

May 1, 2021 Volume 63

Your monthly news & updates



Virtual [Roundtable](#) This Month
Thursday, May 6, 2021

Our unit commissioners will meet from 6:30-7:00 and the roundtable will follow at 7:00pm.

Don't miss important information! Be sure to scroll all the way down!
There's a lot of important information in the newsletter this month!!!!
Detailed articles so you do not have to look for links.

Visit our Website



Upcoming Training, District or Council Events

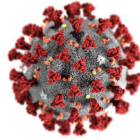
Saturday - May 1 - [Scouts Trash the Trash Day](#)
Monday - May 3 - [Luis Alvarez Supernova Event](#)
Monday - May 3 - Yerba Buena Lodge LEC
Wednesday - May 5 - Eagle BOR Binder Check - Contact [Gordon Bell](#) for time and method
Thursday - May 6 - Commissioners Meeting via [Zoom](#) - 6:30 pm
Thursday - May 6 - Roundtable via [Zoom](#) - 7:00 pm
Sunday - May 9 - Mother's Day
Monday - May 10 - Eagle Board of Review - Contact [Bruce McGurk](#)
Tuesday - May 11- Eagle Board of Review - Contact [Gordon Bell](#)
Thursday - May 13- OA Chapter Meeting via Zoom 7:00 pm - Contact [Mr. Stanton](#) for link
Friday - May 15-16 - [Wilderness First Aid](#) - Council Service Center, Pleasant Hill
Friday - May 21 - University of Scouting - Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council - Virtual
Friday - May 28-29 - [Wilderness First Aid](#) - Council Service Center, Pleasant Hill
Monday - May 31 - Memorial Day
Monday - Jun 7 - Yerba Buena Lodge LEC
Wednesday - Jun 2 - Eagle BOR Binder Check - Contact [Gordon Bell](#) for time and method
Thursday - Jun 3 - Commissioners Meeting via [Zoom](#) - 6:30 pm
Thursday - Jun 3 - Roundtable via [Zoom](#) - 7:00 pm
Thursday - Jun 10- OA Chapter Meeting via Zoom 7:00 pm - Contact [Mr. Stanton](#) for link
Friday - Jun 11-12 - [Wilderness First Aid](#) - Council Service Center, Pleasant Hill
Monday - Jun 14 - Eagle Board of Review - Contact [Bruce McGurk](#)
Tuesday - Jun 15- Eagle Board of Review - Contact [Gordon Bell](#)



Our Virtual Order of Arrow Village meeting is Thursday, May 13 @ 6:30 pm. Email [Mr. Stanton](#) for the Zoom link if you do not receive an email with it. We normally meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. The meetings are approximately an hour long. More information about that below.

The new Lodge name is Yerba Buena Lodge. Our Lodge will be putting together a very active and exciting year ahead with lots of fun activities mixed with exciting service projects. Escape Room, LEAD, Movie Night, Rock Climbing, Hope Walk, OA Trek, Canoe Trip, SF Scavenger Hunt, and Inductions are just a few of the activities that have been planned or done. I would hope that you will get involved and enjoy them with us.

This is your meeting, so come and ask your questions, get your answers and meet your fellow Arrowmen. You can help schedule fun activities to do.



Check www.ggacbsa.org/covid for latest info.

For more information regarding the stay at home order please visit the state website:

[About COVID-19 restrictions - Coronavirus COVID-19 Response \(ca.gov\)](https://www.ca.gov/about-covid-19-restrictions)



Scouts Trash the Trash Day is an international Messengers of Peace project for Scouts around the world, where each Scout is challenged to bring a friend or family member along and pick up at least one Kilo (2.2 pounds) of trash each on the first Saturday in May.

The idea for Scouts Trash the Trash Day came from the scouts of Troop 1206 in Helena, Montana after realizing that there are several days throughout the year that Scouts get together and do the same thing on the same day. Days like Jamboree on the Air and Internet, Jamboree on the Trail, Trees for the World, World Neckerchief Day, but there was not a day for Scouts to all get together and clean up their communities. Thus Scouts Trash the Trash Day was started. Scouts are asked to bring a non-scout with them on this day of service in order to double the impact of their trash cleaning effort.

Scouts Trash the Trash Day is about more than just cleaning our planet, it is a day to show the world what Scouting is about, educate individuals about Scouting and recruit new boys, girls and adults into the Scouting movement.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Plan now to complete your Annual Health and Medical Record for this summer

There aren't any exemptions for 2021, so now is the time to make sure you and your Scout's records are up-to-date and complete.

To participate in Scouting events, campouts and high-adventure trips, Scouts and Scouters must complete the Annual Health and Medical Record. Now is the time to make sure your and your Scout's records are up-to-date and complete, especially if your unit has summer activities scheduled.

The Annual Health and Medical Record has three different parts:

- Part A is an informed consent, release agreement and authorization that needs to be signed by every participant (or a parent and/or legal guardian for all youth under 18).
- Part B is a self-reported general information and a health history.
- Part C is your pre-participation physical exam completed by a certified and licensed health care provider.

Parts A and B must be complete for all activities; Part C is required for events lasting longer than 72 hours. Again, this year, all parts must be current through the end of the adventure in order to participate. Review and complete the AHMR fully and carefully; take a look at this instruction page. If you have more questions, refer to this BSA Safety Moment or look at these frequently asked questions. Remember, these completed forms must be secure, so they are not to be digitized, scanned, emailed or stored electronically by unit leaders.

Because the pandemic is not over, it might be a good idea to schedule an appointment soon for the pre-participation exam rather than waiting until summer. When you meet with your medical provider, bring the AHMR form, and it's advised, especially if you or your Scout will be attending a BSA high-adventure base, to bring the risk advisory associated with that base. That way, your medical provider can better understand any strenuous activities involved. Council-run high-adventure camps might also have required risk advisories to review and complete. Check with the camp you are attending for any additional forms, such as COVID-19-related forms for high-risk individuals, that are necessary this year.

You should also alert Scout adult leaders of plans to address individual risk factors or medication use. When filling out the AHMR, include all medications; you can include a separate sheet if you run out of room.

The Annual Health and Medical Record must be completed every year. It serves many purposes, but primarily, it's to help keep Scouts and Scouters safe. [Click here for the AHMR main page.](#)



See the Recent Updates to FAQs for Youth Protection and Barriers to Abuse

The updates include answers to recent frequent questions and a new section on maintaining program integrity.

[Read More](#)



Join Scouts Nationwide to help all corners of our communities!

As we have throughout our history, Scouting families have answered the call to work together in service of the greater good. From public health drives...to caring for the environment...to assisting neighbors in need...Scouts have always been a force for positivity and goodness in our communities.

The Summer of Service is a broad initiative for individuals, families, units, districts and councils to participate, share, and report the amazing impact of serving the community.

Check out more about The Summer of Service at www.scouting.org/summerofservice



Reminder of several aspects of the Eagle Scout Rank process that have been missed by many of our Scouts lately. Please read them below and share the information with your Unit Leadership and Eagle Scout Candidates.

If the Scout needs to have an extension of time, please have them complete the form found here: <https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/GTA-11.2.0.0-form-2021.pdf>. This form then needs to be emailed to our Briones District Advancement Chair **Mrs. Bonnie Hazarabedian** (bonzai@flash.net), our Council Advancement Committee Chair **Mr. Merl Nygren** (nygreme@att.net), and our Council Advancement Committee

Advisor Mr. Michael Charlesworth (michael.charlesworth@scouting.org) for review.

Please note that our council can only grant up to a six-month extension. Any time beyond that needs to be approved by our National Office. Also, our Council Advancement Committee only meets once per month to discuss extensions, please make sure to have your Scout complete the extension form and turn it in at least a few weeks before their 18th birthday. They are to continue to work towards completing their Eagle Rank even if they have not heard back from the committee about their extension.

Eagle Scout Project Proposals need to be reviewed and approved by either **Mr. Ed Isley** (ekisely@comcast.net) or **Mr. Mark Paulson** (eagleworkbook@gmail.com) prior to any work being done on the project. They will sign in the "Council or District Approval" section on Proposal Page H in the Workbook (<https://www.scouting.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/EagleProjectWorkbook2021c-v2.pdf>).

If the Scout needs to complete an Eagle Scout Project Fundraising Application (Fundraising Application Page A in the Workbook), the "Authorized Council Approval" is for only **Mark Woodman**, as District Director, to sign after signatures of the Beneficiary and Unit Leader are received. Please have the Scout email him at mark.woodman@scouting.org and make sure to include at least one other adult in that email.

Once the Scout has completed their Scoutmaster Conference for Eagle, they need to send their completed Eagle Scout Rank Application to **Mark** (mark.woodman@scouting.org) to review the application before it gets verified at our Council Office. The latest this step can be done is the day before the Scout's 18th birthday, or the final day of their approved extension. If the Scout has an extension, please have them let **Mark** know that final date of their extension at this time.

A few notes on the Eagle Scout Rank Application

(https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/512-728_WB_fillable.pdf):

An Eagle Scout Rank Application can be downloaded from ScoutBook with all of the dates preloaded into the correct fields, by using the information provided on the attached PDF. Each line on the application must be completed through the signature of the Unit Committee Chair on page two. With the exception of the employer reference, if the Scout is not employed.

All information for each reference must be included: name, address, telephone, and email. If the Scout does not have a religious reference, they must include a parent or guardian in that field.

The Grand total of hours under Requirement 5 on page two is the total number of hours the project took to complete, counting everyone's involvement, not just the Eagle Candidate. Please encourage your Scouts to start this tally of hours as they are starting to research project ideas.

If even one number on a completion date is incorrect from the Scout's official records, **Mark** will send the application back to the Scout to be corrected.

If there are missing dates for items that have not yet been entered into the Scout's Advancement Records, please include a BSA Advancement Report (<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/34403.pdf>) with the application. This report authorizes our Council to enter in the missing dates. If **Mark** finds a missing date on an application, **Mark** will reach out to you individually for this report.

Once the Eagle Scout Rank Application is correct, **Mark** will then send it to our Council Registrar **Mrs. Masouda Ibrahim** (masouda.ibrahimi@scouting.org) for the Council Verification step on page two. This process may take a day or two, depending on workload, vacation schedules, etc.

After the verification has been complete, **Mrs. Ibrahim** will email a scan of the application back to the candidate, cc'ing **Mark** and our Council Advancement Committee Chair **Mr. Merl Nygren** (nygreme@att.net).

Scouts can then schedule their Eagle Scout Board of Review with **Mr. Bruce McGurk** (brucemcgurk@comcast.net) for the Lamorinda Area, or **Mr. Gordon Bell** (gordon.ed.bell@gmail.com) for the Walnut Creek/Pleasant Hill Area.

After the Board of Review is complete, paperwork is sent to our National Office for final verification and certification. About 3-4 weeks later (sometimes up to 6 weeks), the Eagle Scout's National Certificate and final paperwork is mailed back to our Council Office. Once they are received, the Scoutmaster or Committee Chair will be notified that the Eagle

Credentials and Award Kit is available for pick up. Since the office is closed at this time, we will arrange a pick up time, or Mark would be happy to drop off the items at your home or place of work.

Please remind your Scouts to always include at least one other adult while emailing any of the people mentioned above. This keeps everyone within Youth Protection and CyberChip guidelines. If a Scout forgets to do so, Mark will kindly remind them of this policy in his email reply, in which he will include you.

We know that this is a long and complicated process. It can go smoothly by following these few steps.

Thank you and please let Mark know if you have any questions.



Pacific Skyline Council recently hosted "Girls in Scouting Meet Women in STEM Career Day"

This was a virtual event for their Scouts who are interested in learning about careers that require creative problem solving, encourage forward thinking, and making a difference in society. The purpose is to spark more interest in women in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. There is a great demand for women in these fields especially in engineering, computer science, and the life sciences. We had a variety of professional women in STEM (Science, Tech, Engineering, Math) come together to meet with our Scouts to talk about these opportunities. If you missed this unique event, you can [watch the video](#)! Thank you again to all those who participated and made this event possible!

Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council is holding an University of Scouting. Our very own membership chair **Wendell Baker** is teaching two of the classes. This is an opportunity to get some great training done virtually.

University of Scouting Registration is Open!

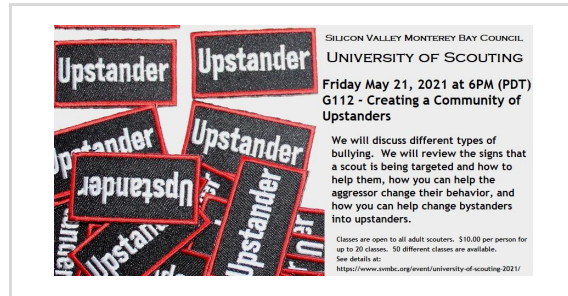
Jump back into Scouting - take a refresher course or learn something new!

The University of Scouting is like the "elective" classes you look forward to. This supplemental training week lets you pick the courses and topics that interest you to enhance your Scouting experience. You pick your classes and build your own schedule to fit your needs. Come for an evening, a few days, or the whole week of fun with our easy online webinars.

You can't beat the value at \$10 for unlimited classes AND a cool patch mailed to your door!

May 17th – May 22nd

[Course list for adults](#) | [Course list for youth & adults](#) | [Register](#)



How to Print Membership Cards and Charter Certificates For Unit Leaders

Now that rechartering is done, you may want to print membership cards for your members or a charter certificate to present to your charter organization. Click a link to download the how-to PDF: [Charter Certificate](#), [Membership Cards](#).

BSA Updates to Service Project Checklist and Safe Project Tool Use For All Unit Leaders



The safety of our Scouts, volunteers, employees, and communities is the top priority for the Boy Scouts of America. BSA revised two forms that should be used for conducting service projects, including Eagle Scout service projects. These two forms were mentioned recently in the Scouting Wire Newsletter. The [SAFE Service Project Planning Checklist](#) is intended to help with planning all types of service projects. Although this checklist should be used for planning Eagle Scout service projects, *it is not an added requirement*. The [SAFE Project Tool Use form](#) is an updated version of the previous “Age Guidelines for Tool Use and Work at Elevations or Excavations” form. It provides age-appropriate guidelines for tool use by Cubs, Scouts BSA, Venturers, and Sea Scouts.

To better understand the BSA’s approach to SAFE Scouting, please review the following links. The first discusses the [BSA’s approach to the four points of SAFE Scouting](#) (Supervision, Assessment, Fitness and Skills, and Equipment and Environment) to ensure the safety of all participants when delivering the Scouting program. The second includes some [real incidents in Scouting](#) where at least one of the four SAFE Scouting points was not followed, and tragedy ensued.

Finally, if it has been a while since you visited the BSA’s [Scouting Safely](#) webpage, please spend a few minutes checking out the wealth of material found there that helps us ALL deliver a Safe Scouting Program.



Camp Royaneh



Camp Wolfeboro



Wente Scout Reservation

[Leaders Guide is now available. Find it here!](#)

[Watch the Pre-Camp Leaders Meeting](#)

Parent Guide coming soon!



Follow This Campfire Guidance to Help Ensure a Safe Experience for Everyone

Scouts can use and share these tips to help educate fellow Scouts and others on the importance of campfire safety.

[Read More](#)



Summer camp is a big Scouting step. It is a time for fun, growth, newfound freedom, responsibility and learning — for both Scouts and parents.

The more knowledge you have on the front end, the more impactful this experience can be. Here are some tips and advice on how to get ready for summer camp.

7 Pandemic-era Recruiting Strategies Proven to Work

For All Unit Leaders

The recruiting pitch starts off pretty well: “If you join Pack 123, you’ll get to have fun, make new friends and enjoy hands-on experiences you can’t get in any other organization for youth.” But then the realities of the pandemic settle in, and the wheels start to fall off like a half-finished Pinewood Derby car: “Oh, but wait. You’ll have to do all that at home, at least for now.” Recruiting new families to join Scouting during a pandemic is hard — whether your unit is conducting activities virtually or in person (while following state, local and BSA guidelines, of course). Their solution, outlined in the article, clearly worked. They helped the Northeast Illinois Council become the area’s top-recruiting council in 2020. And they did it through a multi-dimensional approach that relied heavily on the most important adults in Scouting: unit-level volunteers. [See the full article.](#)

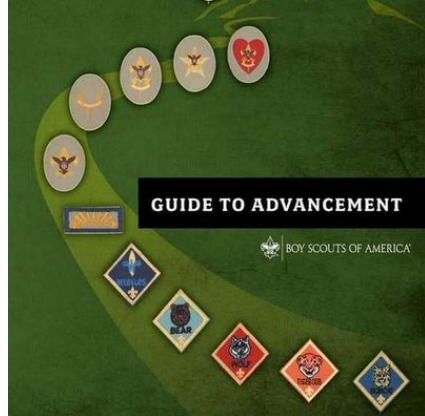


2021 Scouts BSA Requirement Changes

Recently, BSA announced changes to First Class (4b) to require demonstrating GPS unit proficiency while on a campout or hike and modified wording on Life rank regarding earning the 3 additional merit badges from the list required for Eagle rank. In addition, the COVID-19 FAQs update on 01/14/2021 continues to allow Second Class (5b) and First Class (6a) swimming requirement to be deferred until each Scout’s next rank, as necessary, through Life rank, but the requirements must be completed by Eagle rank. When conditions warrant, BSA will reinstate these requirements and communicate via BSA sites such as Bryan on Scouting and Scouting Wire with 30 days’ notice. Units will be responsible for tracking deferred requirements. The current release of COVID-19 FAQs can be found [here](#).

Changes to the following Merit Badges also have been made: Archaeology, Collections, Digital Technology, Disability Awareness, Electricity, Electronics, Fish and Wildlife Management, Fishing, Fly-Fishing, Lifesaving, Motorboating, Photography, Public Health, Rowing, Sports, Theater, and Woodwork. Please see [this article](#) which identifies the updated requirement number and the revision in the merit badge.

BSA also announced that they will no longer publish the annual Scouts BSA Requirements book with current year rank requirements and merit badge requirements. All Scouts BSA rank and merit badge requirements, including changes, will be listed [here](#).



ADVANCEMENT NEWS

March/April 2021

The latest edition of the Advancement News is now available. Read the newsletter for updates and information on advancement topics, awards, and policies and much, much more.

[READ THE NEWSLETTER](#)



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SCOUTS ON TRAIL TO EAGLE

Briones District Troops & Scouts on the Trail to Eagle

Starting now and until the Bay Area Health Officers end the Shelter in Place ruling that is now in place, the following guidelines are in effect for Life Scouts who are following their Trail to Eagle.

- We will continue to offer Zoom-based review boards for Project Proposal reviews. Check the District website for the procedure.
- We will continue to offer Zoom-based review boards for Rank Advancement reviews. Check the District website for the procedure.
- Scouts may work on developing proposals and preparing the planning section of the Workbook for approved projects. For Scouts who have finished their project, they are encouraged to complete the Report section of their workbook. And, if they have met all the other requirements for Advancement, they should forward their Application to our District Executive to get Council's verification signature . . . again, check the District website for how to do this.
- Eagle projects can now be done with small fixed groups with masks and distanced as much as possible.

Briones Eagle Boards of Review

EBORs are available for Scouts who have completed all their requirements. Boards may be done virtually or socially distanced and masked in person outdoors. Briones Scouts who need their EBOR should contact **Gordon Bell** at gordon.ed.bell@gmail.com, or **Bruce McGurk** at brucemcgurk@comcast.net.

Eagle Project Ideas

Eagle project ideas can be found in the Conservation section of this newsletter or on the Briones District [webpage](#).



20 ideas for unique Eagle Scout service project beneficiaries

[Read More Here](#)



Wanted: Pictures, Videos, and Stories

To be shared by the GGAC as part of our spring recruiting program. If you have any pictures, videos, or stories featuring scouts (preferably in masks) that you are willing to have shared over social media please send them to: **Wendell Baker** wendell@able-baker.com or **Lew Sisson** lew.sisson@scouting.org

The council will be promoting scouting over Facebook and Instagram.



Has your Eagle Scout aged out? Wondering how you can help?

The District is in desperate need of additional volunteer commissioners to help units.

While the job may seem large **Mark Weyland**, our district commissioner, has picked out the 6 key functions a commissioner.

The unit commissioner is a friend to the unit, but what does that mean:

1. They check in with the unit's adult leadership and committee at least 5 times a year to gauge the success of the unit's program and offer suggestions for improvements or praise for their work.
2. They help the unit as needed to interact and engage with online BSA resources, and live or virtual roundtables
3. They help the unit recruit and maintain youth
4. They help the unit recharter
5. They help the unit resolve issues that may arise that the unit may not be able to solve on their own (act as a diplomat for the district and the council)
6. They set the example in action and in presentation

There's an opportunity to learn more later this month at the Northern California Commissioners College of Science. You do not have to be a commissioner to attend. It's virtual. For more information contact [Mark Weyland](#). [Click here to register](#) for the Commissioners College.



**Lafayette, Moraga, Orinda, Pleasant Hill & Walnut Creek Eagle Scouts
April 2021
Congratulations to our newest Eagle Scouts**

Are you wondering where some of the Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda Eagle Scouts are? PARENTS: In this time of Sheltering in Place, please send pictures of your Scout in uniform to **Norman Gee** with the information of the date and the unit the Scout earned their Eagle Scout rank. We want to make sure EVERY EAGLE SCOUT receives recognition for their achievement! Contact **Norman** normgee50@gmail.com or **Bonnie Hazarabedian** bonzai@flash.net.



Jared Avenal - Troop 212



George Destino - Troop 237



Gwen Dillon - Troop 402



Nick Eppinger - Troop 219



Nick Fong - Troop 1811



Will Hensley - Troop 237



Daniel Mone - Troop 243



Sam Rogers - Troop 200



Garrett Siegel - Troop 219



Sean Turney - Troop 57



To commemorate the agency's 50th anniversary last year, the **Boy Scouts of America** and **EPA** signed a memorandum of understanding to create a **special award**, encouraging those in the Scouts BSA program to strive to protect the environment. The award, which features a patch, requires Scouts to earn environmental and community health-focused merit badges and participate in a service project.

[Read all about the award at Bryan on Scouting.](#)



Did you know that your units need to record their hours spent volunteering service to others? Every unit has a unique id number that they can use to record the hours. In order to make it easier for units, the District has set up an email address where you can report your hours, what the service was, and the number of Scouts that worked on it. Send an email listing the service, location, the total number of hours (# of Scouts x number of hours) to Briones.service.hours@gmail.com. Recording service hours affects everyone's Journey to Excellence scores (units, districts, councils, sections, etc...).



SAR Eagle Awards Contest

Information can be found at www.californiasar.org under programs/youth programs, or they can email me directly.

[Derek Brown](#)

President

California Society Sons of the American Revolution (CASSAR)



You too can help!

Your District Committee needs your help, we have many openings. While we're listing only the primary position, every position can use additional help even those not mentioned. The more folks who volunteer the easier the work. Let [Bruce McGurk](#) or [Mark Weyland](#) know if you're interested in helping.

Roundtable

We are in desperate need of a Roundtable Commissioner (their job is coordinate the Roundtable meetings from September thru June).

Scouts BSA Roundtable

We are equally desperate in our need of a volunteer to coordinate and present programs for troops each month.

Cub Scout Roundtable

We are equally desperate in our need of a volunteer to coordinate and present programs for packs each month.

Conservation Chair

We are in need of someone to be our Conservation Chair. You will be responsible for keeping track of conservation related opportunities in the District and sending the information with the newsletter editor.

Day Camp Directors

Will you miss not having day camp for your Cub Scouts? We need at least two people to step up and start planning next years day camp. Planning started in September for 2021. **There will be no day camp if no one steps up to chair it.**

Unit Commissioners

This is a rewarding fun job for those who have stepped down from working with their units. It's a great opportunity to share your knowledge with units who need help or just a little advice on the best way to do things.

USEFUL SCOUTING LINKS

[Golden Gate Area Council](#)

This forum has a treasure trove of great info – Scouters helping Scouters! Just a heads up, though - all content, information, and opinions shared on this forum are those of the author, not the BSA.

[Bryan on Scouting](#)

A blog for BSA's Adult Leaders

[Scouting Wire](#)

The Official Blog of the Scouting Movement

Conservation Corner

Gardens & Landscape

- **Pleasant Hill Instructional Garden:** Learn about native, drought tolerant and wildlife gardening. Work parties on Sunday, check their website for dates <https://phig.webs.com/>. Eagle Scout Projects available. Inquire with **Monika Olsen**, phigarden@gmail.com.
- **Rodgers Ranch Urban Farm:** Learn about permaculture and biodynamic gardening at a historic farm in Pleasant Hill. Work parties every Saturday. <http://www.rogersranch.org/rogers-ranch-urban-farm.html>. For Eagle Scout projects, contact **Marian Woodard**, marian@thequantumbusiness.com
- **Friends of Wagner Ranch Nature Area:** Join in every Sunday from 9 am - 1 pm to help out with gardening, general maintenance and light construction. Eagle Scout projects are also available. Contact them at <https://fwrna.org/contact/>
- **John Muir National Historic Site:** Garden and landscape volunteers assist with manual labor in the park's fruit/nut orchards and the Mt. Wanda open space areas. Biological internship also available. Contact the Volunteers In Parks Corps at 925-228-8860.

Reduce Reuse Recycle

- **The Crayon Initiative:** More than a half million pounds of crayons are discarded every year, turning into a waxy sludge that clogs our landfills and never biodegrades, and is also a waste of resources. The Crayon Initiative collects donated crayons from restaurants, schools and homes across the country, then melts them down and remanufactures them, reducing waste. Better yet, the recycled crayons are distributed to art programs at children's hospitals across the US, brightening the lives of young patients during their stay. Get your troop involved collecting crayons! Learn more with this guide for Scouts: http://thecrayoninitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/170604_TCI_Scouts_Program_Guide.pdf
- **Volunteer with RecycleSmart and Republic Services!** Multiple Farmers Markets in Orinda, Moraga, Danville and Walnut Creek- Scouts can assist with waste sorting stations and the RecycleSmart booth. Annual events like Pleasant Hill's Art Jazz & Wine can also use help with waste sorting stations. For more information, contact **Ashley Louisiana**, Ashley@recyclesmart.org
- Any troop can participate in a Vermicomposting (Worms!) and Bin Building Workshop with RecycleSmart. It's \$20 per family and includes all bin supplies, two hours of instruction and worms! It's a great deal and such a fun experience. For more information, contact **Ashley Louisiana**, Ashley@recyclesmart.org

Restoration

- **Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation:** Work parties most weekends; minimum volunteer age is 14, but can be opened to younger children by prior arrangement with a leader (see link below). Eagle Project opportunities include site prep and planting of native plants, as well as invasive species removal. Other projects depend on scout interest. <http://www.wcosf.org/calendar/events.html>
- **Save Mt. Diablo:** Join the Diablo Restoration Team (DiRT)! Dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of natural resources in Contra Costa County,

volunteers meet monthly to get DiRTy and contribute to the stewardship of habitat for sensitive and endangered species. Contact **Jim Cartan**, jcartan@savemountdiablo.org

- **Volunteers of Outdoor California:** Trail work and camping. Visit www.v-o-cal.org
- **Friends of the Creeks:** Help transform a weedy area of creek bank in Civic Park in Walnut Creek into a meadow of wildflowers and native grasses. Restoration days monthly on the second Saturday. Email contact@FriendsOfTheCreeks.org.

Water Conservation and Wastewater Treatment

- **Residential Recycled Water Fill Station:** Monday-Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. (During wet weather and holidays, please call 925-335-7717.) <http://www.centrialsan.org/index.cfm?navId=1348>
- **EBMUD Resources:** In 1978, EBMUD began an education outreach program so that students can learn about water conservation, pollution prevention and watershed stewardship. EBMUD offers classroom materials in English and Spanish at three grade levels, outdoor classroom programs from November to April, and participates in regional education outreach programs. <http://www.ebmud.com/recreation/teacher-resources/>
- **Rotary Rain Harvesting Project:** Get involved with installing rain barrels and other rain harvesting and water conservation techniques.
- **Central San Student Programs:** CCCSD is pleased to offer the following education programs to teachers and schools to help students learn about protecting their environment. <http://www.centrialsan.org/index.cfm?navId=161>

Wildlife

- **Lindsay Wildlife Experience:** A variety of wonderful classes and leadership opportunities are available for youth: <https://lindsaywildlife.org/event-category/teen-programs/>

Tours

- **Contra Costa Transfer & Recovery Station Tours:** Ever wonder what happens to trash after it's whisked away from the curb? Gain an eye-opening glimpse into the world of garbage on these free tours.
- **Mt. Diablo Recycling Tours:** Learn what happens to recycling after it leaves your curb! Contact **Adriana Medina**, Adriana.Medina@garaventaent.com
- **Central San Treatment Plant Tours:** Central San offers free virtual tours of its award-winning wastewater treatment plant. <https://www.centrialsan.org/virtual-plant-tour>

Here are links for teachers::

<https://www.centrialsan.org/post/poop-principle>

<https://www.centrialsan.org/post/resource-recovery-principle>

Other Local Organizations

- Sustainable Contra Costa: <http://sustainablecoco.org/>
- Sustainable Lafayette: <http://www.sustainablelafayette.org/>
- Contra Costa Climate Leaders: <http://www.ccclimateleaders.org/>

Your newsletter editor wants to hear from you!

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