

MBCA News  
Tuesday, March 25, 2014

Hope you are enjoying the glorious spring weather! We want to pass on some news and remind you of events on the horizon that are of interest to MBCA.

1) San Bernardino County Planning Department: Important update to the Joshua Tree Community Plan with about twenty agents addressing Joshua Tree & Morongo Basin concerns. These include LAFCO, Cal Trans, Renewable Energy Element Consultant, Environmental Health, Public Health, Public Works, Economic Development, Code Enforcement and Planning that includes Head of Planning Terri Rahhal:  
**Wednesday, March 26, 6 - 8 PM**  
Location: Community Center, 6171 Sunburst Ave., Joshua Tree, CA 92252

2) Mojave Desert Land Trust honors Nancy Karl: Nancy is stepping down from her position at the MDLT. Over the past seven years she has served as executive director, MDLT has acquired and preserved 47,114 acres of desert land. We congratulate Nancy for her successes and welcome Danielle Segura the current MDLT Director of Development, who has been appointed executive director.

The public is invited to a walk and program to honor Nancy Karl  
**March 29, Saturday 10:00 AM.**  
Location: base of MDLT Quail Mountain Property, corner of Skyline Road and Sunset Road, Joshua Tree.

3) Silurian Valley solar project: The proposed 200 megawatt solar facility would consist of multiple arrays of photovoltaic panels and impact 7,219 acres of public lands approximately 10 miles north of Baker, along Hwy 127.  
The BLM will conduct a meeting **March 27, Thursday, 1:00-4:30 PM & 6:00-9:00 PM** to provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the variance process to determine if the application is appropriate for processing.  
Location: Hampton Inn & Suites, 2710 Lenwood Road, Barstow, CA.

*We will keep you posted on how you can add your voice to our objections about development in the spectacular Silurian Valley.*

4) "Grass Roots" rally opposing large-scale solar developments in areas zoned for rural living: **March 29, Saturday, 1:00 PM.**

Location: County Building, Hwy 62 & White Feather Road, Joshua Tree.

5) Joshua Basin Water District's "Water Education Day": **March 30, Sunday, 1:00-4:00 PM.** Location: JBWD Office & Demonstration Garden, 61750 Chollita Rd., Joshua Tree. *Minerva Hoyt Native Plant Sale, rainwater harvesting, free seeds & propagation info & more!*

6) Hi-Desert Nature Museum's "Earth Day Conservation Fair": **April 19, Saturday, 9AM-2PM.** Location: HDN Museum, Yucca Valley Community Center Complex. *MBCA will host a table. Tickets to the MBCA Landscape Tour will be available!*

7) MBCA fourth annual "Desert Wise Landscape Tour": self-guided tour of 25 homes in the Morongo Basin showcasing drought tolerant gardens and landscapes. **April 26, Saturday, 9:00-4:00 PM.** *See the MBCA website for information about the tour and tickets!*

8) Solar for MUSD: Thanks to those of you who attended the public presentation of the proposal to install solar panels at schools in the Morongo Unified School District through a power purchase agreement. The MUSD Board has established a committee to investigate the proposal further and report their findings back to the MUSD Board.

9) MBCA Membership Drive: MBCA is launching a campaign to build a larger membership to inform and educate residents and decision-makers. If you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership please do so. Don't stop there, invite your friends to join. Memberships make great gifts!

*For more information call (760) 366-9862 or e-mail [info@mbconservation.org](mailto:info@mbconservation.org)*

Thanks for your continuing interest and support. We can't do it without you!

Sarah Kennington, President

Your 2014 MBCA Board

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*MBCA advocates for a healthy desert environment  
that nurtures our rural character, cultural wealth,  
and economic well-being.*