



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Hidden Hollow Celebration Marks Ten Years of Preservation**  
*Sugar House Open Space Treasure to be Honored Saturday, May 8*

SALT LAKE CITY – Salt Lake City’s Open Space Lands Program and Utah Open Lands will host a community celebration to mark the tenth year of the conservation easement to protect Hidden Hollow as open space on Saturday, May 8 beginning at 5 p.m. at Hidden Hollow (1229 E. Wilmington Avenue).

In 1990 students from Hawthorne Elementary formed KOPE (Kids Organized to Protect Our Environment) and worked with community members to restore and revive an abandoned, debris-laden section of Parley’s Creek. In May of 2000 Salt Lake City protected the Hollow by granting a conservation easement to Utah Open Lands. Hidden Hollow is now a thriving urban natural area and outdoor classroom.

Today this natural open space hosts a community of Bonneville cutthroat trout, neo-tropical migratory birds including visiting kingfishers, and a stream that meanders through a healthy riparian corridor. The land, hidden behind surrounding development, is an oasis of nature visited by shoppers, workers, residents and visitors. Hidden Hollow is recognized as a model for open space preservation through community participation.

“Open streams and natural habitat interspersed throughout our Capital City are a priceless value,” said Mayor Ralph Becker. “The preservation efforts of Hidden Hollow by the KOPE Kids and Utah Open Lands, and the dedication of the Sugar House community in saving this unique place is something to celebrate,” Becker concluded.

“Utah Open Lands recognizes the foresight it took for Salt Lake City and then Mayor Rocky Anderson to see the potential of protecting such a unique place,” reflected Executive Director of Utah Open Lands Wendy Fisher. “As we look at revitalizing our cities, we daylight streams once buried to increase the quality of life for residents. Hidden Hollow didn’t just save the incredible natural area from destruction, but was a wise economic decision as well.”

Fisher applauded the continued efforts of Mayor Ralph Becker and the Salt Lake City Council in continuing to preserve open spaces throughout Salt Lake City.

All events celebrating the Hidden Hollow anniversary are open to the public. Beginning at 5 p.m., local fourth graders will be leading guided tours of the natural and cultural site. Visitors are invited to grab a picnic dinner, sponsored by Whole Foods Market Sugar House. Cost for the picnic is \$5 per person, with proceeds from food sales being donated to further conservation and stewardship efforts in Hidden Hollow. At 6 p.m. a brief presentation will be made. A celebration concert featuring Brian Bingham will begin at 8 p.m. The concert will kick-off of the Utah Open Lands, KRCL and Salt Lake City Hidden Hollow Concert Series.

For more information, contact Wendy Fisher, Executive Director Utah Open Lands at 801-694-9033 or Emy Storheim, Salt Lake City Open Space Lands Program at 801-535-7730.