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SEA NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2022

City Council to vote on Tree Ordinance Committee August 2

The Redding City Council will be voting to establish a committee to update Redding's Tree Management Ordinance at its meeting on August 2. As the Council directed the Planning Department in April 2021 to bring them options to the current ordinance, SEA expects a favorable vote. Each Council Member will appoint two members, and three Planning Commissioners will also be appointed.

SEA met with the new Development Services Director in mid-July expressing our concerns about the lack of any progress on a new ordinance. He said this would be one of his top priorities and, working with City Manager Barry Tippin, this was put on the agenda. SEA also gave a three-part PowerPoint presentation to the Council with North State Climate Action, stressing the need for an ordinance to protect Redding's tree canopy because of its importance to counteract the heat island effect, provide wildlife habitat, CO2 sequestration and adding beauty to Redding.

What SEA is looking for is mitigation for the loss of oak trees during development, through fees or a mitigation bank, enforcement of the many violations of the ordinance, and closing loopholes in the current ordinance that allows the Planning Department to make too many exceptions to preserving oak trees.

Turtle Bay Informational Planning Commission Meeting Redding Community Room Wednesday, August 3, 5:30 pm

The City of Redding Planning Commission will be holding an informational meeting on the Riverfront Specific Plan update on Wednesday, August 3, 5:30 pm at the Community Room next to the Redding City Council Chambers at City Hall. This will be an informal meeting where they will explain the process, and citizens can make their concerns known as to what they would like to see the riverfront look like at the meeting or you can also make your concerns known to Planning Manager Lily Toy at ltoy@cityofredding.org and there is no deadline to send in your comments. Following this, the City will have a private company draw up plans for the Riverfront Specific Plan between the Cypress Street Bridge and the Redding Rodeo grounds. This process will take about 18 months. It is important that citizens let their concerns be known early during the development of the plans for the area. There is an online survey you can take too: <https://www.cityofredding.org/departments/development-services/planning>

Oak Seedling Watering on Westside Trail

Thursday, August 4, 8 am

Once again SEA will be watering oak seedlings on the Westside Trail on Thursday, August 4 at 8 am. We will be pruning back multi-sprouting black and interior live oak and watering the blue oak seedlings. This will be a 90-minute to 2-hour workday, so we will leave by 10 am. Bring a wheelbarrow or loppers if you have them. The seedlings are still surviving but need this extra watering due to the drought. Please email David Ledger at david@ecoshasta.org if you think you might attend.

Oregon Gulch Oak Seedling Watering

Thursday, August 11, 8 am

This time SEA will be watering oak seedlings at Oregon Gulch on Thursday, August 11 at 8 am to beat the heat. We will be watering blue oak seedlings and putting burlap around the cages. This will be a 90-minute to two-hour workday, so we will leave by 10 am. Bring a wheelbarrow if you have one. Email David Ledger at david@ecoshasta.org for more information and meeting place.

Castle Crags Field Trip

Saturday, August 13, 8 am

This joint SEA and California Native Plant Society field trip will be a fairly easy beautiful 3-mile walk in Castle Crags State Park with some areas requiring good balance; not for those with poor agility. After the walk we will traverse a swinging suspension bridge across the Sacramento River and walk a distance along a river trail, depending on the energy of the group. Weather and smoke may alter our plans, so email walk leader David Ledger for meeting place and information at david@ecoshasta.org if you plan on attending. We will carpool for those wishing to do so.

Brokeoff Mountain Meadows Field Trip

Saturday, August 20, 8 am.

For this joint SEA and California Native Plant Society Field Trip, we will hike about halfway up the Brokeoff Mountain Trail; about 4 miles total up and back. This will be a moderate-to-difficult hike on the first half of the trail, which goes through the various mountain meadows where there will still be blooming wildflowers. Much of the trail has an intermittent tree canopy and it is a beautiful hike. This trail is quite uneven in parts and does require agility. Extremely hot weather and smoke from wildfires may change our plans. For meeting place and more information email david@ecoshasta.org. We will carpool for those wishing to do so.

Tree Identification Walk in Caldwell Park

Saturday, October 1, 9 am

Local arborist Rico Montenegro will lead this field trip through Caldwell Park identifying trees in the park, their adaptation to Redding's environment, and uses for backyard shade trees or street trees in Redding. Meet in the boat ramp parking lot in Caldwell Park at 9 am. This will be about a 90-minute walk with more details in September. For more information, email david@ecoshasta.org.