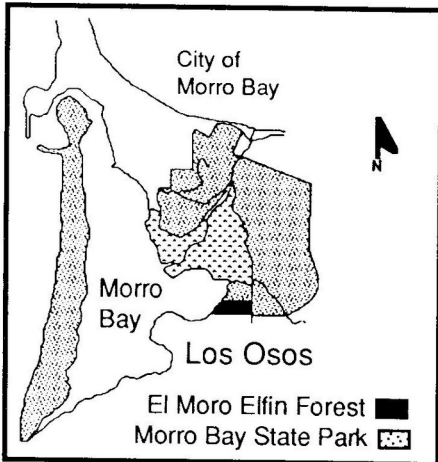




SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION P.O. BOX 6442 LOS OSOS CA 93412 March 1991



*San Luis Obispo County's
Open Space Plan
and The Elfin Forest*

SWAP General Meeting

Monday March 4 1991 7:30 p.m.
South Bay Community Center
Los Osos Valley Road, Los Osos

Mr. Tim Gallagher, San Luis Obispo County Parks Facilities Manager, will speak on the county's Open Space Plan and the county's criteria for land acquisition. Plan to come!

(The First) Message from your (new) president, Rosemary Bowker

At the December General Meeting, Shanda Gibbs was elected Secretary, Yolanda Waddell was elected Treasurer, and I was elected President.

It is a bit intimidating to sit down to write my first "Message From Your President." How do I tell you how impressed I am with the importance of what we are trying to do and how honored I am to be your president?

How do I tell you how stimulating it is to work with Barbara Machado, our development coordinator, who is doing a great job of keeping us focused on the business of raising the money to purchase the property?

How do I tell you how impressed I am by the number of organizations, state and federal agencies, and private individuals who are in support of the Elfin Forest Project? By the willingness of our volunteers to pitch in and help?

A notice of preparation of a **draft environmental impact** report was issued by the State Department of Real Estate in November of 1990. A negative declaration would clear the way for the sale of up to 150 house sites. We need to step up our efforts to find the funds to purchase the property before it is split up and developed.

We are in process of a **membership drive**. Your membership serves two very important purposes: your regular dues provide us with money for our operating expenses; any money above the regular dues goes into our land fund.

"I think that having the land and not ruining it is the most beautiful art that anyone could ever want to own." Andy Warhol

More importantly, **your paid membership is a statement of support for the Elfin Forest Project and lends credibility to our efforts.** Be sure to send in your membership renewal. It is VERY important!

Henry Hammer, who worked on the site plan for the El Morro Strip Park in Los Osos, and Connie Harms, who has been involved in Audubon's Sweet Springs project, met recently with our **site committee**. They provided some valuable direction and insight for a preliminary draft of a site plan or "our vision" for the Elfin Forest. The site committee is documenting the value of the Elfin Forest as a sensitive environmental resource, as a passive use recreational area, and as an outdoor classroom for environmental education.

SWAP has a lot of exciting activities planned for the next few months: we have permission to lead **monthly walks** through the Elfin Forest. Meet at 9:30 am at the end of 15th Street off Santa Ysabel on the 3rd Saturday of the month. A special theme has been selected for each month. In February, Darlene Gastineau showed how the Chumash would have made use of the resources of the Elfin Forest. Contact Dennis Sheridan 528-2373 for the theme of the next walk.

Our **slide show** has been revised to focus on SWAP's goals for the remaining 39 acres. Please contact our slide show coordinator, Linda Krutak, at 772-7018, to schedule a presentation.

Look for our bi-weekly column, "**View From the Elfin Forest**," in the Sun Bulletin. SWAP has gained the talents of Ann Calhoun to coordinate the articles for this column. And we are looking for authors!

Listen to our "**Earth Words**" on KCBX during Earth Week. Jonnie Pat Mobley and Yolanda Waddell are coordinating the taping of these readings. And watch for news of our special "Elfin Forest Awareness Day" on Saturday, April 20th.

Our education committee needs help preparing a "**teachers packet**" for using the Elfin Forest as an environmental classroom within the California State Framework for Science Education. We are planning a special walk "**teachers walk**" in October. Call Dennis Sheridan at 528-2373 to get involved.

We need your help. We need volunteers willing to help staff our information table for two hours at the Environmental Fairs to be held at Rancho El Chorro and San Simeon in April and at the Baywood Festival in June. We need people willing to address and stuff envelopes, make telephone calls, and more! Call me at 528-2579 if you would like to help. **We CAN succeed** if we all work together.

Community Cleanup Want to help Los Osos look its best, get a little exercise, and do something with immediate satisfaction? Join the Los Osos Trash Pickup and Recycling Crew on the second Sunday of the month at 10 am in front of the donut shop by the Post Office. Free Coffee from the Donut Shop to the Cleanup Crew!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

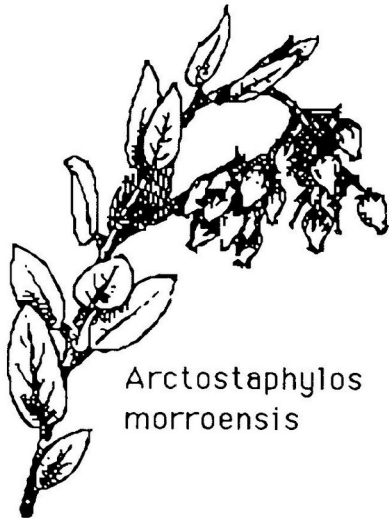
A big "Thank You" to recent donors Natalie & John Ziegler, Kirk Knoph, Karen & Jim Havlena, Bill Denneen, Mary & Donald Smith, Patricia & Larry Grimes, Staci & Dean Thompson, J.L. Frank, Carole Larsen, Sally G. Knight, Yolanda Waddell, Eileen Kengel, Janice & Larry Hand, Lee & Chet Grimes, Clement H. Jeffrey, Wilbur G. Wurster, the Gates Family, Richard & Barbara Friedenber, R.G. Hansen, Kris Miller, Barbara Machado, Anonymous, the West Family, Annette Owens, Emma & William Moore, Donald & Nettie Rosburg, Yolanda & Jay Waddell, Pravine & Mary Bhuta, Bob & Rose Lane, Gerald & Elizabeth Wondra, Kenneth & Arylane Hill, Mary & Clarence Conkey, Darlene Gastineau, Harold Schuchardt, Susan Wilson, and the Armstrong family in memory of Baxter Womack, in memory of Helen Fry, and in memory of Colin Shaw.

Third Saturday Walks

On January 19th, SWAP began sponsoring monthly two-hour walks through the Elfin Forest in order to educate the public about our project and the importance of preserving this small wilderness. All walks begin at 9:30 a.m. and meet at the north end of 15th Street, Los Osos. The focus of each walk will vary according to seasonal highlights and leader expertise. Watch local newspapers for future walk leaders and topics. The tentative schedule is

Feb. 16th	Darlene Gastineau	Chumash
Mar. 16th	Phyllis Snyder	Plants
Apr. 16th	Mary Coffeen	Wildflowers
May 18th	To Be Announced	
June 15th	To Be Announced	

For details on future walks, call Dennis Sheridan
528-2373.



Arctostaphylos
morroensis

Late winter finds our fruit trees in blossom and the *Arctostaphylos* or bearberry of the Elfin Forest is no exception. Most of us know the purple-brown stemmed shrub with pale green foliage setting off the clusters of miniature palest pink bells as manzanita. The Spanish common name translates as "little apples" for the reddish fruit which follows later in the season.

Our unique local manzanita is *Arctostaphylos morroensis*. Hikers who can make one of our early walks will be rewarded by the abundance of manzanita stands and delighted by dramatic individual specimens in bloom in the Elfin Forest.

- _____ \$12 Member - Newsletter subscription with membership
- _____ \$ 25 Steward - Newsletter and Elfin Forest Notecards
- _____ \$ 50 Protector - Newsletter and Elfin Forest T-Shirt
- _____ \$100 Defender - Newsletter and Elfin Forest Re-Usa Bag
- _____ \$250 Champion - Newsletter and Framed Elfin Forest Print
- _____ \$1000 Life Member. - Newsletter and Bronzed Plaque

- _____ I am interested in helping - send me more information.
- _____ Please send me information about certificates of stewardship, Elfin Forest Notecards, and Re-USA bags.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Make check payable to S.W.A.P. and mail to
Treasurer, S.W.A.P., P.O. Box 6442, Los Osos, CA 93412

Are You a Member of SWAP?

*A gift of nature is
an imperishable
gift, never broken,
torn, lost, worn; the
gift that given once
is given forever;
that exuberantly
gives itself in return
not alone to the
giver or receiver
but to all creatures
for all time.*

Emily Polk S.W.A.P.

SMALL WILDERNESS AREA PRESERVATION

Los Osos / Morro Bay Chapter
P.O. Box 6442 Los Osos CA 93412

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Yolanda Waddell, Treasurer
Shanda Gibbs, Secretary
Barbara Machado, Development Coordinator
Dominic Perello, Membership Chair

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Myron Graham, Audubon
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