



## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- CEPA and Campo Education co-hosted a field trip to Water Conservation Garden
- Campo's annual Star Gathering was a huge success!
- Community Clean-up Day and CEPA Waste Characterization recap

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# Campo EPA News

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## Summer Program Field Trip

The Campo Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) partnered with Campo Band's Education Department summer program to co-sponsor a field trip to the Water Conservation Garden in July. The Water Conservation Garden, located in El Cajon, is nearly six acres of displays that showcase water conservation. This is done through a series of themed gardens, such as a native plant garden, vegetable garden, and sensory garden as well as how-to displays on composting/mulch and irrigation.

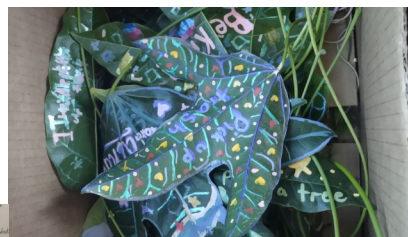


**Ms. Smarty-Plants and Ms. Sue, from Kruisin Kritters, did a presentation for the students**

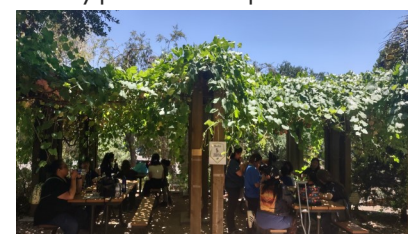
Students and chaperones left the Campo Tribal Hall via chartered bus at 10:00 am for a fun-filled day of interactive learning. Upon arrival at the Garden, the group was met by Ms. Smarty-Plants™. She treated the students to a hands-on presentation by Ms. Sue of Kruisin Kritters. Next, everyone went out to the benches to do a project. Each person



**Students wrote down their Commitments to being Conservation Heroes**



was given a large leaf and some non-toxic paint pens. The task was to "write something that you can do to be an earth conservation hero". The leaves would then be collected and put up on the wall, arranged like the leaves of a tree, to remind the students of their commitments to protect the earth. For the rest of the day, Campo EPA and the students and staff from Campo Education got to tour the different gardens and displays with scavenger hunt activity packets to complete.



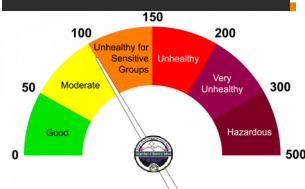
After a long day of learning how watersheds work, easy things we can do to help conserve water, and even how certain "creepy critters" and plants can improve water quality, everyone was treated to lunch at McDonald's.



**The Water Conservation Garden showcase water conservation through a series of themed gardens and how-to displays**



# Campo's Air Quality Update



**US EPA's Air Quality Index, or AQI, is a way to tell you how clean or polluted your air is and what associated health effects might be a concern for you. The AQI is divided into six categories/colors, with each corresponding to a different level of health concern.**

The Campo Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) has been operating a Teledyne T640 air monitor and two PurpleAir PA-II-SD sensors to conduct hourly Particulate Matter (PM) sampling on Campo Reservation. Data from the T-640 is uploaded into EPA's AQS database on a quarterly basis and all PurpleAir sensor data is live on the PurpleAir map (<https://www2.purpleair.com/map>). Data completeness for samples collected by the T640 is calculated on a quarterly basis to fulfill National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) requirements for completing annual averages. For January through September, Campo has 97% completeness with 94% of daily averages falling in the "good" category on the AQI chart.

PurpleAir data for PM, temperature, barometric pressure and relative humidity has continued

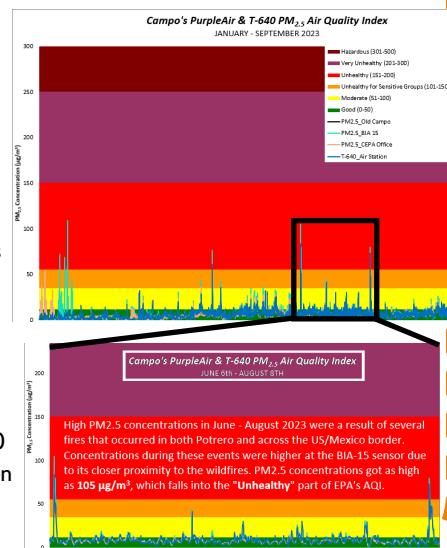
to be downloaded bi-weekly at two of the three installed sensors. The sensor in Old Campo was moved to a more secure location and re-registered with PurpleAir but continued to encounter problems with connectivity. Staff have made several attempts to get this sensor reporting but may need to start collecting data manually using an SD card.

In addition to viewing the live data from each PurpleAir sensor, CEPA compares them to all informational PM data collected by the T640 monitor. During this summer, CEPA was able to get representative data during several wildfires that occurred in both Potrero and across the US/Mexico International border. Data from both PurpleAir sensors and the T640 showed concentrations between 30-105 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. Concentrations during some of these events

were higher at the BIA-15 sensor due to its closer proximity to the wildfires. This information reinforces CEPA's suggestion to put a formal air monitoring station in Old Campo.

CEPA's Air & Met Data page:

<https://campoepa.wixsite.com/campoepa/air-met-data>



*"Sanitary surveys provide an opportunity to better educate a PWS operator and to provide technical assistance to the system if necessary."*

Leaking storage tanks are an example of something EPA looks for during a Sanitary Survey.



## Public Water System Sanitary Survey

In August, the Campo EPA was joined by US EPA, Indian Health Service (IHS), Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) and an independent contractor (RATES) to conduct a Sanitary Survey on two of Campo's three Public Water Systems (PWSs): South Campo and Old Campo.

A sanitary survey is a review of a public water system to assess the capability to supply safe drinking water to the community. Sanitary surveys are a proactive public health measure, sched-

uled every three years for a PWS, and an important component of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) PWS supervision program. During the survey, eight key areas were assessed: raw water source, treatment, distribution system, finished water storage, pumps, monitoring/reporting, management and operation, and operator compliance. Sanitary surveys also provide an opportunity to better educate the operator(s) about proper monitoring and sampling procedures, and to provide technical assistance as necessary.

CEPA is still waiting to receive

the results from this assessment and will address any findings in a timely manner. Significant findings will also be noted to the communities served by these systems in the annual Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) that go out in late spring.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the CEPA office at: 619-378-5072.





# CEPA at Campo's Annual Star Gathering



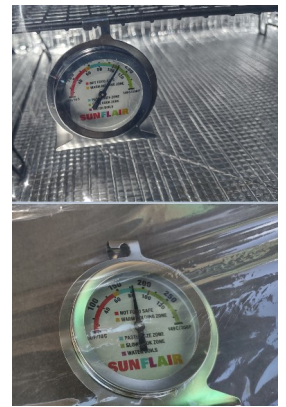
The Campo Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) was proud to be a part of Campo Band's annual Star Gathering which was held on Saturday, July 15th this year. As usual, the event was incredibly enjoyable with fantastic food and

**Staff used solar ovens to make cookies and pizza.**

concessions, as well as many vendors of clothing, jewelry, soaps and other awesome items. During this event, the Campo EPA had a demonstration booth highlighting the benefits of solar power. Guests were treated to a display of various cookies and single-serve pizzas cooking in solar ovens. Interested children were also able to construct their own solar ovens using recycled pizza

boxes, plastic wrap and construction paper. If that wasn't enough, attendees who visited the CEPA booth also received a reusable water bottle and shopping bag with CEPA's logo, t-shirts from the Environmental Fair, and lots of cool SDG&E goodies such as backpacks and water purifiers.

CEPA also provided a special QR code for all attendees to submit feedback on the Campo EPA and environmental issues of concern. Only five surveys were completed.



**Temps stayed a little lower in the home-made solar ovens.**

## Solid Waste and Campo EPA



**CEPA held another Community Clean-up (trash day) in July.**



On Saturday, July 29th, the Campo Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) held a "Special Waste" Community Clean-up Event at the Campo Education baseball field. For this event, Campo EPA was accepting: appliances, furniture, mattresses & box springs, electronic waste, tires, and large household trash items. By holding free community "dump"

events like this one, it is CEPA's goal to alleviate the amount of large and hard to dispose of "special waste" groups in our community. Providing a place for these items to be disposed of helps keep potential pollution and sometimes hazardous wastes from being discarded improperly. This not only reduces pollution in our waterways and wildland habitats, but also removes breeding grounds for dangerous pests such as rodents, mosquitoes and rattlesnakes. Plus, less trash usually means reduced fire hazards. Throughout the day, from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm, staff collected about 9.67 tons of general household waste, 1.28 ton of appliances and electronics, 12 mattresses/box springs and 41 tires. Although fewer tires were dropped off, CEPA collected nearly 4.5 tons more waste than at last year's event!

CEPA also conducted a Residential Waste Characterization study in September this year. "Waste characterization" means finding out how much paper, glass, food waste, etc. is

discarded in your waste stream. This information helps in planning how to reduce waste, set up recycling programs, and conserve money and resources for the Tribe. Volunteers were asked to bring at least two 13-gallon bags of trash to the CEPA office in exchange for a free 13-gallon kitchen trash can and a 40-count box of ForceFlex trash bags. In total, CEPA collected about 737 pounds of garbage! After all the bags of waste were weighed on a portable bench scale, staff meticulously sorted through each bag to divide it into 12 different categories. Each category was weighed to see how they stacked up against the total waste flow. This provided percentages that will be used in updating Campo's Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP) and Zero Waste Plan in the future.

**Only 4% of the waste sorted was CRV plastic, less than 1% was aluminum, and nearly 30% was organic waste!**



**CEPA sorted through each bag of trash to divide it into waste categories.**

# Campo Environmental Protection Agency



*"To promote the health and welfare of the residents of the Reservation and in furtherance of the sovereign rights of the self-governance of the Campo Band, the General Council declares its commitment to the establishment and maintenance of the highest attainable standards of environmental quality within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation."*  
 Campo EPA regulations.

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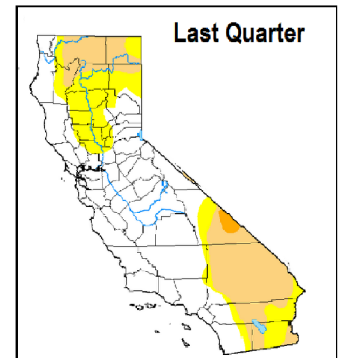
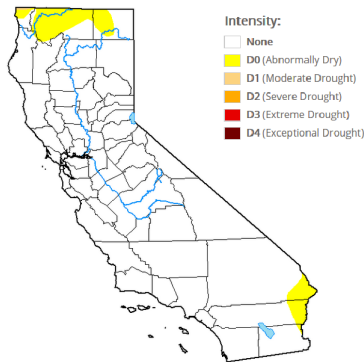
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## Current



According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, about 6% of California is experiencing some level of drought this quarter with less than 1% of the state experiencing moderate drought. January through September yielded 16.77 inches of precipitation with a single day high of 1.52 inches on March 1st. Annual precipitation for 2023 is nearly 9 inches higher than this time last year. To view the most recent Drought Monitor, visit: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

Multi-Indicator Drought Index (MIDI)

