



# Newsletter

June 2016  
Issue 60

Alta Environmental Center  
PO Box 8007 • Alta, UT 84092  
environment@alta.com  
801.832.1700



*[Wild Aware Utah](#): Moose cow with calf Photo by Eric Peterson*

## **Wild Aware Utah—Moose, Bears, Skunks, oh my!**

Did you know that moose can run up to 35 miles per hour (mph)? Can you guess how fast a human can run? The fastest human on record was clocked at 27.8 mph, so if you have ever asked yourself if a human can outrun a moose, the answer is undoubtedly “no.”

Do you know what to do if you encounter a black bear? Play dead, stand still, or run away; well, which is it? These questions are very important especially now that summer is around the corner and the desire to play in your national forest or wildlands is here. More important, is knowing how to prevent a bad encounter with wildlife. Wildlife don't seek to harm humans, otherwise they would be wreaking havoc in your neighborhood right now, breaking down doors and resembling a B-horror movie. Wild animals seek to survive, eat, sleep and protect themselves—if needed.

If you have ever wondered about these questions and more like rattlesnakes and cougars, then [Wild Aware Utah](#) is the resource for you. A collaborative effort between the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Hogle Zoo and Utah State University Cooperative Extension, this program seeks to help humans “learn about Utah wildlife, respect and change behaviors, coexist safely and help wildlife stay wild.” Within the program's resources you can learn how to prevent negative wildlife encounters, deal with pesky visitors around your trash, deal with an injured or aggressive animals, and more. These precautions come from the experts and may help dispel myths.

Back to the black bear answer: first, never play dead or try to run (they too can run up to 35mph), and the final answer is stand still and stay calm, stand your ground, and be prepared to use bear spray. Basically, give the bear a chance to leave first, if it attacks use your bear spray or whatever you can find, and fight! As for moose, since you can't outrun them, give them plenty of distance and if that's not enough, stand behind something big and solid like a tree. To learn more about bear, moose and Wild Aware Utah visit [www.wildawareutah.org](http://www.wildawareutah.org).

## **Alta Summers, More Than Just a Pretty Face**

It's a countdown to the snow melting off all the trails these days, with each day becoming more and more spectacular with all the wildflower colors and glances of moose upon their return. Very few forget to snap a photo documenting all this beauty Alta has to offer, but what many people may not think about is all the hard work it takes to maintain Alta's pretty face.

Most of this hard work comes in the form of [summer stewardship events](#), a collaborative effort within the Alta community including Alta Ski Area—Alta Environmental Center, Cottonwood Canyons Foundation, Friends of Alta, Alta Community Enrichment, Town of Alta, TreeUtah, and Tracy Aviary. From monthly weed pulls to tree planting, it takes hundreds of volunteers each summer to mitigate recreational impact. We all love to hike, bike, ski and relax in nature, with Alta being a highly sought destination. However, it's not just for our enjoyment that drives this hard work, it's for all the animals, plants, and water too. A healthy ecosystem of thriving and functional native species helps keep our principal natural resource, water, healthy too. Alta is at the headwaters of a primary protected watershed for Salt Lake City on top of being in National Forest. So, the precedent is set and we encourage you to join us and share all the libations of being a good steward this summer.



Post our summer stewardship flyer in your neighborhood or workplace on the next page, then register for your top choice!

# 2016 Alta Summer Stewardship

## June

30 – Invasive Weed Pull - 6-8pm (CCF)

## August

13 – Bird Talk and Walk - 8:30am-12pm (FOA)  
19 – Wasatch Art Soirée - 6-10pm (ACE)  
5 – Invasive Weed Pull – 6-8pm (CCF)  
20 – Alta Kid's Day – 10am-2pm (CCF)

## Register With

CCF - Cottonwood Canyons Foundation  
[volunteer@cottonwoodcanyons.org](mailto:volunteer@cottonwoodcanyons.org)

ACE - Alta Community Enrichment  
[info@altaarts.org](mailto:info@altaarts.org)

FOA - Friends of Alta  
[info@friendsofalta.org](mailto:info@friendsofalta.org)

TU- TreeUtah  
[volunteer@treeutah.org](mailto:volunteer@treeutah.org)

## July

2 – Alta Ski Area Clean Up - 8am-12pm (CCF)  
5-8 – Trial Work 8am-3pm (CCF)  
9 – Town of Alta Restoration Day - 8am-3pm (CCF)  
16 – Owl Prowl with HawkWatch - 8-10:30pm (FOA)  
21 – Stephen Trimble: Bargaining for Eden  
6-8pm (ACE/FOA)  
28 – Invasive Weed Pull - 6-8pm (CCF)  
30 – Wasatch Wildflower Festival at Alta (CCF/ACE)

## September

3 – Alta Ski Area TreeUtah Planting  
8am-12:30pm (TU)  
9 – Memorial Tree and Seedling Planting  
9:30am-12pm (FOA)  
15 – Weed Pull 3-5pm & Social  
5-8pm @OLS (CCF/ACE)



FRIENDS  
OF ALTA

