

# Carmel River NEWS

From the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy (CRWC)

## In This Issue

Rise at Hastings with  
Mama Oak

In Memoriam: Clive  
Sanders

Pacific Grove Joins Drug  
Recycling Program!

For more news and  
watershed updates  
please check out the  
Conservancy's  
[website!](#)

**Donate to the  
Conservancy**

## Board of Directors

Michael Waxer, President  
Paul Bruno, Vice  
President  
Abbie Beane, Treasurer  
Gabriela Alberola,  
Secretary  
Lorin Letendre, Exec Dir  
Catherine Stedman  
Andy Magnasco  
Vince Voegeli  
Rafael Payan

## Carmel River Watershed Tours

Available for this fall! If  
interested contact [Lorin  
Letendre](#).

**Stay Connected**

## RISE at Hastings with *Mama Oak*



### RISE Students at Hastings

*Mama Oak is the acorn who grew  
into a 500-year-old-tree.*

*Mama Oak holds stories of those who have gathered 'round her,  
weaving them into her rings, year after year.*

*Mama Oak provided shade for children who attended school under  
her branches.*

The excerpts above come from a poem titled, *Mama Oak*, written by the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy's (CRWC) Education Outreach Coordinator, Marie Butcher. The poem was composed in 2014 based on inspiration that Marie drew from the very oak tree seen in the photo. RISE students from North Salinas High School recently went on an unforgettable October overnight fieldtrip to the UC Berkeley Hastings Research Reserve.

Recruitment In Science Education (RISE) is a nonprofit community based program through California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB), where low-income underrepresented first generation college bound high school students from the Monterey Bay and Salinas areas are recruited for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) training, as well as college readiness.

Throughout the trip, RISE Students were exposed to and mentored by professional researchers, where they learned about these researchers'

Join Our Mailing List

Forward to a Friend



Like us on Facebook

studies of the local mice, rats, and even bats. RISE students interacted with researchers from UC Berkeley, who were led by Dr. Michael Nachman and were investigating the mammalogy in the area. RISE students also learned about the Blue Oak, the Valley Oak, the Coastal Live Oak, and the Acorn Woodpeckers that occupy these oaks, which are the three types of oak trees and the bird species being studied at Hastings by Dr. Mario Pesendorfer. Hastings Director Vince Voegeli taught RISE students that all of these various plant and animal species are indicators for measuring the overall health of our watershed.

Our Executive Director, Lorin Letendre, also gave a presentation on the Conservancy's role in restoring the watershed. In an interview, Stacey, a participant and sophomore at North Salinas High School said, "Lorin's talk motivated me to seek out Science as a way to help make the watershed and our world in general a healthier place." Juan, a senior at North Salinas High School said, "This trip showed me how beautiful and rewarding it can be just to go outside and experience nature."

Thank you RISE, thank you Hastings, thank you UC Berkeley, thank you Mama Oak!

---

## In Memoriam: Clive Sanders

### Clive Sanders Receiving Award for Best Non-Profit of the Year 2013



Our beloved founder and first President, Clive Sanders, passed away earlier this year at the age of 86. He was a tireless advocate of the Carmel River and particularly its threatened steelhead, and was instrumental in leading the initial

assessment of our watershed and developing our first Action Plan. He recruited a balance of environmentalists and business people to serve on our Board, and strongly advocated removing rather than buttressing the San Clemente Dam. We owe the Conservancy's growth and development to his incredible dedication, energy, and commitment. In an earlier newsletter, our Vice President Paul Bruno crafted the following article in Clive's honor when he stepped down as President:

I will always remember November 22, 1999. That was the day I met Clive Sanders and I wasn't sure I liked him. Now, nearly 11 years later, he has earned his place among the small group of people that I truly admire and respect. I am proud to call him a friend. Simply put, the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy would not exist today if it were not for Clive Sanders's dedication to its mission.

How do you gauge one's commitment to a cause? Do you add up the hours, days, or years spent working on the cause or is there something more? Yes, Clive has donated countless hours over many years on matters that affect the Carmel River watershed. But there is more to it than time. Clive has a passion for what he does that cannot be matched, a passion that inspires others to do more, including me.

Having served with Clive on the CRWC Board of Directors since its formation, I can honestly say that he is the glue that has held the organization together. When the original Council Chairman resigned, it was Clive who stepped up to lead the way. When the Executive Director departed, it was Clive who redoubled his efforts and filled that role. When some of us were ready to throw up our hands, it was Clive who remain focused. It was his personal dedication to the CRWC's mission

that kept us together. How could any of us quit, knowing that Clive was giving so much of himself to the effort? I could have filled many paragraphs about Clive's knowledge, experience, and accomplishments at CRWC. Instead I have chosen to highlight the qualities that I most admire. Clive does not do this for his own interests or for any other reason that is to his personal benefit. Clive does what he does because he cares about the river and about its fish. He wants to make things better. He knows that the watershed is at risk and he cannot sit by and do nothing.

---

## **Pacific Grove Joins Drug Recycling Program!**

### **The New Drop Box is Ready**

The police department in Pacific Grove is the latest area location to collect unwanted pharmaceuticals, supported by the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy (CRWC) and California American Water. So far the site, which opened its secure drop box on July 1, has collected 41 pounds of non-controlled, controlled and over-the-counter (OTCs) medications. Walk-in hours are 7 am - 11 pm seven days a week. CRWC also established drop box locations at Carmel-by-the-Sea police department and the Pebble Beach Community Services District (PBCSD) fire station lobby in 2014. Carmel is open 8 am - 5 pm seven days a week, while PBCSD is open 10 am - 4 pm Monday through Thursday. Both programs accept OTCs and prescription medications. The PBCSD program also accept sharps while Carmel accepts controlled prescriptions. So far this year, Carmel has collected 549 pounds and PBCSD has collected 159 pounds of pharms and sharps. Visit the [Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency](#) website for a list of other drug drop-off locations.



"This program not only helps to protect the environment, by protecting our water supply for future generations, it can also deter the usage of prescription drugs by unintended parties - including young people facing peer pressure and new ways to 'get high,'" said Sergeant Luke Powell in a press release. Common drugs entering California waterways through excretion, manufacturing and improper drug disposal, include analgesics, antibiotics and synthetic birth control. Studies have shown that even trace amounts can cause reproductive impairment and negative behavioural changes in fish and issues with waste water treatment.

The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) recently received a one-year grant (ending June 30, 2017) from the Rose Foundation for \$25,000, which has been matched at the \$12,500 level by the Monterey Regional Waste Management District (MRWMD). The project aims to open five new, permanent pharmaceutical disposal sites at hospitals and pharmacies in Monterey County. The project will also include a public education and outreach campaign, and data collection on pounds diverted to collection programs and public awareness. According to new Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) regulations set in 2014, "authorized collectors," such as pharmacies that have modified their registration with the DEA, may now accept controlled substances.

Several California cities and counties have also passed extended producer responsibility (EPR) ordinances that will force the pharmaceutical industry to pay the cost of setting up a certain number of

drug collection and safe disposal sites in that particular county or city. In August, Santa Cruz County passed such an ordinance, which will be implemented by the Santa Cruz County Med Project.

Copyright © 20XX. All Rights Reserved.