

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

For more information contact Tammy Mebane at 916/216-2178 or [tammymebane@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tammymebane@sbcglobal.net).

### 2008 Hike and Equestrian Rides

The Sacramento Valley Conservancy offers docent-led educational hikes and equestrian rides at Deer Creek Hills Preserve (equestrian must have their own horse). We offer a diverse group of trained SVC docents that lead and educate participants on the natural history, geology, birds, wildlife, plant life, and wildflowers of the area. There will be a fee for hikes of \$10 and \$20 for equestrians (children 16 and under are free). Our new self-guided interpretive trail is open to the public on fourth Saturdays, from 9am-1pm, January-May, on a sign-in basis. To view a complete list of events go to [www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org).

### Schedule:

April 26 ..... Wildflower Hike at Deer Creek Hills  
 April 27 ..... Equestrian Ride at Deer Creek Hills  
 May 24 ..... History Hike at Deer Creek Hills  
 May 25 ..... Equestrian Ride at Deer Creek Hills

## Announcements

### SVC Hosts Elegant Ears Mule Club Association Ride

On Saturday April 12th, SVC equestrian docents hosted the Elegant Ears Mule Association on an equestrian/mule ride at Deer Creek Hills. It was a perfect day for the ride with 35 club members attending the event. Many thanks to our amazing equestrian docents for making these outings possible! If you have a club interested in scheduling a ride at Deer Creek Hills, contact Tammy Mebane at [tammymebane@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tammymebane@sbcglobal.net).

### Conservancy Wish List

*We need this equipment for the hiking program and to start implementation of the Deer Creek Hills Master Plan. Donations are tax deductible. Contact Tammy Mebane, Stewardship Coordinator, at 916/216-2178 or [tammymebane@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tammymebane@sbcglobal.net), if you would be interested in donating or sponsoring any of these items or filling volunteer roles. Thank you!*

**Weed sprayers, backpack or truck mounted**



sacramento valley conservancy

## Clock Is Ticking. . .

### Your Help Needed to Protect Elkhorn Basin Ranch SVC Partners with Yolo Land Trust

Unique opportunities to save special places come along only every once in a long while. . . Sacramento Valley Conservancy (SVC) needs your support now to take advantage of a rare strategic opportunity. Your donation today will help protect the over 1500-acre Elkhorn Basin Ranch--a refuge for wildlife, a farm producing fresh local food, and water resources for fish and families.

Spring at the Elkhorn Basin Ranch shows off the gorgeous bounty of our Central Valley heritage – blossoms and budding leaves line narrow country roads, bees buzz, birds sing, crops sprout, wildlife prepare to rear their young. Located across from the

Sacramento International Airport and the Natomas Basin is the Elkhorn Basin, a long, lazy bend of the Sacramento River containing thousands of acres of farms and river habitat. The ranch lies between fast-growing Sacramento and Woodland, less than 20 minutes from downtown Sacramento.

Help SVC take an important step to protect the fragile Delta ecosystem and to gain smart regional flood protection for us

all by making a donation to SVC today to help permanently protect the local farming and wildlife habitat in this special place. Your donation will immediately enable SVC to meet our looming deadlines for payments required to reserve the opportunity to purchase this site and to gain the time to find funds needed to protect it.

Together, once again, we can make a strategic difference by preserving a special part of our Central Valley heritage for future generations. From the base of the foothills to the Delta, SVC is proud to partner with you – our donor family, the Mother Lode Land Trust and Yolo Land Trust to make the Sacramento region a great

place to live now and for future generations.

Go online to [www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org) and click on “Donate” at the top of the home page, or please send a check today. We must have your help to take advantage of this opportunity to preserve the Elkhorn Basin Ranch! (Hint: What a great way to use your federal tax rebate to stimulate our economy!)



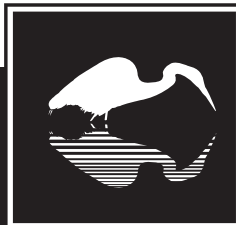
*Oaks and walnuts reach out together to shade a country road along the Sacramento River at the Elkhorn Basin Ranch.*

[www.SacramentoValleyConservancy.org](http://www.SacramentoValleyConservancy.org)

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68-0256214

**Spring 2008**

**Keifer Landfill Wetland Preserve**

Rare Vernal Pools and Rare Orcutt Grass Sites Protected

Sacramento Valley Conservancy (SVC) worked with Sacramento County to protect 243 acres of rare vernal pools containing the endangered fairy and tadpole shrimp and Sacramento Orcutt grass. The grass is an extremely rare species, endemic only. The preserve, located along Grantline Road, serves as mitigation for the needed expansion of the Keifer Landfill.

As preserve manager, SVC performs biological surveys for endangered and threatened species which thrive in vernal pools, including over 60 native plants; manages the cattle grazing for important weed control; and allows access for researchers and educational programs.

SVC now works as preserve manager of almost 2800 acres of rare vernal pool wetlands in south Sacramento County.

**Laguna Terrace Vernal Pool Preserve  
SVC Partners With Wildlands**

Sacramento Valley Conservancy and Wildlands, Inc. partnered to protect 293 acres of vernal pools, seasonal wetlands and local cattle-grazing land. Wildlands, Inc., a locally-based company, worked with SVC, and a variety of different developers and agencies which required wetland mitigation to protect this land. The preserve connects to other large tracts of existing preserves in the southeast Sacramento County area.

East Sacramento County provides great opportunities for ranchers, farmers and landowners to work with developers and agencies needing mitigation to help protect large tracts of viable natural resources and local farmland. See [www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org) and click on "Project Map" to see SVC's updated 21st Century Open

We labor every day to protect and care for more wetlands. SVC's goal is to provide the best possible management of these sensitive resources to allow threatened species a chance to thrive even while our area grows around these lands. SVC also supports local cattle operators and farmers by leasing the land to them for effective weed control.

You can help SVC steward these lands by volunteering a group for a service day. We regularly need help cleaning up trash dumped by outsiders, hanging signs, weed pulling and other jobs. You help the environment and have a great, beautiful, fun day in our unique preserves.

To volunteer, call Tammy Mebane, SVC's Stewardship Director, at 916/216-2178. To access local vernal pool wetlands, go to Mather Preserve ([www.sacsplash.org](http://www.sacsplash.org) for tours and nature programs), or to Rancho Seco Park (off Highway 104/Twin Cities Road) and hike the vernal pool trail that connects to historic Howard Ranch.

Space Vision Map for the Sacramento Region. This map shows at a glance all the protected land (green) in our region, and all the areas in which SVC is interested in working with willing sellers to preserve connections and link together existing trails, natural areas, farmland and flood protection corridors (yellow).

SVC is actively working on other projects in East Sacramento County and Western Amador County (in partnership with Mother Lode Land Trust-formerly Amador Land Trust) to partner with local ranchers and farmers and help protect our important natural resources, local farms and food for future generations. Stay tuned for more exciting progress in future issues!

**Partners complete our Wish List!**

With the generous support of our many partners our wish list is complete. Teichert has proved again how much they support open space and our organization by donating a Ford F150 pick up truck for stewarding our many properties. Granite Construction has donated tools and a toolbox for stewardship activities. County Parks has generously supplied a very deluxe port-a-let restroom for our hikes and events, as well as a quad-runner when we need it. Thanks to our many partners for all your support!

If you or your organization has equipment or tools you would like to donate, contact Tammy Mebane, Stewardship Director at 916/216-2178 or [tammymebane@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tammymebane@sbcglobal.net).



**Please donate today to help save the Elkhorn Basin Ranch! . . . See front page.**

**Donations Form**

**YES!**

*I want to make a difference and help create a legacy for the future and preserve Sacramento's beautiful open space, natural habitat and agriculture.*

*Gifts to the Sacramento Valley Conservancy are tax deductible. If you would like more information, please call (916) 492.0908 or email us at [www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org](http://www.sacramentovalleyconservancy.org)*

**Here is my tax deductible donation of:**

\$20  \$35  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  Other

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Contact me about: Planned Giving  Becoming a Volunteer



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**THANK YOU.**