

GAINING GROUND

MEMBER NEWSLETTER



UTAH OPEN LANDS | 22 APRIL 2023 | EARTH DAY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY EARTH DAY FROM UOL

Happy Earth Day! Today we celebrate our planet and renew our commitment to protecting it for future generations. At Utah Open Lands, we believe that every day should be Earth Day. That's why we put in the groundwork to preserve and protect the natural lands and resources that make Utah such a special place. We understand that our planet is facing unprecedented challenges, from climate change to habitat destruction, and we're committed to doing our part to address these issues. Our work at UOL does

not stop at preserving open land and wildlife habitat, it's also about connecting people to nature and fostering a deep appreciation for the natural world. We believe that everyone has a role to play in protecting our planet and we're dedicated to engaging communities and educating the public about the importance of conservation and best stewardship practices. Visit UOL's website today to learn how YOU can challenge your inner steward and keep landscapes in pristine condition.



Photo Credit: Jeff Peck

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 29TH: CNC EVENT AT GALENA SOO'NKAHNI PRESERVE

MAY 1ST: CNC EVENT AT WILLOW CREEK OPEN SPACE

MAY 6TH: PROP SWAP AND SEED BOMB WORKSHOP

MAY 22ND: TRYING TIMES VIRTUAL PROGRAM

JUNE 7TH: SUMMER MUSIC SERIES AT THE FRONT

CITY NATURE CHALLENGE TABLING EVENTS

APRIL 29TH AND MAY 1ST | SEE EVENT DETAILS BELOW

We're excited to announce that we'll be participating again in the City Nature Challenge (CNC) this year. This exciting international event encourages people to explore and document flora and fauna that can be found right in their own cities using the iNaturalist app. To help promote this initiative, we'll be setting up tables at two different locations to encourage the public to take iNaturalist observations, with a particular emphasis on UOL properties. By getting involved in the CNC, you'll not only have a chance to experience the thrill of discovering new species, but also to contribute valuable data to inform land trust decisions through the power of citizen science.



APRIL 29TH | 11:00 AM- 1:00PM | GALENA SOO'NKAHNI PRESERVE

This event will take place in partnership with Keep Nature Wild, the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, the Corner Canyon High School's Ecochargers Club, and the American Fork High School's Green Club.

MAY 1ST | 9:00 AM- 2:00PM | WILLOW CREEK OPEN SPACE

This event will take place in partnership with Keep Nature Wild, Snyderville Basin Recreation's Trails and Open Space Department, and Ecology Bridge.

PROP SWAP AND SEED BOMB WORKSHOP AT THE FRONT CLIMBING CLUB

MAY 6TH, 2023 | 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM | THE FRONT CLIMBING CLUB - SOUTH MAIN LOCATION

Join us at The Front Climbing Club's Prop Swap on Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM! Bring your plants and new/used pots to swap plant propagations with the Front's plant-loving



community. Tickets are \$10, and \$5 from each ticket sale will be donated to Utah Open Lands. As an Impact Coalition partner, we're excited to lead a pollinator workshop that includes creating bee hotels out of bamboo, mud, and twine, as well as making seed bombs. We'll talk about the importance of pollinators and how we can support them. Don't miss out on this fun and educational event that supports Utah Open Lands! To register for the event, please visit [The Front Climbing Club's Events page](#). Please note that a day pass is required for non members.

TRYING TIMES: CONSERVATION EASEMENTS AND FEDERAL TAX LAW 2023

MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023 | 9:00AM-1:00PM MT | VIRTUAL PROGRAM

This four-hour program will address the latest case law and IRS guidance impacting conservation easements. Experts will offer practical advice to land trust staff and board members, government employees, attorneys, appraisers, and landowners. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear the IRS's perspective and ask questions of a diverse group of panelists who

collectively have almost 200 years of experience with conservation easements and tax incentives. Each of three panel presentations will be followed by time devoted solely to Q&A. Register online by Noon MT May, 19, 2023 (early bird ticket prices available until May 5th). For more information or register, please visit the [Utah Open Lands website](#).

SUMMER MUSIC SERIES AT THE FRONT

WEDNESDAY JUNE 7TH, 2023 | 6:00-8:00PM | THE FRONT CLIMBING CLUB - SALT LAKE CITY LOCATION

Summer is just around the corner and we're excited to be a part of The Front's Summer Music Series once again! As an Impact Coalition partner, Utah Open Lands will be tabling at the June 7th kick-off concert. Enjoy summer night climbing to the tune of local artists or simply hang out in the courtyard with an ice cold beverage and some great food. The Summer Music Series is free for all Front members. Guests are always welcome with a day pass. Come visit us at our table from 6PM to 8PM in the SLC Courtyard (1470 S. 400 W) and enjoy some great music with us!



UOL NEWS

REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN AND HOW DO WE UTILIZE IT?

Regenerative agriculture is an innovative farming approach that prioritizes soil health and biodiversity, while minimizing environmental impact. This holistic method emphasizes the importance of building soil organic matter, promoting nutrient cycling, and enhancing ecosystem services such as pollination and pest control. Historically, industrial agriculture has focused on maximizing yields and profits at the expense of soil health and biodiversity. However, many farmers have recognized the limitations of this approach and have turned to regenerative agriculture as a more sustainable alternative.



By promoting regenerative agriculture, we can create a more sustainable and resilient food system while also protecting the natural resources and biodiversity of our region. This includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving water quality, and enhancing soil health. At Utah Open Lands, we work with farmers who are committed to regenerative agriculture. Through our education, technical assistance, and financial incentives, we help them implement regenerative practices such as cover cropping, crop rotation, reduced tillage, and integrated livestock grazing.



4 WAYS TO SUPPORT REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE THIS SPRING:

1. Buy from regenerative agriculture farmers or CSAs and spread awareness about regenerative agriculture to encourage more farmers to adopt these practices.
2. Start your own garden and use regenerative practices like cover cropping and composting to grow your own fresh produce.
3. Eat more plants and compost your food waste, both of which support regenerative agriculture by reducing demand for unsustainable and harmful farming practices.
4. Spread awareness about the benefits of regenerative agriculture and encourage others to support regenerative agriculture.

FINDING SOLACE IN NATURE

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

Have you ever noticed how spending time in nature leaves you feeling more peaceful and rejuvenated? Scientists have been curious about this too! The answer lies in the practice of nature bathing, also known as forest bathing or Shinrin-yoku. It involves immersing oneself in nature and experiencing its healing effects on the mind, body, and spirit. Studies have shown that spending time in nature can reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and improve mood and cognitive function. In our increasingly urbanized world, it can be challenging to find opportunities to connect with nature. That's where open spaces and protected lands come in. These spaces offer a refuge from the hustle and bustle of daily life and provide a space for us to reconnect with the natural world. Imagine hiking, picnicking, or simply taking a stroll, surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature. The chirping of birds, the rustling of leaves in the wind, and

the fresh scent of pine can all contribute to a feeling of relaxation and rejuvenation. But to experience the benefits of nature bathing, it's crucial that we have access to open spaces and protected lands. That's why we work every day to protect the lands you love. By preserving and protecting these precious lands, we ensure that we can continue to experience the healing power of nature, and that future generations can too. Consider the importance of open space and natural lands in your own life. How would you feel being limited to recreating in urban areas only? Next time you're feeling stressed or overwhelmed, take a break and head to your nearest open space. Whether you're exploring a new trail or simply sitting and enjoying the scenery, you'll find that nature has a way of restoring our sense of peace and well-being.



WANT TO BE FEATURED ON UTAH OPEN LAND'S SOCIAL MEDIA? ENTER OUR PHOTO CONTEST!



We're excited to announce our Leave it Loved photo contest! If you've captured a beautiful moment on one of our protected properties, share it with us! Submit a photo with a caption about how you leave open spaces loved as part of our Leave it Loved campaign. Not only will you have the chance to be featured on our social media, but you'll also be helping us promote our mission to protect and preserve Utah's natural beauty. To enter, simply post your photo on Instagram and tag us using the hashtag #LeaveltLovedUOL or email the photo to Alli Eroh (alli.eroh@utahopenlands.org). We can't wait to see your submissions!



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