

## The Laguna de Santa Rosa: A Wetland of International Importance

**Diversity:** The Laguna de Santa Rosa is a biodiversity hotspot situated in the second-most biologically diverse county in California. The largest tributary of the Russian River, the Laguna drains a 254-square-mile watershed that encompasses nearly the entire Santa Rosa Plain.



### Laguna Watershed:

The Laguna's 22-mile channel extends from Cotati to its confluence with the Russian River at Forestville.

The Laguna watershed is comprised of creeks, open water, perennial marshes, seasonal wetlands, riparian forests, oak woodlands, and grasslands that are home to more than 200 species of birds, rare and endangered salmon, salamanders, unique native flora, mountain lion, coyote, mink, badger, and

river otter, to name just a few. The Laguna is an important stopover for thousands of birds migrating along the Pacific Flyway and is a designated Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar, 2011).



**Our Home Environment:** In addition to providing wildlife habitat, the Laguna is used for agricultural, recreational, and educational purposes. It serves as a natural holding basin during our wet season and as an overflow area for the Russian River. As home to most of the County's human population, the Laguna is critically important to Sonoma County's water quality, flood control, and biodiversity.

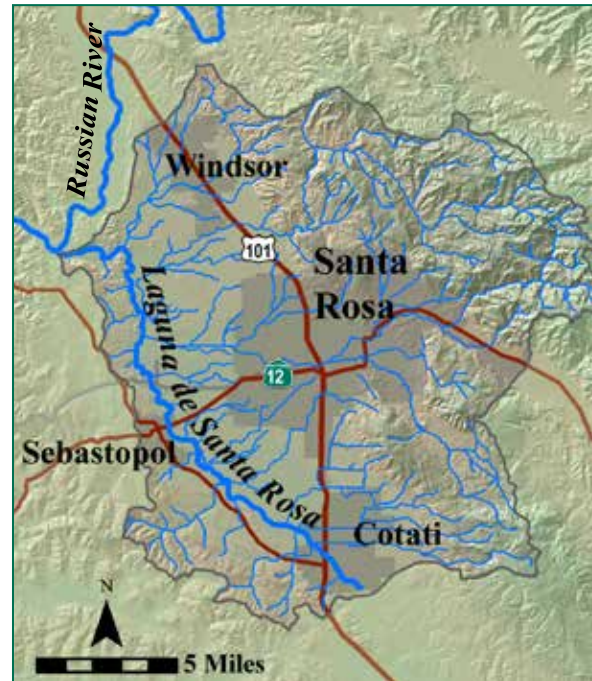


## Become a Laguna Foundation Member Today!

The Laguna Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with a mission to restore and conserve the Laguna de Santa Rosa and to inspire appreciation for Sonoma County's Wetland of International Importance.

Join us today by becoming a member and be part of the vision to ensure that the Laguna and all its inhabitants will thrive and be enjoyed by many future generations.

### Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed



### Connect

900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Phone: (707) 527-9277

Fax: (707) 527-5075

Email: [info@lagunafoundation.org](mailto:info@lagunafoundation.org)

[www.lagunafoundation.org](http://www.lagunafoundation.org)



Cover photo by Drew Jackson



*Restore, Conserve,  
& Inspire*

NURTURING  
A HEALTHY LAGUNA

*The Laguna Foundation* works to restore and conserve the Laguna de Santa Rosa, and to inspire public appreciation for Sonoma County's Wetland of International Importance.



Moria Hill



Drew Jackson

**Restore:** Bring back natural processes and remove non-native species that endanger natural habitat functions.

Benefits: Improves water quality, restores lost habitat, improves biodiversity, and mitigates climate change.

**Conserve:** Collaborate with private and public interests to protect and monitor threatened and endangered species and critical habitats.

Benefits: Protects the health of the Laguna for people plants, and wildlife.

**Inspire:** Raise awareness about the Laguna's important role in our watershed through community events and activities, school education programs, and our guides and docent training programs.

Benefits: Engages the community in creating a culture of appreciation and conservation.



Owin Scott-Shirwo

## Education

The Foundation's wetland education program, *Learning Laguna*, provides local school children with a dynamic learning experience that inspires scientific curiosity and leads them into Laguna habitats to experience the wonders of their local landscape.



Dana Vallarino

Educational offerings for all ages include guided walks plus natural history and art classes in the field and in Great Blue Heron Hall at the Laguna Environmental Center.

## Restoration & Conservation Science

The Foundation designs and implements habitat enhancement projects which are restoring the Laguna's ability to support its resident (and visiting) species. Scientific research informs public policy decisions, future restoration project designs, and our education efforts.



Jerry Doodill

## Recreation

The 30,000-acre mosaic of wetlands that defines the Laguna provides abundant opportunity for outdoor adventure.



Donna Jones

Whether you go by foot, bike, horse, or kayak, open your senses to the delights of nature. These Laguna destinations are available to the public to explore year-round:

- » Laguna de Santa Rosa Trail
- » Laguna Wetlands Preserve
- » Laguna Uplands Preserve
- » Santa Rosa Creek Trails
- » Joe Rodota Trail
- » Southern Laguna Discovery Trail

# Get Involved

"Nature is not a place to visit. It is home."  
~ Gary Snyder

## Visit the Environmental Center

The Laguna Environmental Center is open to the public for self-guided tours Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.



Check out the Laguna website for a calendar of events offering indoor and outdoor adventures for all ages.

## Volunteer

**Become a Docent:** Share your love of the Laguna with 2nd-4th graders by completing a fun, engaging, training course to become a *Learning Laguna* docent in classrooms and on field trips to the Laguna.

**Become a Guide:** Engage visitors at the LEC and on trails as a Guide. Support our community education walks, talks, workshops, and classes.

**Become a Greeter:** Represent the Laguna Foundation at various community festivals and lend a hand during Foundation events.

**Join the Laguna Stewards:** Help restore Laguna habitat during our Restoration Workdays held one Saturday per month between September and May.

**Office Support:** The administrative staff can always use your skills – general or specialized – for ongoing support and special projects.

Please visit our website for more volunteer opportunities.

## Support the Laguna

- » Become a member with an annual or monthly gift!
- » Make a tax-deductible donation online, by check, or credit card, anytime of the year
- » Give the gift of a Laguna membership
- » Transfer stocks to the Laguna Foundation
- » Join the Laguna Legacy Society - call us to discuss planned giving options and bequests