



newsletter

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Issue 5

Alta Gala

Sustainability isn't just about the environment, it is also about community. So support the Alta community by going to the Alta Gala.

With your ticket you get an awesome dinner at La Caille, an Alta day pass, a \$25 gift certificate to La Caille, the possibility of getting something in the silent auction, and an evening of fun with your friends.

Remember, all proceeds from the Alta Gala go to ACE, Friends of Alta, and the Alta Historical Society.

Did you know....

- In 2 weeks, Americans throw enough glass bottles and jars out to fill the New York Trade Center's twin towers
- Dishwashers use about 11 gallons of water. Hand washed dishes use up approximately 16 gallons
- Americans normally use about 70 gallons of water each day
- Getting one liter of bottled water into your hands requires up to 2,000 times as much energy to produce, package and transport the stuff as it takes to provide you with the same amount of tap water.
- 60,000 plastic bags are used in the US every 5 seconds
- Americans discarded 2.25 million tons of computers, printers, cellphones and other electronics in 2007.

(Various Sources)



Research Update

A recent report released by the American Geophysical Union suggests "climate change might end skiing in Aspen and Park City by 2100." Another good reason we should all be thinking about what we can do to slow down global warming.

(B. Lazar and M. Williams, Adaptation and Sustainability of Western U.S. Ski Areas in the 21st Century With a Changing Climate, AGU Fall 2008)

Books

Here are some good books/writers who discuss sustainability, the environment, and the west:

1. Desert Solitaire (Edward Abbey)

This is one of Edward Abbey's best works. He "reflects on the nature of the Colorado Plateau desert, on the condition of our remaining wilderness, and on the future of a civilization that cannot reconcile itself to living in the natural world."

2. Voluntary Simplicity (Duane Elgin)

A short book about living simply and purposefully. Duane uses a variety of anecdotes and quotations to make his point about living a less consumptive life.

3. Hot, Flat, and Crowded (Thomas Friedman)

In this book Friedman addresses the environmental crisis and America's loss of focus since 9/11.

4. The Monkey Wrench Gang (Edward Abbey)

An entertaining story that relates the tale of how one group of environmental activists goes about trying to restore the Colorado River system to its original state.

5. Wallace Stegner

Any of the works by Stegner are worth reading. To appreciate the West, he once remarked, "You have to get over the color green; you have to quit associating beauty with gardens and lawns; you have to get used to an inhuman scale."

(Amazon.com)

