

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

February 28, 2013

Karen J. Barrett
707.769.5652 x 217

Trail Improvements Underway at Benicia State Recreation Area Garden

Trail construction began this week at Benicia State Recreation Areas (BSRA.) The project at the Forrest Deaner Native Plant Botanic Garden is designed to improve trail access and the visitor experience, and to better facilitate abundant volunteer contributions.

The BSRA remains open daily (closed to vehicle access Mondays and Tuesdays); the Garden is open weekends only for the duration of the project. The project is scheduled to be completed in three months.

This project was selected for funding as a Volunteer Enhancement Project (VEP) by California State Parks. The Botanic Garden was chosen because of its outstanding record of engaging volunteer participation, garnering community support and contributing to the education and interpretation of students and visitors. The Garden is a partnership project of California State Parks and California Native Plant Society - Jepson Chapter.

The Garden is the only native plant botanic garden in Solano County and it is maintained 100% by volunteers. It is financed fully by public and private grants, and individual, and corporate donations. It showcases 3,000 native California plants representing 300 species.

The Visitor Enhancement project is funded by Proposition 84 bond dollars, a voter-approved 2006 initiative dedicated to projects relating to safe drinking water, water quality and supply, and flood control, as well as natural resource protection, state park improvements, public access to natural resources and other water and nature related endeavors. Proposition 84 monies may only be used for projects spelled out in the initiative approved by voters. These funds cannot be used to operate state parks.

The VEP project represents another phase in completing the Garden's long-term planting and facility infrastructure plan. Trail work is being done by California State Parks and California Conservation Corp crew based out of Napa.

###

For energy efficient recreation –
California State Parks on the Internet: www.parks.ca.gov>

