



TODAY

... to protect the land forever | April 2020

A message from our executive director, Eamon O'Byrne



Photo by Laurie Wachter.

As much as navigating the Land Trust through two major crises in my first eight months has been challenging, I am deeply grateful for the ways in which our staff, board and community have locked arms and pressed forward with our mission. Knowing that *you* support your land trust because you understand that saving land is essential — especially as our community confronts more and more impacts from climate change — is what keeps us going. Your steadfast support is what has seen us through the wildfires and, now, the virus — and it is the land that will safeguard our future.

Together, we are delivering solutions to the problems that contributed to the crises we face today.

Give to the land you love — your support helps our community adapt to a changing world and ensure healthy habitats for wildlife and people alike.

[DONATE NOW](#)

May 7 presentation on wildlife and corridors



Curious about wildlife? Join us for an online talk May 7 at 7pm with our Wildlife Corridor Team to learn how we're helping wild animals thrive in Sonoma County and beyond. You'll see some great footage from our critter cams showing who is moving through our county and where.

[Register](#)

Nature nearby

help, we will conserve five properties this year, which protect important headwaters, sensitive habitats, and threatened and endangered species.

We will continue ambitious restoration plans that help us adapt to rising sea levels and provide critical habitat for birds and other animals. With our partners, we will continue to reduce the risks from wildfire in Sonoma Valley. More land will be added to parks, helping us stay mentally and physically healthy. These are just some of the solutions you are investing in when you support Sonoma Land Trust.

This coming Tuesday is #GivingTuesdayNow, an opportunity to stand for the land. If you are able, your support will make a huge difference in delivering nature-based solutions to pressing problems that benefit everyone in our community.

We hope you've been enjoying the online programming our staff has been developing until we can get you back on the land. Last week's nature journaling workshop with John Muir Laws was a highlight, for sure. Not to be outdone, our next presentation is about Sonoma County wildlife and protecting the habitat corridors on which their very survival depends. Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 7, at 7pm. You'll be glad you did!



It's an honor to work with you to keep Sonoma County healthy, for now ... and for future generations.

Honoring our volunteers Bill Perry, sharing our work through mapping



Sonoma Land Trust members Bill and Janice Perry.



We can't wait until you can join us on the land again — in the meantime, tell us: How do you notice nature in your neighborhood?  

Send your photos and videos or tag us on social media using the hashtag #NoticeNature by May 1 for a chance to be featured on our page and win free wildflower seeds!

Giving Tuesday is next week!



Give back to the land on #GivingTuesdayNow, taking place on May 5. We'll be featuring your #NoticeNature photos throughout the day on our social media channels and show how you help your land trust protect, preserve and #NoticeNature all year long! The land needs you now more than ever.

Welcoming new board member

to help us meet our mission and share our network of protected lands through beautiful maps. Recently, we asked whether he'd let us share his story. He thoughtfully replied: "After a 25-year career with the federal government, I was looking for a volunteer opportunity where I could use my experience in wildlife biology and GIS. A former work colleague thought I would be a good fit for Sonoma Land Trust. Two years ago, I went to their office and found kindred spirits. Their passion for their work and their love of the land matched my values. Since then, I've been helping in the office with GIS mapping and in the field documenting shorebirds at the Sonoma Baylands. I find the work rewarding and very satisfying." Thank you for your dedication to this work, Bill. *You're one of us, now!*



We are thrilled to welcome Gregory Appling to our board of directors! He currently serves as trustee for the Gravenstein Union School District Board of Trustees and resides in Sebastopol with his family. *Glad to have you on board, Greg!*

Connecting you with nature at home



During these unprecedented times, we're pulling out all the stops to connect you with the beauty of Sonoma County through virtual outings, presentations, games and more. We've got activities for adults and kids alike, in English and Spanish! Watch the video above with your kids and grandkids to learn about nature in your neighborhood. Click through our free content below and enjoy connecting with nature from home:

- Grab a pen and paper and [learn how to nature journal](#) from [John Muir Laws](#)
- Color and learn about native flowers [in English](#) or [en español](#)
- [Play Lotería](#) and connect to la naturaleza with the whole family
- [Meditate in nature](#)
- Become familiar with [common native wildflowers](#)
- [Learn about flora at Sears Point Preserve](#) from our friends at [San Francisco Botanical Garden](#)
- [Virtually tour](#) this year's bloom at Sears Point
- [Get an extensive look](#) into the history of fire and plant life in Sonoma County
- [Read a good book](#) inspired by nature

Enjoy our OpenRoad story



Missed the new episode with Doug McConnell featuring Sonoma Land Trust? Watch the whole show on our YouTube page! Learn about our work to save land for wildlife, create climate resilience, and so much more! 🌍

[Watch it here](#)

Thank you, volunteers



From our executive director: "Someone once said 'volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy ... when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.'" I am filled with heartfelt gratitude for our volunteers' hard work to safeguard nature and the countless ways they strengthen our community.

[Watch volunteer slideshow](#)

Questions or comments? Email Sheri Cardo, managing editor.
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