



## What's New on the Wetlands

### Website Makeover!

We are thrilled to announce the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project website has received a fresh look for Spring. Visit the updated site at [www.ballonarestoration.org](http://www.ballonarestoration.org). Have feedback about the new look? [Send us an email](#) and let us know your thoughts.

### Stay Connected

Fanatical about Facebook? Tickled with Twitter? Join the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#) to stay informed and up-to-date on the exciting phases of the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project.

## Upcoming Events & Activities

### Community Open House ([Invitation](#) [PDF](#))

Saturday, May 8

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

*Featuring guided tours of the reserve and information about the Ballona Wetlands Public Gateways and Trails Project*

The public is invited to enjoy the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve during a community open house. The event, hosted by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, is an opportunity to learn about the unique resources of the Ballona Wetlands and provide input on proposed public access points, trails and restoration efforts. Two entrances to the wetlands will be open to the public:

#### Fiji Gateway

13720 Fiji Way

Marina del Rey, CA 90292 (Across from Fisherman's Village)

#### Culver Gateway

303 Culver Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90293 (Behind Gordon's Market)

Guided tours will depart from each trailhead at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. RSVP's are encouraged! To RSVP or for further information, email [Leslie Chan](#) or call 323.221.9944 ext. 183.

## Get Involved

### Share your photos of Ballona Wetlands

We're always in search of fantastic photographs of the wetlands and its plants and animals to be used on the Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project's website and in our materials. If you have photos, we'd love to see them! Contact [Karina Johnston](#) to learn how you can help inform and inspire the public through the beauty of your photos.

### Become a Volunteer

#### *Scientific Monitoring*

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission and its partners are currently conducting a baseline-monitoring program to collect physical, chemical, biological and human use data at the Ballona Wetlands. Monitoring the site will enhance our understanding of the existing conditions in the Ballona Wetlands and data collected will be used to develop adaptive, long-term restoration and monitoring plans for the wetlands. Interested in becoming a monitoring volunteer? [More information.](#)

#### *Help Educate the Public about the Ballona Wetlands*

Interested in learning more about the Ballona Wetlands and helping to inform the public about this valuable ecosystem? [Contact the California Department of Fish and Game's Senior Volunteer Program for how to get involved.](#) Also, view the [Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project's partner page](#) for a list of additional organizations and agencies working on related issues.

## What are the Ballona Wetlands?

Stretching from Playa del Rey to Venice, the Ballona Wetlands once occupied a 2,000-acre expanse of critical coastal habitat. Currently covering an area of 600 acres, the Ballona Wetlands are the largest and most promising opportunity for coastal wetland restoration in Los Angeles County.

The Ballona Wetlands Restoration Project is a long-term, science-based plan to return the Ballona Wetlands into a thriving ecological reserve. By healing this highly degraded site, the restoration project will create a diverse, resilient and dynamic ecosystem while providing a unique opportunity for the community to reconnect with southern California's natural heritage. [Learn more.](#)

#### Project Partners:

