLUE WATER BALL

We're thrilled to announce that tickets are now on sale for the Blue Water Ball, which will take place at the Cabrillo Pavilion on Saturday, March 16th.

We hope you will join us for this fun-filled event, which raises critical funds to support Channelkeeper's work to protect local beaches, creeks, and coast, and defend your right to clean water and healthy habitats.

Ryan Gellert, CEO of Patagonia, will be joining us as an inspired and thought-provoking speaker in "A Channelside Chat" with Executive Director Ted Morton. Santa Barbara luminary Andrew Firestone will emcee. We'll also have a multicourse dinner, local wines and brews, live music, a fun raffle, auctions for art, gear, outdoor adventures, and more.

Tickets are available through February 29. However, the event is likely to sell out quickly, so get your tickets now!

[Purchase Tickets](#)



**WATERSHED BRIGADE EAST BEACH CLEANUP
February 25th
9am to 11am
East Beach @ Sycamore Creek**

This month, the Watershed Brigade is cleaning up East Beach at the Sycamore Creek outlet. The Sycamore Creek Watershed covers 2,600 acres where nine miles of creeks run from the mountains through neighborhoods and out to the ocean. Litter from streets can enter these creeks and get washed out onto the beach during large rain events. We hope you can join us in removing this trash!

Channelkeeper will provide cleaning supplies including strainers to sift the sand for microplastics. Volunteers will meet on the beach near the [Cabrillo East Parking Lot](#) and are responsible for parking costs.

[Sign Up](#)



**Channelkeeper's
February Board Walk**

February 24 @ 9:30 am

Rattlesnake Creek

CHANNELKEEPER'S FEBRUARY BOARD WALK

February 24

Rattlesnake Canyon

9:30 am

Channelkeeper Board Walks are occasional walks and talks around town to explore water from different perspectives. They are designed for the whole community to understand our place in nature, especially with respect to life-giving water. Each is led by a Channelkeeper board member, drawing upon their expertise as naturalists, hydrologists, nature film producers, native plant

gardeners, and more.

Our next Board Walk will be a saunter up Rattlesnake Canyon. Meet us at the trailhead on Las Canoas Road at 9:30 am on Saturday, February 24. Join us to learn about creek habitats and how Rattlesnake Creek factors into the archeology, history, geology, and biology (and more!) of Santa Barbara. This short hike will be led by board member Karen Telleen-Lawton, author of *Canyon Voices - the Nature of Rattlesnake Canyon*.

The walk includes a moderate climb on a dirt trail. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and bring a hat, jacket, water, and sunscreen. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, February 24, 9:30 am. We'll wrap up around noon.



SUPPORT CLEAN WATER

Want to make a difference for the environment and your community? Making a tax-deductible contribution to Santa Barbara Channelkeeper today is an investment in clean beaches, healthy watersheds, and a more sustainable future. Thank you for your support!

[Donate](#)

KEEPING WATCH FOR CLEAN WATER
SINCE 1999



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