

The Twentieth Annual
Spring Outing,
Botanical Excursion,
Foray, Retreat, and Escape to the Environment
!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SO BE FREE 20 !!!!!!!!!!

Friday to Monday, March 27-30, 2015
San Bernardino National Forest

Coordinators: Paul Wilson and Brent Mishler

Founded in 1996, SO BE FREE is a series of West Coast forays started by the Bryolab at UC Berkeley, but open to all botanists. The main focus is on bryophytes, but we also encourage experts on other groups to come along and smell the liverworts. We welcome specialists and generalists, professionals and amateurs, master bryologists and rank beginners. SO BE FREE is held each spring, somewhere in the Western US, associated with spring break at universities. Evening slide shows and informal talks are presented as well as keying sessions with microscopes. In addition to seeing interesting wild areas and learning new plants, important goals for SO BE FREE include keeping West Coast bryologists (and friends) in touch with each other and teaching beginners. To see pictures and information from past outings, visit the SO BE FREE website at: http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/bryolab/Field_Trips.html

The 2015 SO BE FREE will be held in the San Bernardino Mountains approximately 2 hours east of L.A. and 4 hours south of Las Vegas. Participants are likely to see cismontane chaparral, riparian wash, conifer woodland, and (if one dallies on Monday) high desert.

Beginners are very welcome to SO BE FREE, as are those who are expert in vasculars but rusty on bryos. We shall have field trips to satisfy all participants from neophyte to nerd! Details are to follow.

We will be based at [YMCA Camp Arbolado](#) (42500 HWY 38 at about mile marker 27, Angelus Oaks, CA 92305—note that phone navigation to Camp Arbolado is misleading, so use the mile markers). It is about an hour from Ontario International Airport, but for those who want to take an extra couple of days in the desert, consider flying in and out of Las Vegas. The camp is about 30 miles of twisty mountain road from Big Bear City; we suggest you stay at the camp with the rest of us. It is very nice.

Food and Lodging

Lodging at Camp Arbolado is varied. We will not be crowded; bunkhouse cabins are abundant with bathrooms and showers in the next building. We can put a few people in their own room inside one of the lodges. No linens are provided—BRING A SLEEPING BAG, TOWEL, SHEETS, and PILLOW. Meals will begin with Friday dinner, and continue until breakfast on Monday morning. Box lunches will be assembled for each day's field trips.

Meetings and Field Trips

We will have presentations from students, and other people interested in sharing their work Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings. We will also discuss the various field trip options then. Most people will probably spend Saturday near camp in the conifer zone, Sunday in cismontane chaparral and riparian areas. On Monday after we check out, the leisure class will go to a Mojave Desert site with pinyon-juniper woodland. Enjoying and identifying the plants collected on the field trips will take up the rest of the time in the afternoons and evenings.

Registration

For any questions, contact Paul Wilson (paul.wilson@csun.edu, 818-677-2937, Department of Biology, California State University, Northridge, CA 91330-8303). The University and Jepson Herbaria (Jepson Workshops) is receiving the money, registration forms, and waivers but please do **not** bother them with other issues. Please return the registration form on the following page, along with your check and filled-in waiver form (last page).

Check-in will begin Friday, March 27 at 2 pm. Cabin assignments will be given at that time.

Weather is a wild card in the mountains. Snow is possible. Rain is rare but come prepared.



SOBEFREE 20 • MARCH 27-30, 2015

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT FORM

Name (s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact

Name, relationship, and phone number: _____

People you would like to room with who are paying separately (otherwise room-mates will be assigned) _____

If you need your own room or to be in the lodge with the bathroom, please detail your needs here (we will try to accommodate these, on a first come, first served basis in order of receipt of registrations):

Gender _____

Meal restrictions _____

Costs are per person, includes 8 meals, 3 nights, and meeting-room use

Registration = **\$155 per person** # People _____ Total _____

Please check if you will be staying off site

Due to a large minimum fee required by Camp Arbolado there is no discount for offsite lodging. We encourage everyone to stay onsite and enjoy the conviviality!

☛ Please make your check payable to **UC Regents**. Please write SoBeFree in the memo line and mail to: Jepson Herbarium Workshops, 1001 VLSB #2465, Berkeley, CA 94720-2465.

For all other inquiries, paul.wilson@csun.edu

Please also sign and return the waiver (next page) with your check.

Participant's name: _____
Please Print

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,

Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnity Agreement

Waiver: In consideration of being permitted to participate in any way in

hereinafter called "The Activity", I, for myself, my heirs, personal representatives or assigns, **do hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue** The Regents of the University of California, its officers, employees, and agents from liability **from any and all claims including the negligence of The Regents of the University of California, its officers, employees and agents**, resulting in personal injury, accidents or illnesses (including death), and property loss arising from, but not limited to, participation in The Activity.

Signature of Parent/Guardian of Minor Date

Signature of Participant Date

Assumption of Risks: Participation in The Activity carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries. The specific risks vary from one activity to another, but the risks range from 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, and sprains 2) major injuries such as eye injury or loss of sight, joint or back injuries, heart attacks, and concussions to 3) catastrophic injuries including paralysis and death.

I have read the previous paragraphs and I know, understand, and appreciate these and other risks that are inherent in The Activity. I hereby assert that my participation is voluntary and that I knowingly assume all such risks.

Indemnification and Hold Harmless: I also agree to INDEMNIFY AND HOLD The Regents of the University of California HARMLESS from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney's fees brought as a result of my involvement in The Activity and to reimburse them for any such expenses incurred.

Severability: The undersigned further expressly agrees that the foregoing waiver and assumption of risks agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of California and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Acknowledgment of Understanding: I have read this waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement, fully understand its terms, and **understand that I am giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue**. I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and **intend by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law**.

Signature of Parent/Guardian of Minor Date

Signature of Participant Date
Vol Waiver 7/01