



PAW PRINTS

Volume 43, Number 3

Newsletter of the Eaton Canyon Nature Center Associates

March 2025

Paw Prints is a monthly publication of the ECNCA. The deadline for submissions to the April 2025 issue is March 15, 2025. Send submissions to ajetty@gmail.com.

Contributors: Lindsay Bremner, Elaine Brown, Susan Gilliland, Brenda Hurst, Will Mason

Paw Prints Production

Content Editor: Amanda Getty
Layout: Carole Scurlock

DOCENT /MEMBER CALENDAR

Bag Lunch Mini-Inservice:

Wednesday March 5, 2025
Noon to 1 p.m.

Hastings Ranch Library Meeting Rm.
3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd.
Pasadena 91107

Orchid Black CNPS presents "Fire Resistant Landscaping"

RSVP to Bag Lunch Chair
maryfoltyn5@gmail.com
(There is limited space in the meeting room)

ECNCA Board Meetings

ECNCA board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm via zoom. If you are interested in joining a meeting, please send an email to eatonmember@gmail.com, at least 2 days prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC CALENDAR

Park is closed until further notice.

Meetings:

Pasadena Audubon Society

For meeting info. see their website:
<https://www.pasadenaaudubon.org>

California Native Plant Society

For meeting information see their website: <https://www.cnps-sgm.org>

Pasadena Group Sierra Club

For meeting info. see their website:
<https://www.sierraclub.org/angeles/pasadena>



View of Eaton stream after the February rainstorm.

Photo: Brenda Hurst

See Edgar McGregor's video of the flood: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oyh3tCP8xd8>

Eaton Wash Altered by Historic Flash Flood

by Elaine Brown

Many of us took some comfort in the fact that the Eaton Fire ripped through the canyon quickly, leaving most trees alive. But after the second wave of rain in February, a massive flood carrying debris down the canyon uprooted many of the younger trees in the wash. The canyon is no stranger to these types of floods. Large trees and boulders lodged high up in the air between canyon walls are evidence of massive amounts of water traveling through

Flood continued on page 2



Photo: Lindsay Bremner - Eaton Canyon Reservoir on February 14, 2025

the area in the past. Park staff Edgar McGregor anticipates that this was one of the top five largest floods in Eaton Canyon this past century. You can read a more in-depth report of the flood's details in his article on <http://myeatoncanyon.com>. Although ECNCA volunteers have not been allowed in the park yet, volunteers and local residents have reported that they're already seeing growth near other affected trails—Yuccas, baby oak trees, monkeyflower, and more.

ECNC at Frogtown Heart Walk

On Saturday, February 8th, Eaton Canyon volunteers set up an outreach table in front of Forager Crafts at the Frogtown Art Walk. ECNCA was invited to fundraise alongside LA is Not a Desert, a local artist who educates people about the different types of ecosystems within LA and who has been hosting her own fundraiser for ECNCA. The Eaton Canyon Comes to You Committee put together interactive materials for people to learn about fire followers, what to expect after a fire, and some of the types of native plants that grow in the park. As members of the community shared with us the sadness they felt with the park's closure, they took pictures of the infographics made by our volunteers, rubbed white sage and Cleveland sage between their fingers so they could smell their scents, and celebrated the survival of the nature center's desert tortoises, Clyde and Clementine. In the midst of the recent tragedies our local community has faced, we are blessed to connect with more people who love Eaton Canyon and Altadena. While we wait to hear more regarding the park's future, the Eaton Canyon Comes to You Committee will continue to develop its outreach materials. To support these efforts, you can donate to ecnca.org/donate.



A Call for Photos of Eaton Canyon



Great Spreadwing (*Archilestes grandis*)

In an effort to remember Eaton Canyon as we knew it, ECNCA volunteer Elaine Brown is asking for pictures of the canyon to compile in a public Google Drive. The goal is to share the community's pictures of the canyon and nature center so we can all celebrate what we had at Eaton Canyon as we look toward the future. Pictures of the nature center, plants, critters, people, and the landscape are all welcome.

For those who are interested in contributing to this project and who have images that they'd be comfortable with sharing publicly, you can email Elaine at ehhbrown@gmail.com. Along with your photos, please provide a brief description of where the pictures were taken in the natural area, what is pictured, and when the picture was taken, if possible. If some of this information is unknown, it would still be a great addition to the project. Please also indicate if you'd like your name to accompany your photos in the Google Drive.



Eaton Canyon wash Photos: Will Mason

Remembering the Nature Center: December 2024

Photos by Susan Gilliland

The museum committee (Melanie Symonds, Susan Gilliland, Carla Hakewessell, Linda Babcock, Joanne Bartkus, Tom Mills) formed in mid 2024 and worked hard on maintaining and refreshing the display cases and signage in the Nature Center. The brand new spider exhibit had already garnered a lot of positive attention from visitors.





Photo: Diana Gonzalez-Santa Anita Canyon from March 5, 2024 just 3 short years after the canyon was ravaged by the Bobcat Fire of 2020.

ECNCA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

- President:** Diane Marcussen
- Vice-President:** Karen Mateer
- Recording Secretary:** Sarah Richart
- Corresponding Secretary:** Mary Veselich
- Treasurer:** Terry Ginsberg

ECNCA APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS:

- Ramie Case
- Rose Haig
- Susan Hopkins
- Brenda Hurst
- Judy Jenkins
- David Kristoff
- Diane Lang

- Nature Center Director:** Richard Smart
- NCA President:** Laura Nicholson

Eaton Canyon Nature Center Associates (ECNCA) is a chapter of the Nature Center Associates (NCA), a non-profit support group of the natural area park system of Los Angeles County. Founded for educational and scientific purposes, its primary mission is to develop in children and adults an appreciation of the natural world and to preserve Eaton Canyon as a natural area for future generations.

The Eaton Canyon Nature Center and Natural Area Park are located within the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County in the Supervisorial district of Kathryn Barger. The Natural Area and Nature Center are operated by the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and Recreation, in partnership with the Eaton Canyon Nature Center Associates.

Become A Member of the ECNCA (Eaton Canyon Nature Center Associates)

To join the Eaton Canyon Nature Center Associates, fill out the form below and mail with your check, payable to the ECNCA, 1355 N. Mentor Avenue, Box 40167, Pasadena, CA 91104-9998.

Name: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

- Please check appropriate box and mark return envelope "Membership"
- Individual \$30 Family \$45 Senior \$15 Senior Family \$30 Student \$15
 - Friend of the Canyon \$75 Sage Saver \$100 Chaparral Contributor \$250 Riparian Guardian \$500
 - Oak Woodlands Protector \$750 Wildlands Angel \$1000 NEW RENEWAL

Enclosed is my MEMBERSHIP in the amount of \$_____ Enclosed is my additional DONATION of \$_____
 Please make checks payable to the ECNCA. All contributions are tax deductible.
 You may also join and/or donate online at www.ecnca.org.