

Santa Clarita's Valley Oak "Our Own Special Holiday Tree"

Original Photograph of SEA #64 by Lynne Plambeck

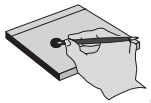
The Valley Oak Savannah, Significant Ecological Area #64 — Valley Oaks are the monarchs of California Oaks by virtue of their size, beauty, and age. The largest trees have massive trunks, like our own "Old Glory Oak" in Stevenson Ranch, sometimes measuring six or seven feet in diameter and may tower a hundred feet above the ground. The lobed, felt-covered leaves bud out in the spring to become a summer kingdom of shade in a landscape drenched in hot, bright sun.

Oak groves such as SEA #64 are extremely rare. Without strong public support, the whole concept of Significant Ecological Areas may be weakened or lost in the 2009 General Plan update. The State, County and City all have oak ordinances, but these are not very well enforced and many loopholes exist. This member of our regal oak heritage continues to diminish in number and urgently needs stronger protection.



Check us out on the web!
WWW.SCOPE.ORG

Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment
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What we did in 2008

Reviewed, commented

on and appeared at hearings for over fifteen different projects including Newhall Ranch, Gates King Industrial, Henry Mayo Office Expansion, water plans and various projects impacting the Santa Clara River floodplain, endangered species, air & water quality, and water supplies. **January** SCOPE presentation at College Sustainable Development Conference **April** Information booth at city Arbor Day celebration and COC Earth Day Celebration **May** SCOPE presents Environmental Quality Act workshop **June** drought tolerant native backyard habitat presentation **August** SCOPE President Lynne Plambeck named one of 51 most influential Santa Claritans **September** Information booth at River Rally **October** mentored students participating in COC Community Service Program **November**



SCOPE appeals garbage transfer facility location to protect wildlife corridor **December** Environmental Leadership presentation to local Girl Scout troupes

WISHING YOU THE HAPPIEST OF HOLIDAYS



*We wish you
the courage of the early morning's dawning,
the strength of the eternal hills,
the peace of the evening's ending
and the hope that is the gift, both given and received,
by caring for our families, our community,
and the earth.*



**SCOPE wishes you and your family
the very best of holidays**

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