California Trails Day-2008

The Los Angeles River Ranger District, USDA-Forest Service, and its associated volunteer organizations invite you and your Unit, along with the general public, to join them in celebrating California Trails Day.

- When: April 18, 2009; 8:30 am to not later than 3:30 pm.
- Where: please contact one of the sources listed below, after April 7, for the location of this event and directions for getting there.

If your Unit has done a conservation project in the forest in the last year, you are a part of this celebration. If you've only heard about the conservation and the Trail Boss Training programs that are a feature of the Angeles National Forest - and enthusiastically supported by the Los Angeles Area Council, come on up with your Scouts to see and hear, first hand, what they are all about. Try your hand at using several of the basic tools of trail maintenance - McCloud, Pulaski, loppers - and experience the satisfaction that comes from the accomplishments of a trained, enthusiastic group of volunteers. You will also have the opportunity to meet the District Forest Service personnel who direct the volunteer programs. Lunch will be provided about 1:00 PM. An Adventure Pass is not required for vehicles on this date.

This event is open to the public, as well as volunteer organizations and sponsored groups - such as a Scout Unit. If this is the Unit's first time at volunteering for trail work, please identify yourself to the registrar so that arrangements can be made for Trail Boss to provide instruction and tools. While this field orientation is not a substitute for Trail Boss Training, it will give you a feel for what it involves. It will also give your Scouts a better understanding of the importance of good hiking practices and of doing conservation work.

If you are bringing boys, you must file a Tour Permit with the Council Office, have at least two adults, and adhere to all applicable BSA rules for Unit activities.

Clothing and Equipment

Persons attending need to be dressed and equipped to do a few hours of trail work. The fashion-conscious volunteer wears long pants, long sleeve shirt, work boots, gloves, and a broad-brimmed hat. These are supplemented with sunscreen/sun block, dark glasses, insect repellant, and **lots of water**. Sneakers/sport shoes are not appropriate wear when swinging a Pulaski and moving large rocks. Conservation project sites tend to be hot, sunny, dusty, and lunchrooms for insects.

Additional Information

- USDA-Forest Service, LA River Ranger District, Little Tujunga Station: 818-899-1900 (M-F, 8 am-4 pm); web site, www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles
  - Howard Okamoto, Recreation Officer.
- John Horton, USDA-FS Volunteer Leader, Conservation Projects: 310-375-5032 (evenings), email - jbhorton@gte.net
- Dave Ledford, LAAC-HAT Trail Boss Training: 1-310-373-2111, email, gdledford@verizon.net

Training Bulletin