



Angora Community Newsletter

January 2009

Volume I

Developing a Community Vision for Landscaping in the Angora Burn Area

The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) invites you to participate in a neighborhood planning process to create a set of voluntary landscaping guidelines for the Angora burn area. The goal of this project is to develop a vision for a future landscape that integrates defensible space, water quality, wildlife, and aesthetic values.



The Angora area burn scar.

Susie Kocher, UCCE Natural Resources Advisor, was awarded federal Title III Forest Reserve funds by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors to conduct the project planning process. The bulk of the funds will be used to contract with a landscape architect who will turn neighborhood and agency input into a voluntary design guideline document to be disseminated to Angora residents. This document will include neighborhood-scale landscape schematics, sample lot landscaping plans, and plant species recommendations.

refreshments will be provided. **Please RSVP** to Nancy Starr at njstarr@ucdavis.edu or 530-621-5552.

The project will be completed by May in time for the spring planting season. We hope you will be able to attend the meeting to voice your opinion on what the future landscape should look like.

For more information about the project please contact: Susie Kocher, UCCE- El Dorado County, (530) 542-2571, <http://ucanr.org/angoralandscape>, skocher@nature.berkeley.edu

The planning process will involve a series of five evening meetings beginning **January 28th, 2009 from 6-8pm** at South Tahoe High School. Light

Angora Stewardship Program to Replant Forest Service Urban Lots

In Spring 2009, Forest Service urban lots burned by the Angora Fire will be replanted. The National Forest Foundation has awarded funding to the Nevada Tahoe Conservation District (NTCD) and the Tahoe Resource Conservation District (Tahoe RCD) to assist the US Forest Service Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit in the creation of a Forest Stewardship Program that will plant, maintain, and monitor these replanted urban lots. There will be several planting days in the spring, followed by the establishment of a maintenance and monitoring program to ensure tree survival.



New growth in the Angora Burn area.

The goal of the **Angora Forest Stewardship Program** is to encourage community participation in the long-term health of the forest. Angora homeowners, local citizens, and students will be taught how to plant, maintain, and monitor the restored areas. By using native species such as Jeffrey Pine and Sugar Pine grown from seeds from trees in the Tahoe area, the planted trees will be adapted to local growing conditions.

There are many ways to get involved:

- Attend the January 28th meeting listed here.
- Volunteer on one of several planting days.
- Sign up to be a steward to the newly planted trees by maintaining and monitoring them throughout the summer.
- Contribute a donation to buy planting materials.

To sign up to participate and for more

information, contact:
Sarah Ford, Tahoe RCD
(530) 543-1501 ext. 114
sford@tahoercd.org

January 28th

South Tahoe High School, 6-8pm

First meeting to develop Angora community landscape objectives and identify landscape issues; Learn about the **Angora Forest Stewardship Program** and other projects and services in the area

February 18th

South Tahoe High School, 6-8 pm

Second meeting to refine Angora landscape objectives and issues; Updates on **Angora Forest Stewardship Program** and other Angora projects/ services

March 18th

South Tahoe High School, 6-8pm

Third meeting to present Angora community landscape project alternatives; Opportunity to sign up to participate in the **Angora Forest Stewardship Program** and for other Angora area services

April 1st

South Tahoe High School, 6-8pm

Homeowner meeting to present refined alternatives for Angora community landscape project based on feedback from March 18th meeting

April 22nd

South Tahoe High School, 6-8pm

Homeowner meeting to present final Angora community landscape plans

Demonstration park planned for 1383 Mount Olympia Circle

The Tahoe Resource Conservation District, South Tahoe Public Utility District, Nevada Fire Safe Council, Lake Valley Fire Protection District, and University of California Cooperative Extension plan to work with the community to create a demonstration park on a property burned in the Angora Fire this spring. The use of the property for the project was graciously donated by the Allen family. The goal of the project is to provide landscape examples that showcase conservation landscaping ideas tailored to the Angora Burn area for the benefit of homeowners affected by the Angora Fire and also other Lake Tahoe community members.

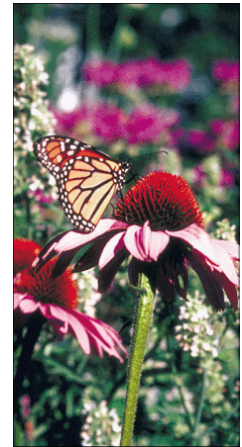
The demonstration park will include examples of Tahoe native and adapted vegetation, fire defensible space, water conservation, and erosion

control practices specific to properties in the Angora Burn area. Additionally, the park will feature soil amendment practices, irrigation techniques, and a variety of composts and mulches. The demonstration park, located at 1383 Mount Olympia Circle, will promote backyard conservation and also serve as a beautiful area for the neighborhood to enjoy.

For more information regarding the project, contact:

Courtney Walker, Tahoe RCD
(530) 543-1501 ext. 118
cwalker@tahoercd.org

- OR Attend the January 28th meeting listed on page 1.



Landscaping is a great way to attract wildlife to your yard.

Vegetation consultations available to assist with re-landscaping needs

Summer 2008 proved an extremely successful first field season for the Tahoe RCD's free vegetation consultation services. Vegetation consultations assist homeowners in re-vegetating their properties utilizing conservation landscaping principles. Each property receiving a vegetation consultation receives a site evaluation of the areas to be planted including information on appropriate plant selection based on soil type, moisture content, and sunlight conditions. Properties are also surveyed for invasive weeds and if found, a removal plan is created and implemented. Homeowners receive an introduction to basic horticulture and conservation landscape practices, in addition to being provided with a copy of the *Home Landscaping Guide for Lake Tahoe and Vicinity* and other valuable

resources to help maintain a Tahoe-friendly landscape.

Landscaping techniques promoted through Tahoe RCD's vegetation consultations promote water conservation, soil erosion control, and wildlife enhancement. These are a good fit with other Tahoe homeowner assistance programs such as the Tahoe RCD's Best Management Practices Retrofit Program and South Tahoe Public Utility District's Turf Buy-Back Program.

To sign up for a vegetation consultation and for more information, contact:

Tahoe Resource Conservation District
BCP Hotline: (530) 543-1501 ext. 113,
info@tahoercd.org OR Attend the January 28th meeting listed on page 1.



Thimbleberry is one of Tahoe's native species.

Turf Buy-Back Program can help fund water efficient landscaping

The South Tahoe Public Utility District (South Tahoe PUD) recognizes that lawn areas help to provide defensible space, play areas for children and pets, and serve an integral role in a comprehensive landscaping plan. However, lawns are also the most water intensive landscaping option a homeowner can choose. Non-functional lawns - ones that are rarely used - waste water and represent an ongoing cost in both time and resources for the home or business owner.

Through the Turf Buy-Back Program, Angora property owners can apply for a \$1.00 per square foot rebate, up to \$800, for planting new,

water efficient landscaping. The South Tahoe PUD may reject or limit applications based on the availability of funds.

For more information or to sign up for the Turf Buy-Back Program, contact:

Shelly Barnes, South Tahoe PUD
(530) 543-6268
sbarnes@stpub.dst.ca.us OR

- OR Attend the January 28th meeting listed on page 1.



A Tahoe native garden is a great alternative to turf.