



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**A G E N D A  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026, AT 6:30 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

**South Pasadena Commission Statement of Civility**

*As your appointed governing board, we will treat each other, members of the public, and city employees with patience, civility and courtesy as a model of the same behavior we wish to reflect in South Pasadena for the conduct of all city business and community participation. The decisions made today will be for the benefit of the South Pasadena community and not for personal gain.*

**NOTICE ON PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & ACCESSIBILITY**

The South Pasadena Natural Resources and Environmental Commission Meeting will be conducted in-person from the Council Chambers, Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., located at 1424 Mission Street, South Pasadena.

The meeting will be available:

- In Person – **Council Chambers 1424 Mission Street South Pasadena**
- Via Zoom – **Webinar ID: 880 7206 2700**

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe the meeting via Zoom in one of the three methods below.

1. Go to the Zoom website, <https://zoom.us/join> and enter the Zoom Meeting information; or
2. Click on the following unique Zoom meeting link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88072062700>; or
3. You may listen to the meeting by calling +1-669-900-6833 and entering the Zoom Meeting ID.

<b>CALL TO ORDER:</b>	Chair	Michael Noe
<b>ROLL CALL:</b>	Chair	Michael Noe
	Vice Chair	Alex Rajewski
	Commissioner	Liam R. de Villa Bourke
	Commissioner	Casey Law
	Commissioner	Emily Ng
	Commissioner	Margaret Yi
<b>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:</b>	Chair	Michael Noe

**PUBLIC COMMENT****1. GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)****ACTION****2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2026, NREC REGULAR MEETING**Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and approve the January 27, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes.

**DISCUSSION****3. EARTH MONTH ACTIVITIES**Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commissioners review the activities and communications that staff anticipates hosting and publishing during April 2026 in observance of Earth Month.

**COMMUNICATIONS****4. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS****5. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS****6. STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS****7. UPCOMING EVENTS**

- City of South Pasadena Annual Sustainability Fair | April 11 | Nature Park | 1-4PM
- April MWD Landscape Training – Protect the Pollinators | April 16 | Virtual Webinar | 6PM-7:15PM | <https://greengardensgroup.com/q3-events/protect-the-pollinators-upper-water-260416/>
- Compost & Mulch Giveaway | April 25 | 9AM-12PM
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events  
([www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/hhw](http://www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/hhw))
- LA County Smart Gardening Workshops & Webinars  
([www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/smartgardening](http://www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/smartgardening))
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars  
([www.greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation](http://www.greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation))

**ADJOURNMENT**

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**FUTURE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS**

March 24, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
May 26, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
July 28, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC ACCESS TO AGENDA DOCUMENTS AND BROADCASTING OF MEETINGS**

Commission meeting agenda packets, any agenda related documents, and additional documents are available online for public inspection on the City’s website:

<https://www.southpasadenaca.gov/government/boards-commissions>

Meeting recordings will be available for public viewing after the meeting. Recordings will be uploaded to the City’s YouTube Channel no later than the next business day after the meeting.


The City’s YouTube Channel may be accessed at:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnR169ohzi1AlewD\\_6sfwDA/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnR169ohzi1AlewD_6sfwDA/featured)

**AGENDA NOTIFICATION SUBSCRIPTION**

If you wish to receive an agenda email notification please contact the Sustainability Division via email at [NRECPublicComment@SouthPasadenaCA.gov](mailto:NRECPublicComment@SouthPasadenaCA.gov) or call (626) 403-7240.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

 The City of South Pasadena wishes to make all of its public meetings accessible to the public. If special assistance is needed to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Clerk’s Division at (626) 403-7230 or [CityClerk@southpasadenaca.gov](mailto:CityClerk@southpasadenaca.gov). Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title II).

**CERTIFICATION OF POSTING**

*I declare under penalty of perjury that I posted this notice of agenda for the meeting to be held on **March 24, 2026**, on the bulletin board in the courtyard of City Hall at 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030, and on the City’s, website as required by law, on the date listed below.*

3/19/2026

/S/

Date

Danielle Garcia, Water Conservation Analyst

**ITEM 2**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2026,  
NREC REGULAR MEETING**



**CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M.**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
1424 MISSION STREET, SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030**

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**PRESENT:**

Chair	Emily Ng
Commissioner	Liam R. de Villa Bourke
Commissioner	Michael Noe
Commissioner	Alex Rajewski
Commissioner	Margaret Yi

**ABSENT:**

Commissioner	Casey Law (Excused)
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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**1. GENERAL (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)**

In Person Public Comments:

None.

Zoom Public Comments:

None.

**ACTION**

**2. SELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Staff provided an overview of the roles and selection protocol for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair for the 2026 term.

**COMMISSION ACTION & MOTION**

Commissioner Noe was nominated as Chair and approved by roll call vote. The motion carried 5-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Ng, De Villa Bourke, Noe, Rakewski, Yi

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Law.  
ABSTAINED: None.

Commissioner Rajewski was nominated as Vice Chair and approved by roll call vote. The motion carried 5-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Ng, De Villa Bourke, Noe, Rakewski, Yi

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Law.

ABSTAINED: None.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2025, NREC SPECIAL MEETING**

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Commission review and approve the December 16, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes.

#### COMMISSION ACTION & MOTION

A motion was made by Commissioner Noe, seconded by Commissioner Rajewski and approved by roll call vote for the approval of the December 16, 2025 – NREC Special Meeting Minutes. The motion carried 5-0-1, by the following vote:

AYES: Ng, De Villa Bourke, Noe, Rakewski, Yi

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Law.

ABSTAINED: None.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **4. TREE ORDINANCE UPDATE**

Danielle Garcia, Public Works Analyst, and Michael Vartanians, City Engineer, presented an informal update on the recently adopted tree ordinance. Specifically highlighting the major changes to permitting process & tree classifications.

In Person Public Comments:

None.

Zoom Public Comments:

Angelo Gladding expressed concerns regarding transparency, the removal of shrub protections, and the notification process for city-owned tree removals.

### **5. SB 1383 TRANSITION UPDATE**

Danielle Garcia presented a status report on the City's transition to the three-stream waste collection system required by SB 1383.

In Person Public Comments:

None.

Zoom Public Comments:

None.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### 6. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

None.

### 7. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner de Villa Bourke highlighted trends in data center development and encouraged filling commission vacancies with youth members.

Chair Ng motioned to agendaize a discussion of Earth Month activities for the March meeting. Approved by roll call vote 5-0.

### 8. STAFF LIAISON COMMUNICATIONS

Staff announced several upcoming events, including a virtual landscape training on January 29, a garden design seminar on February 21, and a Sustainability Fair planned for April.

### 9. UPCOMING EVENTS

- January MWD Landscape Training – **Rain to Roots: Water for Your Garden | January 29** | Virtual Webinar | 6PM-7:15PM | <https://upperwater.org/water-smart-workshops-2/>
- February MWD Landscape Training – **Garden Design Seminar | February 21** | Library Community Room | 10AM -11:45AM | <https://upperwater.org/water-smart-workshops-2/>
- March MWD Landscape Training – **Outdoor Leaks Waste Water | March 19** | Virtual Webinar | 6PM-7PM | <https://greengardensgroup.com/g3-events/outdoor-leak-detection-usgv-260319/>
- April MWD Landscape Training – **Protect the Pollinators | April 16** | Virtual Webinar | 6PM-7:15PM | <https://greengardensgroup.com/g3-events/protect-the-pollinators-upper-water-260416/>
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events ([www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/hhw](http://www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/hhw))
- LA County Smart Gardening Workshops & Webinars ([www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/smartgardening](http://www.cleanla.lacounty.gov/smartgardening))
- MWD Turf Removal + CA Native Landscape Webinars ([www.greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation](http://www.greengardensgroup.com/turf-transformation))

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters, Chair Ng adjourned the meeting of the Natural Resources and Environmental Commission at 7:47PM to the next Regular Commission meeting scheduled for March 24, 2026.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**FUTURE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETINGS**

January 27, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
March 24, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.
May 26, 2026	Regular Meeting	6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Danielle Garcia  
Staff Liaison, Water Conservation Management Analyst

Respectfully Submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Emily Ng  
Chair

Approved at Commission Meeting:

## **ITEM 3**

# **EARTH MONTH ACTIVITIES**

# Sustainability Fair

## Plant Swap & Garden Tour



**Saturday | April 11, 2026 | 1-4 PM**  
**Arroyo Seco Woodland & Wildlife Park “Nature Park”**

**A FREE event for the whole family!**

### Activities including:

**Plant Swap** – Bring a plant, take a plant! The fair will have a variety of native and low-water plants available. Please bring a potted, labeled plant (no excess cuttings).

**Bike Valet** – Ride your bike and park with ease!

**Environmental Programs** – Learn about water conservation rebates, the leaf blower ban, organics recycling, and more!

**Garden Tour** – Explore South Pasadena’s superbloom & new micro-forest! Kids can follow the Story Path or join the Nature Scavenger Hunt. Tour times: 1:45pm & 3:15pm.

**Garden Design Workshop** - Explore designing a water-wise landscape and size a rain garden in this free workshop. Workshop times: 2:00 PM-3:00 PM

**Master Gardeners** – Learn from local landscapers and master gardeners on growing native & water efficient landscaping techniques.

**3 Stream Waste Sorting Workshop** - Walk through the new trash sorting system with Athens waste coordinators. Workshop Times: 1:30pm & 3:30pm.

**Connect with Environmental Organizations** – Discover sustainable living tips!

**And Much More!**

 [www.SouthPasadenaCA.gov/EnvironmentalPrograms](http://www.SouthPasadenaCA.gov/EnvironmentalPrograms)

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



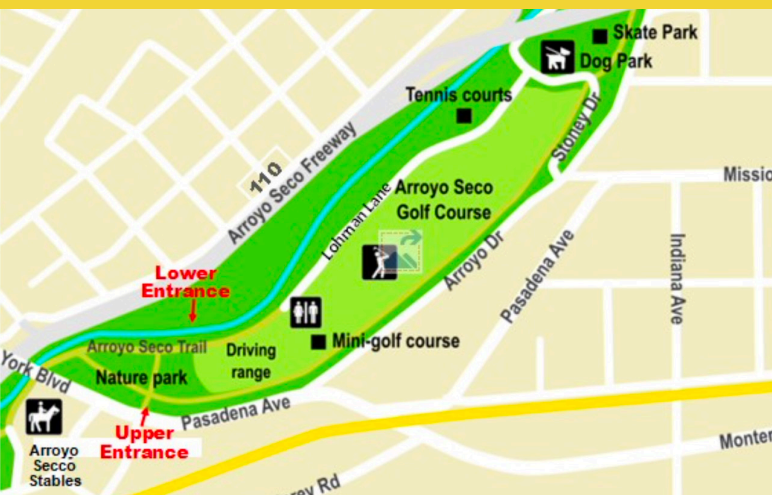
### Options for Entering Nature Park

**The Upper Entrance** is on the 100 block of Pasadena Avenue, east of the York Blvd. Bridge.

- Street parking is available

**The Lower Entrance** is just past the Arroyo Seco Golf Course driving range. Take the paved shared-use path located at the west end of Lohman Lane. Parking is available on Lohman Lane.

- South Pas Active will host a **free Bike Valet** at the lower entrance.

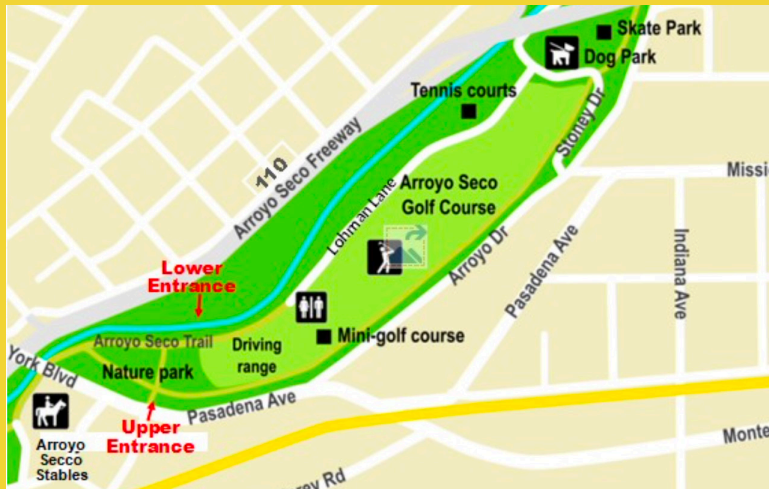


# Sustainability Fair

## Plant Swap & Garden Tour



**Saturday | April 11, 2026 | 1-4 PM**  
**Arroyo Seco Woodland & Wildlife Park "Nature Park"**



### The Lower Entrance | (Recommended use for Bike Valet!)

Located just past the Arroyo Seco Golf Course driving range. Access the site via the paved shared-use path at the west end of Lohman Lane.

- Free Bike Valet: Skip the parking hunt! South Pas Active is hosting a complimentary Bike Valet right here at the lower entrance. Pedal over, drop off your ride with the pros, and head straight into the fun.
- Parking: Limited street parking is available on Lohman Lane.

### The Upper Entrance

Located on the 100 block of Pasadena Avenue, east of the York Blvd. Bridge.

- Parking: Standard street parking is available along Pasadena Avenue and surrounding side streets.
- Please note to access the portion of the nature park that the fair is hosted in residents will need to walk down a set of winding stairs.

### A DAY OF FAMILY FUN

**1:00 PM**

#### Sustainability Fair Opens

The fun begins at 1PM and ends at 4PM.

**1:15PM**

#### Bike Valet

Ditch the car and choose a greener way to travel to this year's fair! Active South Pas has your bike covered while you explore.

**1:30PM**

#### "What Goes Where" | 1:30PM -2PM

Join Athens Services and attend a 30-minute hands-on workshop to learn the ins and outs of our new collection system.

**2:00PM**

#### Garden Design Workshop | 2PM-3PM

Now is your chance! Ask the experts what's missing from your garden and how to help it thrive.

**3:15PM**

#### Nature Park Tour

Explore the city's nature park and get an up-close look at our brand-new micro-forest!

**3:30PM**

#### Connect with Our Partners

Explore booths from 6+ community organizations and utilities. Engage with the experts and learn how you can do your part for a greener future.



[www.SouthPasadenaCA.gov/EnvironmentalPrograms](http://www.SouthPasadenaCA.gov/EnvironmentalPrograms)



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

Friends of  
SOUTH PASADENA  
NATURE PARK



# FREE COMPOST & MULCH

Saturday, April 25, 2026  
9:00 am - 12:00pm

For South Pasadena Residents ONLY



**Compost** (donated by *Athens Services*) is a mixture of decayed organic material, including food waste, and is used for enriching soil. Athens compost is certified organic under the USDA National Organic Program.

**Mulch** (donated by *West Coast Arborist*) is chipped tree trimmings or bark groundcover. It works as an insulator, maintaining the temperature of soil and roots to reduce evaporation and the formation of weeds.

- ✔ Bring a sturdy container and shovel | **PLEASE NOTE: Compost and mulch will NOT be supplied in plastic bags or cardboard boxes**
- ✔ Self serve, limited to 2 (two) 35 gallon containers per household
- ✔ Bring proof of residence (ID or utility bill)

**Arroyo Golf Course Parking Lot  
1055 Lohman Lane**



[www.SouthPasadenaCA.gov/EnvironmentalPrograms](http://www.SouthPasadenaCA.gov/EnvironmentalPrograms)

# SPRING 2026 LANDSCAPING WORKSHOPS



FREE



## Rain to Roots: Water for Your Garden

Learn practical ways to turn rain into a resource



VIRTUAL

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM



## Garden Design Seminar

Learn how to design a watershed wise landscape



IN-PERSON

SOUTH PASADENA LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM  
1115 EL CENTRO STREET  
SOUTH PASADENA, CA 91030

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2026

10:00 AM - 11:45 AM



## Outdoor Leaks Waste Water

Learn how to spot and prevent outdoor leaks



VIRTUAL

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM



## Protect the Pollinators

Learn how to create a pollinator-friendly garden



VIRTUAL

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2026

6:00 PM - 7:15 PM



VISIT: [HTTPS://UPPERWATER.ORG/WATER-SMART-WORKSHOPS-2/](https://upperwater.org/water-smart-workshops-2/)

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT KATHERINE VAZQUEZ AT  
KATHERINE@USGVMWD.ORG OR (626) 443-2297 EXT. 404