

micro SCOPE




A Periodic News Brief of the
Santa Clarita Organization for Planning the Environment
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SAVE THE DATE
American Lung Association
to Speak on
Air Quality and Land Use
October 14th

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microSCOPE



a FOCUSED News Update

October 2009

YOU'RE INVITED! to our October Meeting

Does your child or favorite senior citizen have asthma? Is your commute stressful? Are you getting enough exercise?

Santa Clarita has some of the worst air quality in the nation. We live in an area designated as a non-attainment zone for ozone and particulate matter (tiny particles of dust that can lodge in the lungs). Both these pollutants can cause breathing problems and lung disease. They are especially harmful to children.

Can changes in the decisions made at City Hall help? The American Lung Association say "Yes!" Energy efficiency and new land use patterns can make a huge difference in our air quality and reduce greenhouse gases, too.

As part of the Lung Association's mission to prevent lung disease, this statewide organization has developed a "Healthy Land Use Campaign". The goal

Meet the New Group In Town

COMMUNITY ADVOCATES FOR HEALTHCARE SCV is a citizen group that is organized to ensure that quality healthcare is provided to all residents of the Santa Clarita Valley through advocacy, education, and outreach about health in Santa Clarita. Formed by Dr. Gene Dorio in 2008 this group aims to be a forum for discussion of health issues and advocates for healthy solutions.

Dr. Dorio has already written several articles on air pollution and its effect on residents of the SCV for our local Signal newspaper. Stay tuned for more great things to come!



One Valley One Vision
Time to Take a Closer Look

As part of the Lung Association's mission to prevent lung disease, this statewide organization has developed a "Healthy Land Use Campaign". The goal of this campaign is to empower local residents to work with City Hall for cleaner air.

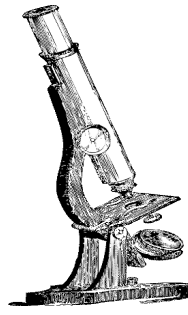
So please join us to hear a representative of the American Lung Association speak on the link between our health and local land use decisions. Find out how you can help our community on its way to cleaner air and slow global warming at the same time.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 14th

**WHERE: Vista Hills Club House
20640 Oakvale Dr., Valencia, CA 91355**

More info: www.scope.org 661 255-6899

(This presentation is jointly sponsored by SCOPE and Community Healthcare Advocates SCV)



One Valley One Vision Time to Take a Closer Look

The County of Los Angeles just released the Environmental Impact Report for this General Plan Update. One Valley One Vision (OVOV) is a joint effort between the County of Los Angeles, City of Santa Clarita, and Santa Clarita Valley residents and businesses to create a single vision and set of guidelines for the future growth of the Valley and the preservation of natural resources.

Realizing that development within both jurisdictions can have regional implications, the County and City decided to jointly prepare planning policies and guidelines to guide future development within the Santa Clarita Valley. The result of this work effort will require the adoption of two separate

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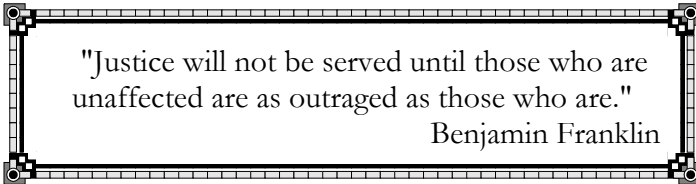
**SCOPE Booth River Rally
A Success Again this Year
Many Thanks to the City for a Great Event!**



What a great event! With over 1100 volunteers and probably even more visitors, we had lots of people to talk to at the SCOPE booth. This is an especially fun event because of all the Boy and Girl Scout participation. The kids really care about the environment and want to know about everything.

This year volunteers cleared 850 lbs of trash out of the Newhall Creek. The learned about our water shed and how to care for it too.

Many thanks to all who took part and a special thanks to our booth volunteers Carol Winkler, Lynne Plambeck, Cam Noltemeyer (behind Lynne), RuthAnne Murthy and Barbara Cogswell.



"Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are."
Benjamin Franklin

County Approves Senior Housing in a Very High Fire Hazard Zone

On August 25th, just days before the start of the huge and unstoppable Station fire that burned more than half the Angeles National Forest and less than a year after the Sayre fire that destroyed over 500 homes in Sylmar, the County approved 93 senior housing units and 92 single family housing units in the "very high fire hazard zone" of Lyons Ranch. The whole area burned in 2003.

SCOPE strongly objected to this approval.

....More on OVOV

(Continued from page 1)

documents. The County will adopt a new Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan to replace the 1990 Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan and prepare its separate EIR while the City will adopt a new General Plan and EIR also.

The EIR has been prepared to evaluate the impacts of the policies of the County's Area Plan.

You can view the report at:

<http://planning.lacounty.gov/ovov.htm>

The County's e-mail address for the OVOV project is: ovov@planning.lacounty.gov

Comment Deadline November 4th

Some areas of concern already expressed by local residents include the large increased population project and what effect that will have on our quality of life. How will the plan address air pollution and traffic? Is there enough water for all those new people? Who will pay for all the new infrastructure? How does the Plan treat the Santa Clara River and our other natural areas? How much density is too much?

Often residents do not realize what is planned next door until the bulldozers begin flattening the hillsides and the chainsaws destroy the oaks. At that point it is generally far too late to make any change. A general plan update may seem so far in the future that no one thinks they have to worry about anything yet. But changes to this plan may mean big changes to your neighborhood.

It's important to take a close look at this plan and what it means for your neighborhood.

**The Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
Wants To Know What You Think**

The DTSC has sent Santa Clarita residents a survey to get their opinion on the Whittaker Bermite site where contamination was found in the soil and groundwater beneath the site. If you would like to participate in this Survey, contact Yvette LaDuke at 866-495-5651 or yladuke@dtsc.ca.



Newhall Ranch Update

The US EPA recommended denial of Newhall's application to alter the Santa Clara River because they did not treat the river as an aquatic resource in their plan.

Official SCOPE Membership Application and Donation Form

SCOPE is a forum for all interested people of the greater Santa Clarita Valley. We're residents of this area because we like this Valley, its open spaces, its opportunities. SCOPE is the voice we use to challenge questionable development, to promote a concern for the environment, to promote good planning.

- Regular Single Membershin. \$25
- Regular Familv Membershin. \$35

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- Regular Single Membership, \$25 Regular Family Membership, \$35
 Sustaining Membership for: \$50 \$75 \$100 \$500

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Santa Clara River Action Fund

Your donation for this cause will help us pay court costs and legal fees to challenge projects which intrude on the run of the Santa Clara River, and for Santa Clara River preservation.

- \$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 Other _____ I can offer the following services: _____

**Donate at your workplace! SCOPE is a registered United Way Charity.
Just designate Santa Clarita Org. for Planning the Environment on your donation**