

Volume 38, No. 6

March 2025

MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

FINNON LAKE RECREATION AREA

Camping at Finnon Lake Recreation Area: A Nature Lover's Paradise

Nestled in the heart of Placerville, California, Finnon Lake Recreation Area offers a serene and picturesque escape for camping enthusiasts. Managed by the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association, this hidden gem provides a perfect blend of natural beauty, recreational activities, and a peaceful atmosphere, making it an ideal destination for a memorable camping experience.

Scenic Beauty and Tranquility

Finnon Lake Recreation Area is renowned for its stunning landscapes and tranquil environment. Surrounded by lush greenery and the shimmering waters of Finnon Lake, campers can immerse themselves in nature's splendor. The area is home to diverse wildlife, including bald eagles, which can often be spotted soaring above the lake. Whether you're seeking a quiet retreat or an adventurous getaway, Finnon Lake has something to offer for everyone.

Camping Facilities and Amenities

The campground at Finnon Lake Recreation Area is well-equipped to cater to the needs of campers. Here are some of the key amenities available:

- **Campsites:** The campground offers a variety of campsites, including tent-only sites and sites suitable for RVs. Each site is spacious and provides a fire pit, picnic table, and access to clean restrooms.
- **Pet-Friendly:** Finnon Lake is a pet-friendly destination, allowing campers to bring their furry friends along. However, pets must be kept on a leash at all times, and owners are responsible for cleaning up after them.
- **Recreational Activities:** The area boasts a range of recreational activities, including fishing, swimming, kayaking, and hiking. The lake is stocked with bass, trout, and bluegill, making it a popular spot for anglers. Additionally, there is a disc golf course for those looking to enjoy a fun and challenging game.

Important Guidelines and Safety Measures

Given the drought conditions in California, Cal Fire often calls for "red flag" days, which restrict the use of campfires and wood and charcoal grilling. Campers are encouraged to bring propane

fire pits and cook grills to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. Additionally, the following guidelines are in place to ensure the safety and comfort of all visitors:

- **Quiet Hours:** Quiet hours are enforced from 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM to maintain a peaceful environment for all campers.
- **Fire Safety:** Campfires are allowed in designated fire pits unless deemed unsafe by Cal Fire. Campers must ensure that fires are completely extinguished before leaving their site.
- **Respect for Wildlife:** Visitors are advised not to feed or approach wildlife, including the resident bald eagles. Drones are also prohibited to avoid disturbing the natural habitat.

Season Opening

We are getting ready for another season of camping and will officially open on Tuesday April 1. During the month of March, we will be doing the last- minute touch up of the campground. The last couple rain storms have brought down several branches and the warm weather has started the grass growing. We are excited about the upcoming camping season. We are already booked most weekends and have several full campground bookings. Most of those full bookings are repeat families that love our campground and use it for their family vacations. Finnon is a great place to camp.

How to Make Reservations

Reservations for camping at Finnon Lake Recreation Area can be made through the HipCamp website. Campers are encouraged to book their sites well in advance, as the campground is often sold-out months ahead. Check-in is at 2:00 PM, and check-out is at 11:00 AM. For more information and to make a reservation, go to Hipcamp.com and search for Finnon Lake.

MVFA SWAG

Explore MVFA's collection of Mosquito T-shirts and Sweatshirts, available in an array of sizes and colors. New colors and style choices have been recently added, so please check them out. Apparel and local phone books are conveniently for sale at the diner during regular business hours or at MVFA sponsored events.

For personalized orders, reach out to us at mvfa95667@gmail.com.



MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM

Why You Should Recycle: Saving the Planet One Step at a Time 🌍

Have you ever considered what happens to the waste you produce each day? Imagine if all the trash you generate were left to pile up indefinitely. It would be a pretty grim scenario, right? That's where recycling comes in—a simple yet powerful way to make a positive impact on our planet.

The Environmental Benefits

Recycling helps to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills and incinerators. By reprocessing materials like paper, plastic, glass, and metal, we conserve natural resources, such as timber, water, and minerals. Recycling also significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions, which are responsible for climate change. By reusing materials, we cut down on the energy required to produce new products from raw materials, further lowering our carbon footprint.



Consider These Facts:

- Recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, and 380 gallons of oil.
- Recycling and composting of municipal solid waste saved over 193 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2018.

Economic Advantages

Recycling isn't just good for the environment; it's also beneficial for the economy. It creates jobs in the recycling and manufacturing industries and generates revenue from selling recyclable materials. For instance, a strong recycling program can lower the costs associated with waste disposal and potentially reduce the expenses of raw material extraction and production.

Interesting Stats:

- The recycling and reuse industry in the United States accounts for 681,000 jobs, \$37.8 billion in wages, and \$5.5 billion in tax revenues annually.
- Recycling just 10 plastic bottles saves enough energy to power a laptop for more than 25 hours.

Conservation of Resources

Our planet's resources are finite, and it's crucial to use them wisely. Recycling helps conserve raw materials and ensures that we don't deplete our natural resources. For example, recycling one ton of paper can save approximately 17 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, and 380 gallons of oil. Imagine the cumulative positive effect if everyone chose to recycle! In 2018, approximately 69 million tons of municipal solid waste were recycled, contributing to a 32.1% recycling and composting rate in the United States.

Community and Global Impact

By recycling, you set a positive example for your community and contribute to a global effort to protect our environment. It fosters a culture of sustainability and responsibility, inspiring others to take similar actions. Every small step counts, and together, we can make a significant difference.



Community Impact:

- Recycling programs can significantly reduce waste disposal costs for local communities.
- By participating in recycling, you contribute to a global effort to reduce waste and conserve resources.

What Can You Do?

Start small and make recycling a part of your daily routine:

- Separate your waste into recyclables and non-recyclables.
- Learn about your local recycling programs and what materials they accept.
- Reduce your consumption of single-use plastics.
- Reuse items whenever possible.

Recycling is a simple yet powerful way to contribute to a healthier planet. By making the effort to recycle, you not only help conserve resources and protect the environment but also support economic growth and community well-being. So, the next time you're about to toss something into the trash, think twice and consider the positive impact of recycling. Together, we can create a more sustainable future for generations to come.

The MVFA Recycle Program continues to provide a valuable resource of funding for the Mosquito Fire Station to be utilized by the department at the Fire Chief's request. Your participation in this program is appreciated and is benefiting our fire department!

Please drop off bags of **Plastic Bottles** and **Aluminum Cans (Sorry no Glass)** at the back of Station 75. Note: Lids and caps on plastic bottles must be removed before they can be redeemed. Lids and caps can be included for redemption. Stay green, stay responsible, and happy recycling! ♻️



MVFA ACTIVITY

Community Events

Easter Egg Hunt at Finnon Lake - 10:30 am April 19, 2025

Yard Sale at Station 75 parking lot - 9 am to 1 pm May 17, 2025

Spaghetti Dinner at Station 75 - 6:00 pm June 21, 2025

Fall Festival at Finnon Lake - 10 am - 3 pm Free Lunch October 11, 2025

Trunk-R-Treat at Station 75 - 6 pm - 8 pm October 25, 2025

Christmas Craft Sale at Station 75 - 10 am - 2 pm November 15, 2025

Christmas Dinner at Station 75 - 5:30 pm December 6, 2025- Free Dinner

The next MVFA Board meeting will be on **Thursday, March 20th** at 3:00 pm **at the Diner**

Note the new date and location for the monthly meeting!

MOSQUITO CRAFTERS

By Natasha Cutter

The Mosquito Crafters gathered in February for our monthly meeting. Currently, our crafters are working on various projects to grow our inventory. During our last meeting, we presented the



Easter baskets that will be available for sale to the community in March and April. We will have a table at the pancake breakfast Saturday March 15th at the Mosquito Fire Station. We will have our wonderful hand assembled Easter baskets and other goodies available for sale. We will also be at Smoke On the water on March 22nd and April 5th from 12:00-2:00. We encourage

people to come by and see what our craft group has and grab some delicious food at our local diner! We look forward to seeing and interacting with our community on these upcoming dates!

Mark Your Calendar & Come Join Us:

- March 15th Pancake Breakfast - 9:00-11:00
- March 22nd Smoke On The Water - 12:00-2:00
- April 5th Smoke On The Water - 12:00-2:00



SMOKE ON THE WATER

by Kirk Bronsord and Matt Ridgeway

“Spring has sprung, the grass is ris, I wonder where the flowers is...” *

Spring is just around the corner! March 20 marks the first day, and outdoor dining will be back before you know it.

This month, we are excited to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. On Saturday, the 15th, we will be serving up some delicious corned beef and cabbage. Don’t forget to wear your green and join us in celebrating all things Irish!

We are thrilled to announce that our diner now offers dessert, available to you before or after your meal. Additionally, we are now open on Fridays from 11 AM to 1 PM with a limited menu while we prep for the weekend.

We look forward to serving our wonderful community and meeting new faces. Thank you for your continued support!

Warm regards,

Your Smoke on the Water Family

Diner Hours:

Monday - Thursday - Closed
Friday 11 am – 1:30 pm
Saturday - 11 am - 6 pm
Sunday 9 am - 3 pm

(Breakfast served on Sunday only)

<https://www.facebook.com/smokeonthewaterplacervilleca>

*A whimsical rhyme often attributed to Ogden Nash, an American poet.

SCPOA REPORT

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association Board of Directors (SCPOA) meets monthly at the MFPD Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road, on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next SCPOA board meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 6:00 pm at Station 75. Meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and on the SCPOA website. All SCPOA Members are invited to attend. Members of SCPOA can visit SCPOA.info, the official SCPOA website, and get information about upcoming meetings, meeting agendas and minutes, association bylaws, individual unit’s DC&Rs, using the Swansboro Airport, and find information for use of common areas, and much, much more! If you have not requested a login for the SCPOA website, please send an email to Kpaulscpoa@gmail.com, or Melissa.bell@managementtrust.com to gain access.

DISTRICT AUXILIARY aka D'Ax

By Meredith Blain

The District Auxiliary, aka D'Ax*

D'Ax, together with the Mosquito Fire Protection District's firefighters, will host the next pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 15, 2025! We'll have biscuits and gravy along with the usual pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, juice, fruit, hot coffee and cocoa! D'Ax with generous donations from community members will hold their first raffle! Prizes include handmade items, and gift cards in the amounts of \$25, \$50 and \$100! One raffle ticket per adult breakfast will be given upon checking in! So come on down, this could be your lucky day!

There are more great events planned! Our fundraising gala will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2025! We will have a silent auction with great prizes, amazing food and entertainment! Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 10, 2025! To donate or volunteer to help, send an email to admin@dax-np.org.

D'Ax generally meets prior to the MFPD Board meetings, the fourth Thursday of the month at the firehouse at 5:30 pm. Please join us at our next meeting, Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 5:30 pm. Find our meeting Agendas and Minutes at MFPD.us.

BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

by Dave Angelo

Here are the results of the bird watch for February. The next Bird Watch will be on the 8th of March at Finnon Lake, just past the Boat Launch area. The starting time for Fall and Winter is 9:00 A.M. There is no parking charge to the participants of this free event.



Acorn Woodpecker

4 Canada Goose	1 Bald Eagle	2 American Goldfinch
1 Mallard	6 Acorn Woodpecker	10 Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)
2 Hooded Merganser	2 Northern Flicker	2 California Towhee
100 American Coot	14 California Scrub-Jay	1 Spotted Towhee
2 Pied-billed Grebe	10 Lesser Goldfinch	10 Red-winged Blackbird
8 Double-crested Cormorant		

Happy St. Patrick's Day

*Come Join us for breakfast hosted by our
Mosquito Fire Department and supported
by the District Auxiliary*

March 15th from 9am to 11am at
Mosquito Fire Station
8801 Rock Creek Rd

Served: Pancakes, **Biscuits and gravy**,
Bacon, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs, Fresh
Fruit, Coffee, Tea, and Juice

D'Ax will be selling T-Shirts
and Hats

Suggested Donation of \$10.00 per
meal and Kids 15 and under eat for
Free

Our Crafters will be selling their
beautiful Crafts



CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

WANTED

LOCAL ORGANIC FARM

Seeks manure source, specifically goat, sheep, chicken, llama or alpaca. Please contact Ryan at THREE GOATS FARM. 530-497-4279 or farm3goats@gmail.com

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book by Gloria Hockensmith is available locally. Call Taffy 530-626-8689 to buy your copy (\$20). A great fact based read about a local legend. Perfect for gifting.

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 530-642-2333.

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RABBITS FOR SALE by Finnegan the Rabbit Rancher. California/NZ, Lionhead/Flemish, California. \$35 So many pretty colors. Email for details. FinnOson7@gmail.com

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TREADMILL

Pro-Form J4 Electric Treadmill \$60.00
Gary at 530-626-0265 or 310-541-7710

MEETINGS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Join us for Christian worship and fellowship
Sunday mornings 11AM at 3342 Stope
Drive. Bible studies throughout the week.
530-295-0503

SERVICES

NOTARY SERVICES ON THE HILL

Contact Devon at: 510-719-1247.

HOUSE PAINTER – AMERICAN EAGLE PAINTING

Residential/Commercial
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Martinez, 530-919-7612 or
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Have you always wanted to play the harp?
There is now a Harp Teacher in
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teaching children and adults. I have a few
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handmade cards. Also offering flower
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Call me Elaine Galvan 530-295-0503 for all
your floral needs.

HANGTOWN RANGE

1540 Broadway, Placerville Wednesday –
Saturday 10 to 6 and Sunday 10 to 5 with
10 Indoor Shooting and 8 Archery Ranges,
Firearms and Recurve Bow rentals, Milo
Virtual Shooting Range w/ live fire
ammunition, Archery and Handgun classes,
CCW classes, One on One training, Basic
Pistol Classes, Women's Classes. Call
530-497-5443 for more information.

FIREWOOD

Tired of paying outrageous prices for wood? I will cut and split downed trees and/or rounds for you. Call Daniel @ 530-919-8878

MOSQUITO CREEK OUTFITTERS

3000 Mosquito Road, Placerville, Tuesday – Friday 9 to 6, Saturday 9 to 5, El Dorado County's premier source for the best hunting, fishing, archery, and outdoor products. Mosquito Creek Outfitters is always stocked with the best gear to accompany you wherever you may roam. 530-621-4500.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Live the American Dream: the ownership of a home and a little acreage to call your own! Sally Long Johns, your resident Mosquito Road Realtor, will help you buy or sell any property in El Dorado County! You can reach me at www.mosquitoadneighbors.com or 530-295-4641 or toll free 866-SALLYRE, snlongjohns@yahoo.com.

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HANDCRAFTED GLASS ITEMS

Birdbaths, flowerpots, plates, bowls, etc. Also, handmade wooden jewelry boxes. Affordable and unique. Studio open most days; call first. Do your gift shopping here on the hill! Call Pam or Dave Angelo at 530-621-3688.

March 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Support Group Training 9am Station 75
2 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering 11am	3	4 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	5	6	7	8 Bird Watch FLRA 9 am
9 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering 11am	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering 11am	17	18 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	19	20 MVFA Board Meeting 3pm Diner	21	22
23 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering 11am	24	25	26 SCPOA Meeting 6:00 pm Station 75	27 D'Ax Meeting 5:30pm Station 75	28 Crafters Meeting 10am	29
30 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering 11am	31			MFPD Meeting 7:00pm Station 75		

Local Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)
 Fannon Lake Recreation Area
 Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)
 Swansboro Country Property Owners Association
 Mountain Fellowship in Mosquito (MFOM)
 El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

<https://www.gomvfa.org>
<https://www.fannonrecreationarea.com/>
<https://mfpd.us>
<https://scpoa.info>
<https://mfom.net>
www.edcfiresafe.org

The MOSQUITO BYTE is mailed first class to subscribers each month. A subscription is \$15.00 per year, with a two-year maximum pre-pay. Please mail your check, payable to MVFA, to 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville, CA, 95667. The deadline for advertising and articles is the 19th of each month. It is also posted on the www.goMVFA.org website each month.

Editors have the right to edit, limit, or refuse any article submitted for publication. Authors are responsible for article accuracy and their opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the MVFA Board of Directors or the editors.

MVFA is organized as a non-profit tax-exempt entity and is funded entirely by grants, donations, fundraisers and rents and fees at Finnon Lake - which it owns. MVFA receives no tax revenues, nor any dues money from SCPOA. As per IRS mandate, MVFA gives no cash nor has any financial connection to any non-501(c)(3) organization or to the Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD). MVFA has no paid employees, and operates primarily with volunteers who donate their own time and often their own money to make our community a better place. If you would like to enhance your membership in MVFA, please become a volunteer. MVFA is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations may be tax deductible. A letter stating your donation will be provided on request. Send your donation to MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville CA 95667.

MVFA values and promotes voluntary efforts in our community. MVFA continues to carry on the work begun by its predecessors many years ago. If you have any questions about MVFA, please attend the MVFA Board of Directors meetings on the first Thursday of each month at the Mosquito Fire House, 8801 Rock Creek Road, Placerville at 3:00pm. At the meetings, you have the opportunity to obtain correct and updated information about MVFA and its committees, legal obligations at Finnon Lake and events and volunteer opportunities. Mosquito residents may request a copy of approved MVFA Board meeting minutes by emailing your name and address to mvfa95667@gmail.com, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct. Placerville CA 95667.

ADVERTISING POLICY

There is no charge to subscribers advertising in the MOSQUITO BYTE. Ads must be limited to 7 column lines maximum. Please email ads for the Classified Section to Mosquito BYTE Editor at mbyte.editor@gmail.com. Ads in the "Free", "For Sale", and "Wanted" categories will run for three months unless the submitter requests it to be removed or extended.

The MOSQUITO BYTE accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

The MOSQUITO BYTE and other updates are posted each month on the www.gomvfa.org website.

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