SAN DIEGO COASTKEEPER

Coastkeeper Currents
Thursday, July 16, 2009

In the News
"Morning After Mess" Volunteers Prevent Debris from Trashing the Ocean
Coastkeeper Launches Interactive Watershed Database
2009 Coastal Champion Awards

Volunteer Opportunities
July Water Monitoring
South Mission Beach Cleanup

Upcoming Events
Become a Clean Water Ambassador
Environmentally Inspired Quilt Exhibition
Show Support for Marine Protection
Get An Insider View of California's Coast

In the News

"Morning After Mess" Volunteers Prevent Debris from Trashing the Ocean

Over 600 volunteers combed five San Diego beaches on July 6th to support the Surfrider Foundation's annual "Morning After Mess" beach cleanup. The event raises awareness and reduces the amount of litter on San Diego County beaches after the 4th of July holiday. Coastkeeper volunteers collected nearly 7,000 cigarette butts, contributing to a total count of 24,000 butts. Nearly one ton of debris was collected, including many recyclable items.

Photo: Bill Hickman, Surfrider Foundation

Coastkeeper Launches Interactive Watershed Database

San Diego Coastkeeper launched the new Wiki Watershed Database at the Environmental Systems Research Institute conference in San Diego. The Wiki is a new cutting edge watershed data portal that allows users to share information and data about San Diego region watersheds through Geographic Information System (GIS) technology. The database is chiefly fueled by community participation, so please add your thoughts by registering for free and starting a conversation about your watershed.

2009 Coastal Champion Awards

2008 Ocean Gala Coastal Champion Business Awardee Qualcomm

San Diego Coastkeeper is pleased to announce that applications for the 2009 Coastal Champion Awards will be accepted from July 17 - July 31, 2009. The awards will be presented at the 14th annual Ocean Gala on October 24th, recognizing outstanding dedication to preserving and protecting San Diego's coastal environment. Honorees will be selected in three categories: Business, Community/Volunteer, and Youth. The application and award criteria will be listed on the Ocean Gala web site later this week. Contact Megan Baehrens (619) 758-7743, ext. 103 for more information. **All applications must be received by July 31, 2009, 5:00pm.**

to top

Volunteer Opportunities

July Water Monitoring

When: Saturday, July 18 at 8:45am

Where: Point Loma (San Diego Coastkeeper Offices)

San Diego Coastkeeper is looking for members of the community interested in helping us gather data to improve and protect San Diego's waters. If you are interested in collecting water quality samples and taking basic water chemistry measurements on a regular basis, email Preston Lam.

South Mission Beach Cleanup

When: Saturday, July 25 from 9:00am - 11:00am

Where: South Mission Beach. Meet next to public restrooms by the parking lot and lifeguard tower.

Photo: Sundar Karthikeyan

Join us for a beach and street cleanup in South Mission Beach.

Click here for map.

Upcoming Events

Environmentally Inspired Quilt Exhibition

When: July 18 at 7:00pm

Where: 2825 Dewey Rd, Ste 100
          San Diego, CA 92106

Environmentally inspired Seeing Green: Visions of a Changing Planet quilt exhibit, curated by Quilt Visions in Point Loma is a must-see exhibition. The quilts reflect the current state of our environment, water quality issues, the effect of urban sprawl, biodiversity and much more. Join San Diego Coastkeeper and Linda Gass for a lecture and artist reception this Saturday to raise awareness about these important issues.

Become a Clean Water Ambassador

When: July 23 from 6:00pm to 8:30pm

Where: Nimitz Marine Facility
          397 Rosecrans St
          San Diego, CA 92106

Launched in 2009, Clean Water Ambassador trainings highlight Coastkeeper's work, and the critical issues facing the San Diego Region. The next forum will focus on current State efforts to protect our ocean ecosystems with the establishment of marine protected areas along our coastline. Joining Coastkeeper's Marine Conservation Campaign staff will be marine ecologist Dr. Ed Parnell from Scripps Institute of Oceanography and others. Contact Sarah Blakeslee for more information and to RSVP.

Show Support for Marine Protection

When: July 28 from 9:30am - 5:30pm
          July 29 from 8:30am - 4:00pm

Where: Sheraton Delfina Santa Monica
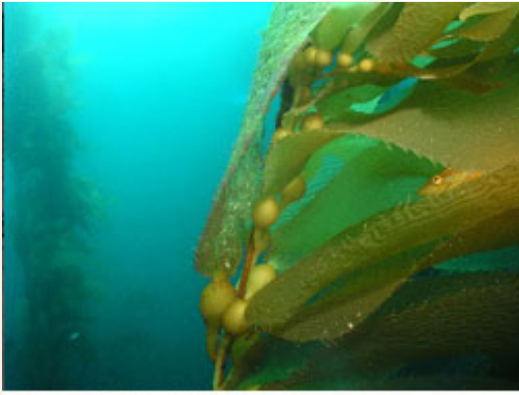   530 Pico Blvd.
          Santa Monica, CA

The Blue Ribbon Task Force will be meeting to develop guidance for round three marine protected area (MPA) proposals to ensure the MPA networks reflect the goals of the Marine Life Protection Act and follow the science guidelines provided by the Science Advisory Team. Both your attendance and voice at this meeting will have a significant impact to ensure protection of marine ecosystems in southern California! We hope you will join us in showing your support for marine protection. Contact Megan Wylie if you plan to attend the meeting.

Photo: Michael King

Get an Insider View of California's Coasts

Coastwalk California is offering hiking adventures up and down the West Coast through September. Coastwalks are multi-day hiking/camping adventures along the California Coastal Trail led by volunteer hike leaders who are knowledgeable in coastal ecology, history and more. Check out Coastwalk's Website for an outdoor adventure near you.

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to top