

THE LIVE OAK NEWS

KEEPING THE DESCANSO COMMUNITY INFORMED

SPRING 2010

“D3” OAK TREE MORTALITY & FUELS REDUCTION PROGRAM



“D3” Program Timeline

The following is an *estimated* approximate program timeline and is subject to change at any time.

APRIL – AUGUST 2010

Complete Site Evaluations & Tree Marking

MAY – JUNE 2010

Biological & Archeological Process (approx. 6-8 weeks)

MAY – JUNE 2010

Public Bidding & Award Contract (approx. 4-6 weeks)

Project Area 1 “Boulder Creek”

- Pre-Qualification Determination for Contractors
- Request for Proposal (RFP) & Bidding Process
- Award Contract & Implement Agreement

JULY – OCTOBER 2010

Project Area 1 “Boulder Creek”

- Town Hall Meeting with RCD and residents
- Contractor Field Coordination and Equipment Staging
- Begin work (approx. 90 days)

*Project Areas 2, 3 & 4 will follow
from October 2010 thru July 2011*

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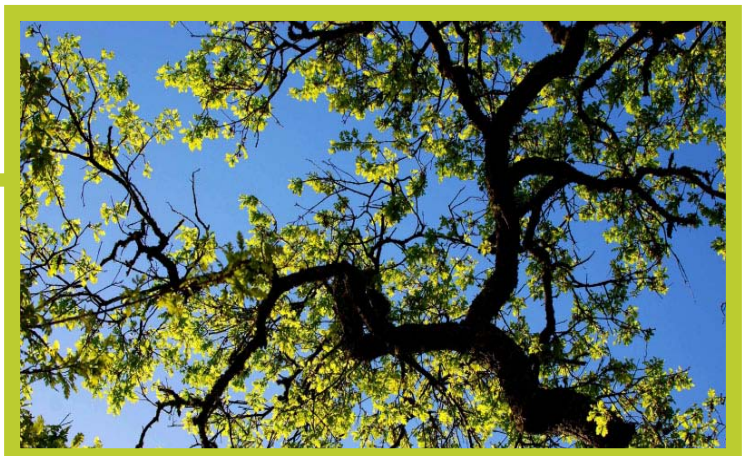
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“D3” Program Update

The RCD’s “D3” Tree Removal Program is in full swing! Since September 2009, our field staff has spent dozens of hours meeting with residents to evaluate individual properties in Descanso and Sherilton Valley for trees that qualify for removal under the program.

As of March 31, 2010, the RCD’s “D3” Program has 290 parcels enrolled totaling 1,169 acres. Approximately 250 of these properties have been physically evaluated and over 1,122 trees have been marked for removal. Staff will be evaluating the remaining parcels in the coming months.

The RCD has divided the entire project into four individual working areas and have developed a phasing plan for the tree removal work to be completed over the next 18 months. The phasing has been determined primarily on existing environmental constraints that require work to be performed during specific times of the year and the project areas have been given names based on a geographic feature in the project extent.



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GSOB Treatment Options

The US Forest Service is currently performing a series of several management tactics for eradication of the Goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) in southern California. Until research has been completed and management guidelines are developed specifically for this pest, the following suggestions are provided based on research findings for similar borer species in other areas of the county.

INFESTED LIVE TREES

Currently, there are no management options recommended specifically for GSOB infested oak trees which are still alive.

INFESTED DEAD AND DOWNED TREES

Logs and firewood from trees infested with GSOB will continue to host larvae and remain a threat to our oak trees. It is imperative that infested oak wood not be removed from local infested areas to limit the impact of the pest.

CHIPPING

Chipping GSOB-infested oak wood into 2.5 cm pieces is the best method to drastically reduce insect survival in cut logs.

Residents with affected trees on their property are encouraged to refer to the following resources for more information and guidance on various GSOB management options.

www.fs.fed.us/r5/spf/fhp/ www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland

Do you have evidence of GSOB on your property?

Please report it here:

<http://groups.ucanr.org/gsob/>



Above: GSOB adults – approx. 1 cm in length with six orange spots on the wings.



Right: GSOB larvae – approx. 2 cm in length.



Photo courtesy of The National Wildland/Urban Interface Program

This is a NO COST service for property owners and offered only in specified areas of San Diego County as determined by the RCD. Funding for this program is limited and requests for participation will be prioritized on a first-come, first-served basis.

MY HOME ZONE

FACE TO FACE AWARENESS PROGRAM

PROPERTY AND LIFE SAFETY FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT IN THE RURAL AREAS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The RCD's Risk Assessment Program has been very well-received since it officially launched in June 2009! In just the first ten months of the program, nearly twenty individual property assessments have been completed, primarily in the Julian area. The interest list for this highly beneficial service continues to grow and the current target areas of work are Descanso, Guatay and Pine Valley.

Martin (Nicio) Aguilera is the RCD's Risk Assessment Officer and brings more than 30 years of fire service and technology experience, including 16 years as a Deputy Fire Marshall.

For more information or to register for this program, please contact Martin (Nicio) Aguilera at 619.749.4232 or martin.aguilera@rcdsandiego.org

“R3” Tree Replacement Program

The “R3” Tree Replacement Program helps to accomplish the mission of the RCD by Re-planting, Re-growing, and Re-foresting areas that have lost trees through drought, wild fires, and the Goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) infestation in rural areas of San Diego County.

The RCD hosted a Tree Planting and Maintenance Workshop in February and organized two community tree planting events in January and February where over 1,000 new trees were planted under the “R3” Program. These events were a great success through community participation and volunteers from many of our partner agencies.

The “R3” program helps restore these treasured resources and provides opportunities to educate local residents how to properly care and maintain their trees. For this inaugural phase of the “R3” Program, recipients of the new trees was limited to Descanso residents currently enrolled in the RCD’s “D3” Tree Removal Program as an effort to aid in replenishing the thousands of trees which have been lost in the region.

Funding for this program was awarded to the RCD on behalf of Sempra Energy/San Diego Gas & Electric. The RCD continues to support its mission through the “R3” Program and other restoration programs as funding becomes available.



Calendar of Events

Come visit us at these upcoming events!

Alpine Tree Town (Alpine, CA)
Saturday, April 24th

East County Earth Day (Mt. Helix Park)
Sunday, April 25th

2010 Fire Summit (Diamond Bar, CA)
Wednesday, June 2nd

Descanso Parade (Descanso, CA)
July (date TBD)

San Diego County Fair (Del Mar Fairgrounds)
June 11th – July 5th

Above Top: New trees ready to be planted.

Above Bottom: A newly planted oak tree with a Dri-Water carton.

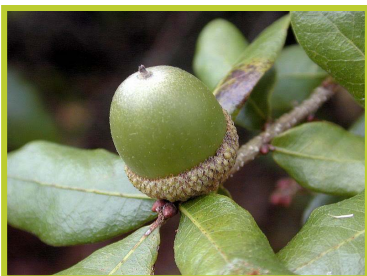
Right: RCD employees, Danielle Campbell & Nicio Aguilera with some of the great volunteers who came out to help with the tree planting events!



AGENCY NEWS & EVENTS

Cal Fire’s David Janssen generously donated over 700 bare root Coulter and Ponderosa Pine trees to be planted on the La Jolla Indian Reservation to replenish areas devastated by the Poomacha fire. The RCD’s Risk Assessment Officer, Martin Aguilera and Nonpoint Source Director, John Flores worked closely with the tribe to implement the multi-day planting event.

UC Irvine students and Paramedic students from the thirty-sixth class of Palomar College were recruited help at the event. The response was overwhelming and the reservation community became very involved in the placement and spacing of the new trees. All of the new trees were planted near accessible water sources to reduce future mortality.





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"D3" OAK TREE MORTALITY & FUELS REDUCTION PROGRAM



The "Dead Dying and Diseased Tree Mortality & Fuels Reduction Program" is administered by the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County and made possible with funding provided by the US Forest Service under the authority of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.

The Live Oak News

KEEPING THE DESCANSO COMMUNITY INFORMED
 SPRING 2010

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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GO GREEN!

Go to our website and sign up to receive future newsletters in your e-mail

DO NOT MOVE, GIVE OR SELL ANY OAK WOOD FROM YOUR PROPERTY!!!



Photo courtesy of US Forest Service

VOLUNTARY OAK FIRE WOOD QUARANTINE REQUESTED!

HELP PREVENT THE MOVEMENT OF INVASIVE PESTS AND PROTECT OUR NATIVE OAK TREES

Transporting infested oak firewood can introduce the Goldspotted Oak Borer into unaffected areas. It is very important that local agencies and communities work together to stop the spread of these invasive pests to protect the natural beauty and wildlife habitat of our native oak woodlands.