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CARMEL RIVER WATERSHED CONSERVANCY

Fall 2021 NEWSLETTER

This newsletter highlights some of our newest and most exciting initiatives, as well as community environmental updates. Please click each story's link to read more.

[Visit the CRWC Website](#)

Can you support our wildfire mitigation work and watershed health? Consider donating to CRWC. Every little bit helps!

[A GIFT FOR THE RIVER](#)

WATER FORBEARANCE AND RECYCLING

CRWC chairs the Carmel River Task



Water treatment process at Tehama.
Photo by Lorin Letendre

Force (CRTF), whose top priority now is to increase in stream flows in the Carmel River especially during the dry months of the year when the river tends to dry up. Besides working to find an alternate water source for the Peninsula in place of the Carmel River, another initiative we are working on is called “forbearance and recycling.”

[Read more here from our website](#)

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER FOR CARMEL RIVER PUMPING ON DECEMBER 31, 2021

In 1995, a complaint was filed against California American Water (CalAm), a local water provider for the Monterey Peninsula, for pumping water out of the Carmel River watershed at a rate nearly 4 times their allotted amount. This illegal extraction had endangered the health and habitat of the Carmel River. After years of debate and litigation, a Cease-and-Desist Order was issued to California American Water by the California State Water Board with a final deadline of December 31, 2021. This order requires CalAm to find alternative water sources to provide water to residents of the Monterey Peninsula.



The Carmel River, nearly dry, at Dampierre Park, July 17, 2021.
Photo by Lorin Letendre

[Read more here from our website](#)

SAVE THE DATE: CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE DAY 2022!

Join us **Saturday, March 19, 2022** to celebrate California Wildlife Day 2022! In partnership with the Monterey County Regional Park



Antonio Balestreri at CWD 2019

District, the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy hosts an annual celebration to honor the diverse flora and fauna found throughout California. This year's festivities will return as an **in-person event** at the verdant Garland Ranch Regional Park.

[Read more here from our website](#)

CRWC PARTNERS WITH FIRE SAFE COUNCIL OF MONTEREY COUNTY

The Carmel River Watershed Conservancy has partnered with the Fire Safe Council of Monterey County to strengthen wildfire preparedness efforts within our communities. Wildfire management protects both human communities and our ecosystem as wildfires become more destructive. These efforts include maintaining fuel breaks and thinning fuels to create effective defensible spaces. Within this partnership, agencies have collaborated to create a comprehensive “Riparian Management Guidelines” to aid landowners in the proper management of the wide range of landscapes and vegetation types found within the 255 square mile Carmel River watershed.

[Read more here from our website](#)

Firewise USA® Communities and Alert Wildfire Cameras within the Carmel River Watershed

An Alert Wildfire camera helped firefighters pinpoint the location and direction of the Sept 11 fire in Country Club Heights, a prospective Firewise site, preserving natural and human communities.

Additional Firewise communities and cameras will enhance area wildfire management.

For more info, visit
firesafemonterey.org | carmelriverwatershed.org

Firewise Community contact:
firewise.fscmc@gmail.com

Alert Wildfire Camera contact:
fabrownii@gmail.com

Fire Safe Council for Monterey County and Carmel River Watershed Conservancy

Wildfire management ad recently run in the Carmel Pine Cone

Thank you for your interest and your support for all we are doing to restore the Carmel River watershed.