



FALLBROOK LAND CONSERVANCY

APRIL 2021 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS



Spring Nature Walk

Saturday, April 17, 9 am

Please join us for the second Spring Nature Walk of 2021! Perennial plants and annual wildflowers should be in peak bloom by mid-April. This burst of color will fade once temperatures rise, so don't miss the show! Whether you walk at Los Jilgueros every day, or have never been there, you'll discover something new at this event. All ages and backgrounds are welcome. Please wear a mask and sun protection, and bring your binoculars or camera if you like. Thank you to FLC Kestrel partner [Del Rey Avocado](#) for sponsoring this Spring Nature Walk!





Earth Day Membership Drive & Reggae Festival

Thursday, April 22 - Sunday, April 25

Show your love for the Earth and the FLC by joining or renewing your membership [online](#) or at one of our trailhead membership drive tables on Saturday, April 24 or Sunday, April 25. We'll also be celebrating Earth Day with our Village Green partners, Firehouse Que and Brew with some live reggae music!



Fallbrook Earth Day Reggae Festival

Saturday, April 25 from 12 - 6 pm

Firehouse Que & Brew

1019 Main Street

Fallbrook CA, 92028

Avocado Open Golf Tournament Benefiting FLC!

Friday May 7

It's not too late to sign up for the Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce's Avocado Open! A portion of the proceeds will benefit the FLC! To sign up for the tournament, which takes place **May 7th at Pala Mesa Resort**, please contact the Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce or visit [Avocado Open Golf Tournament - Chamber Events - Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MONSERATE MOUNTAIN PRESERVE VOLUNTEER DAY

When: Saturday, May 1 and Thursday May 6 , 9 am

Where: Meet at the MMP trailhead

Who: You! All ages and experience levels welcome!

Tools and training are provided. Please bring water and a mask.

Please call 760-728-0889 or [email](#) us for further information.

PALOMARES HOUSE SCULPTURE GARDEN

When: Tuesday, April 20, 27 at 10 am

Where: Meet at the Palomares House, 1815 S. Stagecoach Lane

Who: You! All ages and experience levels welcome!

Tools and training are provided. Please bring water and a mask.

Please call 760-728-0889 or [email](#) us for further information.

SAVE OUR FOREST WORK PARTIES

When: Wednesday, April 14 at 8:30 am and Sunday, April 25 at 7:30 am

Where: Meet at Village Square at the corner of Main and Alvarado

Who: You! All ages and experience levels welcome!

Tools and training are provided. Please bring water and a mask.

Please call 760-728-0889 or [email](#) us for further information.

NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION TEAM

When: Wednesday April 14, 21 and 28 at 8:30 am

Where: Meet at Los Jilgueros Preserve

Who: You! All ages and experience levels welcome!

Tools and training are provided. Please bring water and a mask.

Please call 760-728-0889 or [email](#) us for further information.

OLD HIGHWAY 395 CLEANUP

When: Saturday May 8, 8 am

Where: Meet across the road from Pala Mesa Resort

Who: You! All ages and experience levels welcome!

Tools and training are provided. Please bring water and a mask.

Please call 760-728-0889 or [email](#) us for further information.

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

None of these convenient for you? Want to volunteer independently? Just let us know and we can find a volunteer opportunity that works for you.

Thank you to the Fallbrook Regional Health District for supporting Fallbrook's open spaces!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: BEVERLY TUCKER

I started volunteering in the sculpture garden shortly after Covid 19 started. I went there one day to sit on a bench and a bush was so big there was barely room to sit on the bench. That is when I got the idea that it is time to roll up my sleeves and help at the FLC sculpture garden and give back to our community. After all, on lock down what better place to be? I have met two new friends, Jim & Lisa Stowers. They are new to Fallbrook and to FLC. They are wonderful people and dedicated volunteers. I have also gotten to know other members and volunteers better.

Individuals and groups have adopted the areas around each sculpture. It is amazing to see how the garden is being transformed. We still have some big projects to do, like replacing the split rail fence and running electrical power to the garden, and have someone to continue to prune and maintain the trees and area.

It has been a blessing to make new friends & give back to our community. We have 16 preserves (with more to come soon) to maintain and only 3 full time and two part time employees. During this time of lock down the preserves have given families a safe place to hike, volunteer, and get to see all the wonderful areas in and around Fallbrook.

I invite you, your friends and families to join us. The most used preserves have dedicated groups of volunteers who desperately need your help. Monserate Mountain requires hard volunteer work repairing the trail, the Los Jilgeros group continues to restore native plants and the sculpture garden is a more manicured area. Something for everyone and if you can't volunteer please donate.



Thank you to FLC's Osprey partner **Angel Society** for sponsoring the renovation of the Palomares House Sculpture Garden! FLC volunteer Bev Tucker has led the charge to trim trees, remove overgrown shrubs, and enlist other volunteers to adopt sections of the garden, installing new plantings. Funding from the Angel Society and other generous supporters allowed the committee to hire professionals to install new irrigation, pathways, and remove ailing trees. Visit the garden now to catch spring wildflowers like California Poppies and see the current state of transformation. Come out on Tuesday mornings at 10 am to lend a hand volunteering!



NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION TEAM

Superlichens Save the World!

Lichen (Like-an) is not a plant, nor is it a moss, nor is it parasitic. Those marvelous green, grey and gold patches you see on rocks are examples of just one form that lichen can take. Lichen are the manifestation of a symbiotic relationship between fungus and algae. The algae can be brown or blue-green (cyanobacteria). Neither fungus nor algae have roots, so neither are plants, but algae can photosynthesize. Algae provides fungi with food, and the fungi give protection to algae so that together they can grow as lichens in many forms, in any environment all over the world, in areas neither could survive on their own. There are more than 20,000 identified lichens; some look like small overlapping leaves, some hang down like moss or 'witch's hair', and many are the first to cover rocks after a landslide. Perhaps 8% of the earth is covered by lichens, and that is fantastic news. Not only do they add oxygen to the air through photosynthesis, but like other fungi they absorb pollution from the air and bind it. Where there is fungus, there is the beginning of the food chain. Where there is cyanobacteria, there is carbon sequestration and oxygen release. The U.S. Forest Service uses lichen testing to measure air quality and pollution levels. Lichens create miniature microclimates where they help other species to grow. Please don't touch lichens; like many creatures and plants they are damaged by the oils and pollutants from our skin and clothing. Because they are so important in cleaning our air, sequestering carbon and helping other life, give any that you see on your property a pride of place.



Article and photo by Diane Kennedy

SAVE OUR FOREST

The end of the good planting time is just around the corner. Please consider Save Our Forest's "Cut the Carbon Program" before it's too late!

Together we can fight climate change.

Cut the carbon, plant a tree.
Every tree counts.

JOIN THE BATTLE

Why?

1. Cool your home
2. Save energy & cost
3. Add real value to your home
4. Learn about "Defensible Space"

For \$50, you will get:

- ☐ A tree
- ☐ "The Right Tree For the Right Place"
- ☐ Planting evaluation & guidelines
- ☐ Information on defensible space
- ☐ Follow up with SOF, as needed
- ☐ 1 year of SOF/FLC's "Friend" membership (see website for perks)

**Winter & Fall are optimal planting times

For more information, contact us

760.728.0889

FLC@FallbrookLandConservancy.org



Save Our Forest/Fallbrook Land Conservancy are in collaboration with the Fallbrook Climate Action Team, along with State and National tree organizations



OTHER EXCITING NEWS



FLC welcomes our new **Preserve Manager, Alexis Wells**. Alexis has a background in Wildlife Management and Biogeography. She has been a resident of Fallbrook since 2012 and lives here with her husband and sons. She is most excited to be a part of preserving our rural landscape.

You may see Alexis around town with her dog, Cali. When you do, please wave hello!

THANK YOU LEGACY ENDOWMENT!





FLC was recently awarded a Community Fund grant from Legacy Endowment. This generous grant will help FLC bring much needed trail repairs and improvements to Los Jilgueros and Dinwiddie Preserves. Both of these preserves offer relatively flat, wide, gently, sloping trails that are used by families and senior citizens. Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, FLC has seen a large increase in the use of our preserves which has created additional wear and tear. FLC will use grant funds to repair eroded sections of trail and smooth out the trails where repeated, heavy usage has created uneven terrain. Funds will also be used to repair benches at the preserves to offer a safe and comfortable place to rest. Thank you Legacy Endowment!

CAN YOU HELP OUT?

Beverly Tucker is looking for a donation of six lantana bushes (preferably the purple variety) for planting in the upper area of the Wildlife Sculpture Garden. Please [email us](#) or call the office at 760-728-0889 for details.

Did you know that over 70,000 people hiked [Monserate Mountain Preserve](#) in 2020? Yet we only collected \$2,255 in the trailhead cash drop box. **That's only \$0.03 per hike!**

At [Los Jilgueros Preserve](#) we had over 68,000 visitors in 2021 but collected only \$986 in cash. **That's a measly \$0.01 per visitor!**

Please help us keep our trails clean & safe by donating at the trailhead, Venmo

@FallbrookLandConservancy, or at [FallbrookLandConservancy.org/donate](https://www.fallbrooklandconservancy.org/donate).
Becoming a member is the best way to support our work and stay connected with the FLC! Thank you to the Fallbrook Regional Healthcare District for the grant funding to purchase trail counters that give us this important data.



DID YOU KNOW? You can now **DONATE** by

- using Venmo (user name: FallbrookLandConservancy)
- using the [FLC website](https://www.fallbrooklandconservancy.org)
- sending a check to 1815 S. Stagecoach Lane, Fallbrook CA 92028

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO HELP



Please save your receipts and drop them off at the Palomares House at your convenience.



Shop the FLC's wish list on Amazon, and link your account to Amazon Smile!

Remember to set your Amazon home page to

smile.amazon.com and select FLC as your charity of choice.

NEW! Amazon Smile now has an app for Android users. Click [here](#) for more info.

