

Giving Tuesday 2023: Friends Fund Appeal

Dear Members and Supporters,

Please accept our gratitude and appreciation for your partnership with The Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve. Wildlife and rare habitats are under constant threat in San Diego, and your help is again needed. *Please contribute to our Fall Fund Appeal.*

We invite you to support the fight to save our Heritage Oaks. Coast live oaks are dying by the hundreds of thousands in San Diego County. Invasive Gold Spotted Oak Borers (GSOB) target the biggest, oldest oaks, the Heritage trees. Trees hundreds of years old, some 3-4' in diameter have been killed.

While we've lost a couple dozen of these large oaks in Los Peñasquitos Canyon we've been successful in protecting the vast majority. An aggressive campaign of our volunteers and professional arborists, largely funded by us, has made this possible. Until a natural biological control is found, we plan to continue this battle to save the old ones. Each season a treatment by arborists costs about \$16,000 -17,000. Our volunteers spend more than a hundred hours surveying, monitoring and working with the arborists. Consider supporting this effort in 2024 with your donation.

Another big project is expanding habitat for the endangered Monarch butterflies. Our few dozen planted milkweed plants quickly expanded to over 500 plants, attracting Monarchs who have left their caterpillars behind! We've also planted hundreds of pollinator plants that the Monarchs also use. These now number in the thousands. Help us duplicate this success in a new site this coming year.

And of course, we'll continue our free volunteer led hikes, our bi-weekly restoration work parties, our endangered plant surveys and more.

Won't you support us with your generous donation?

With our low overhead and all volunteer staff, donations go a long way. Please visit our website at <u>https://www.penasquitos.org/donate</u>. If more convenient, you may make a check out to Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve and mail to: POB 26523, San Diego, CA 92126.

All contributions are fully tax deductible.

Thank you for your confidence and support.

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Beth Mather, President

Together we give.

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Nov 28, 2023

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