

April 2025



The Friends Making a Difference



Thanks to the Friends generosity some astonishing things are happening at the Madrona Marsh.

We added entrance arrows to the signs on all four corners of the Preserve. Visitors often said they couldn't find the entrance, the new directional arrows should solve that challenge.

When you next visit the Nature Center, look down and admire the new carpet and new floor outlets The Friends funded the original carpet 25 years ago; time for replacement! The Nature Center provides a wonderful venue for the Friends educational programs. We invested in that venue.



If you attended the 2025 Annual Meeting, you learned about our plans to fund a larger, Maple Street gate so the roll-off and dumpster could be moved off the Preserve creating more habitat. The first stage is completed; the roll-off is off the Preserve and the dumpster is next. Part two is cleaning the area occupied by the trash receptacles. Part three is planting natives in the reclaimed area. Once the plants establish the insects will follow then the birds, the reptiles, small mammals ... and new habitat is born.

Every Friday

Friday Fun*

10:00 am - Noon

Every Saturday

Guided Nature Walk

10:00 am - Noon

Thursday, April 3rd

Tyke Hike

10:00 am - Noon

Thursday, April 10th

Nature Stories &

Lessons

10:30 am - Noon

Saturday, April 12th

Night Hike*

6:30-8:30 pm

Saturday, April 19th

Special Fundraiser -

Home & Garden Sale

9:00 - 3:00 pm

Saturday, April 26th

Bird Walk - PV/SB

Audubon Society.

9:00 - 11:00 am

Nature Festival

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

* Registration
required



Take a moment, acknowledge yourselves. As a member of the Friends, as a donor of funds or time. You are a part of making all these projects a reality.



by

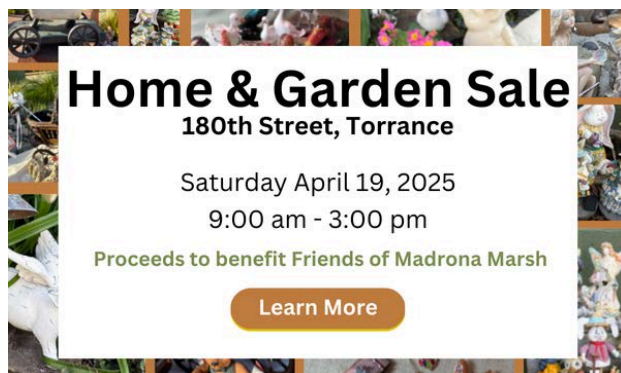
SuzanHubert

Friends of Madrona Marsh, President
California Naturalist

Join the Friends of Madrona Marsh

As a member of the Friends of Madrona Marsh, you are supporting the upkeep of this incredible natural treasure in the heart of Torrance. Your membership donation is wisely invested in the preservation of the Preserve and in the creation and ongoing support of the education and research programs at the Nature Center and Preserve.

Become a Member Today!



Featured Sighting

Coastal Poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*)

Photo by Lance Hill

Our signature Coastal Poppies are just starting to bloom in the Native Garden. We personally think Coastal Poppies are just the best flower ever.

These poppies have yellow petals with orange centers. Poppies farther inland are all orange. Poppies farther south (Baja) are all yellow.



[Visit Our Photo Gallery](#)

Around the Marsh

Pauls Photo and Friends visit the Marsh with Mark Comon

"What an amazing day at the Marsh.

THANK YOU for attending

THANK YOU for your support

THANK YOU for being part of our amazing community

THANK YOU Mike and Brian for the help

Yes, the FOG was a challenge

Yes, the lack of flowers on the Marsh was a disappointment

Lemons to lemonade was in full force”



Friends of Madrona Marsh is pleased to welcome back *Lance Hill* and his popular “Scenes and Notes from the Preserve” photo series to our social media channels.

FOLLOW US:



From the Manager

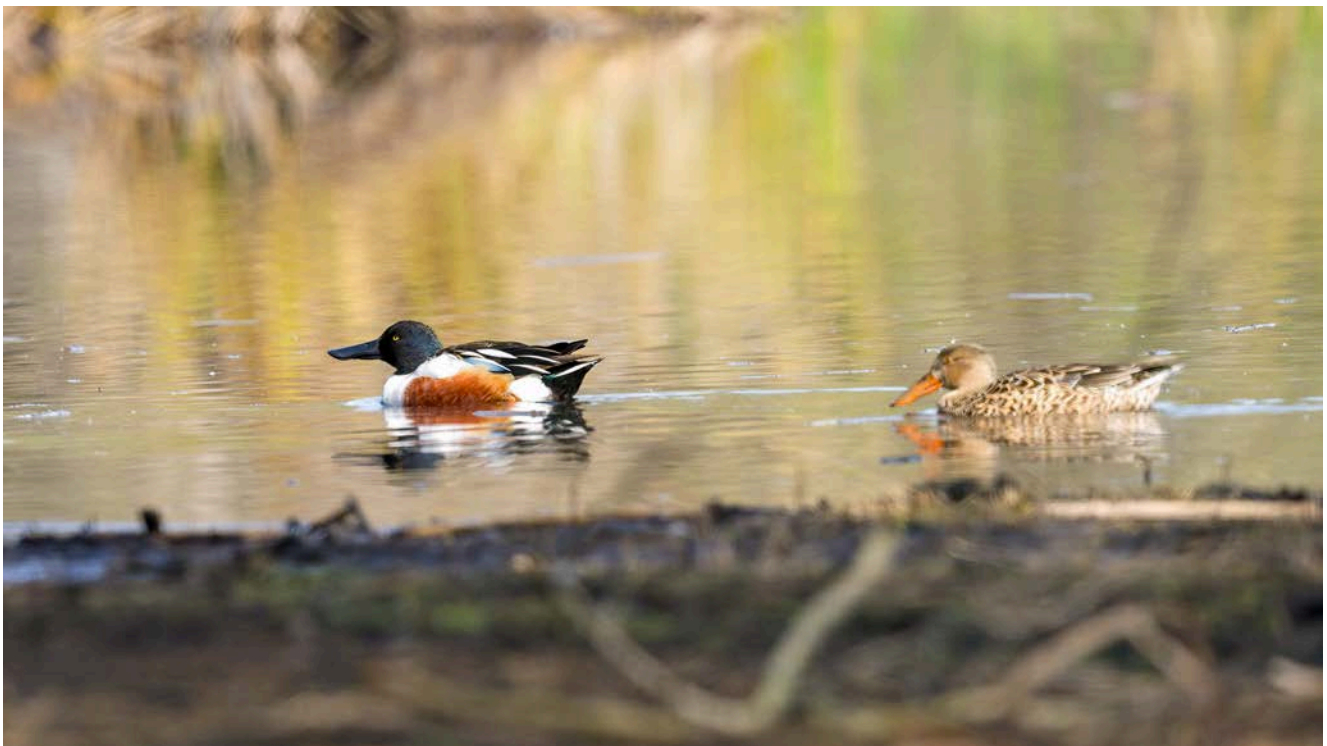


by Liz Evans
Madrona Marsh Preserve Manager

Spring is here at the Madrona Marsh! Many waterfowl have arrived to feast in the south pond and look for places to nest. In addition to the usual suspects - the mallards and Canada geese - we’ve seen American wigeons, cinnamon teals, green-winged teals, American coots, and Northern shovelers enjoying the shallow waters in the ponds that run along the Madrona Avenue trail.



Another 1.66” of rain fell on the Preserve, bringing the seasonal total to just over 5” of rain. While this is shaping up to be a dry year, there’s still enough water in the Preserve to attract migratory birds to stop for a short stay before they continue on their way. We will see how many of the resident birds choose to nest in the Preserve this year.



The Marsh hosted a number of educational programs in March. Students from Torrance High School planted coastal poppies that they grew themselves in the prairie as part of their State Civic Seal of Engagement program. Students from Redondo Union High’s AP Environmental Science classes conducted in-depth field

studies on the Preserve as part of our new and more rigorous high school programming.

Several Scout troops completed programs for their Bug Badges and Animal Habitat Badges. Docents led nine school tours this month. North High science teacher and ecology club leader Jay Estabrook gave a wonderful talk on his club's lawn to drought-tolerant garden conversion program. The volunteers and staff at the Nature Center are thrilled to be able to offer so many educational opportunities to the community.



Redondo Union High students examine possum carrion as part of their field study.



Torrance High students planting poppies in the prairie as part of their State Civic Seal of Engagement program.

Volunteer Salute

We are saying farewell to Sarah Nodding. Sarah has been a director on the Friends Board for many years. She scheduled docent tours for School District Study Trips. Over the course of her tenure Sarah must have organized thousands of tours for children and teachers through the Preserve. The docents held an appreciation party in her honor the beginning of the month. We are sad to see Sarah leave and at the same time the Board and the docents welcomed a new Director of Education, Nikki Chambers. Nikki has been a docent with the Marsh for several years and is a former biology teacher. Nikki has jumped into her new position with bubbling enthusiasm. She is currently scheduling docent tours and has many plans for building stronger connections with the local school district.



Learn More About Volunteering at Madrona Marsh



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Friends of Madrona Marsh, PO 5078, Torrance, CA 90510

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