



League of Women Voters  
of the Bay Area

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



**VOTER**

October 2013

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## A New Vision for Bay Area Open Space

Open space is more than just a beautiful landscape or a place to hike. Within the more than a million acres protected permanently from development in the Bay Area, a new vision of the value of open space is emerging. An Ecosystem Survey being conducted by the Santa Clara, Sonoma and Santa Cruz open space districts is developing data on the cost-benefit value of investing in nature. Other open lands are being used as a baseline to study climate change. Habitat conservation plans are being developed to enhance the provision of water supply by preserving and enhancing watersheds and improving flood protection. Did you know about the new law that allows a property tax break for urban agricultural plots?

## LWV Marin Releases Housing Report

In August, the League of Women Voters of Marin County released “Dispelling the Myths Surrounding Affordable Housing,” a report intended to provide elected officials with information about housing issues related to the recently adopted Plan Bay Area. Some of the myths the report attempts to dispel deal with local control, density, property values, traffic, crime, and schools.

Visit LWV Marin’s website: [www.marinlwv.org](http://www.marinlwv.org)

## Bay Area League Day

Plan to come to Bay Area League Day, Saturday, February 1, 2014. It will be at the Metro Center, 101 8th St, Oakland, CA 94607, near the Lake Merritt Bart Station. Watch for the full program in November or contact Linda Craig regional@lwvbayarea.org.

## Bay Area Monitor, October/November 2013 edition

A Fair Trade?

Carl Moyer Program Enters Fifteenth Cycle of Funding Cleaner Air  
Scientists Set Seashells by the Seashore

Burrowing in the Bay Area: The Scoop on Transportation Tunnels

There Goes the Neighborhood: Will Regional Plan Push People Out?

To read these articles and more go to [www.bayareamonitor.org](http://www.bayareamonitor.org).