



WildPlaces' Mission

WildPlaces is a community based non-profit organization located in Springville, California in the foothills of the Southern Sierra Nevada Mountains. Our mission is to preserve, support, and protect California's natural and rural places and the people of these landscapes through volunteer driven habitat restoration, natural and cultural education, and career development.

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I. Immersed in the Wild Snowshoe Trip With LaSierra High School

We at WildPlaces are excited to lead a group of students from LaSierra High School in Porterville on a snowshoe trip to the Freeman Giant Sequoia Grove on March 21st. It will be the

first time for many on snowshoes, and promises to be a fun and educational opportunity for all involved! The youth will camp in Camp Nelson and return to Porterville on Sunday. We are looking for at least two adult volunteers to help lead the hike as well as prepare food. Contact ian@wildplaces.net for more information.

II. WildAppreciation Concert March 28 2009, Volunteers Needed!

Our WildAppreciation Concert at the River Ridge Ranch is coming soon! As always, we are very thankful to everyone who has volunteered his or her time with WildPlaces, and this concert is for you! It's going to be fun, so be sure to bring friends and family. The gates will open at 6:30PM; there is a suggested donation of \$7, but no one will be turned away. The Thriftstore Allstars (www.myspace.com/thriftstoreallstars) from Joshua Tree will be playing, as well as WildPlaces' AmeriCorps member Ian Herrick under his nom-de-blues of Coyote Slim (<http://www.coyoteslim.com/>). The Eastern Sun Dance Company will provide enticing belly dancing, and there will be a silent auction with fun prizes! There is camping available at the ranch.

We are looking for volunteers for a variety of tasks, including help with directing parking, serving food and drinks, handing out information about WildPlaces, and of course keeping the trash under control. E-mail ian@wildplaces for more information or if you would like to donate anything such as food or drink. Check out River Ridge Ranch at www.river-ridge.net



The poster for WildAppreciation Night 2009 features a central image of a large tree trunk with a person sitting on a log in front of it. The background is a collage of nature scenes. Text on the poster includes: 'WildPlaces STEWARDSHIP IN THE SOUTHERN SIERRA' at the top left; 'Gates open at 6:30 pm!' in red at the top right; 'WildAppreciation 2009' in green and white in the center; 'Night March 28' in large white and yellow letters on the right; 'Live Music' above the date; 'Special Guests: Coyote Slim Delta Blues! Belly Dancing by Eastern Sun Dance Company'; 'Great Food', 'Silent Auction', 'Amazing Presentations', and 'Fantastic Fun for All Ages!!!' listed below; and 'River Ridge Ranch 37794 Balch Park Rd, Springville, CA 93265 www.river-ridge.net / info@riverridge.net' at the bottom left. Contact info '(559) 539-5263 www.wildplaces.net' is at the bottom center.

III. Goldman Environmental Prize Ceremony in San Francisco

WildPlaces is honored to take 15 youth from Tulare and Kern Counties to the Goldman Environmental Prize Ceremony in San Francisco on April 20th. This inspiring event is a chance for our community to interact with grass-roots leaders from across the globe. Of course, our youth are also looking forward to going to San Francisco! Check

out www.goldmanprize.org from more information. If you would like to make a donation to help cover the cost of lodging (we will be staying at a youth hostel) and travel, please contact Mehmet at mehmet@wildplaces.net or call 559 539 5263.

IV: Southern Sierra Outdoor Educator Gathering at Camp Nelson

WildPlaces is inviting youth educators to our first Annual Outdoor Educator Gathering will be held May 2-3rd at lovely Camp Nelson. The gathering will encourage, empower, and inspire youth and volunteer leaders to utilize the southern Sierra Nevada for educational and recreational opportunities. It will also be great time for participants to expand their professional and personal networks. Youth and volunteer leaders and educators from the Sierra Nevada, Central Valley, and adjacent communities are invited to participate. If you would like to be involved in this great event e-mail ian@wildplaces.net.

V. 2009 Spring Calendar

Mar 21: Immersed in the Wild Snowshoe Trip at Camp Nelson

Mar 28: WildAppreciation Concert at River Ridge Ranch.

Mar 31: Cesar Chavez Day

April 18: Jackass Mail Run

April 19-25: National Volunteer Week

April 20: Goldman Environmental Prize Ceremony in San Francisco

April 22: WildPlaces' Earth Day Event

April 24-26: Springville Sierra Rodeo

April 25: National Arbor Day

May 2-:3 Outdoor Educator Gathering at Camp Nelson

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