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The foundation relies on volunteer labor and member contributions to accomplish its goals. We are proud of what we’ve been able to achieve and so is the community. We have received recognition for some of our efforts over the years and been awarded several grants to help us achieve even better results.

**Awards**

**Walnut Creek Action for Beauty Council – Peg Kever Poppy Award**
October 16, 2012 - The Foundation received the Poppy Award from the Action for Beauty Council for our work on the acquisition of Acacia’s Ridge. The Poppy Award is given only occasionally and only for environmental work. This project was a collaboration between WCOSF, the Lafayette Ridge Committee, Seniors for a Greener Community, Walnut Creek, the City of Lafayette, and the East Bay Regional Park District.

October 17, 2012 - The Foundation received the first-ever Peg Kever Poppy Award for the Oak Habitat Restoration Project.

**Walnut Creek Action for Beauty Council – Special Recognition**
October 16, 2012 - The Foundation received a Special Recognition Award for our work at the Bayberry Pond Restoration Site in Livermore. This is an ongoing habitat restoration site that the Foundation has been working on since 2000. For more information about our work and current progress visit our [Bayberry Restoration Project page](#).

November 2003 - The Foundation received a Special Recognition Award for our Oak Habitat Restoration Project. This project was started over 20 years ago and has grown more than 200 oak seedlings in our Open Space to date. The project now focuses on tree maintenance. For more information about our work and current progress visit our [Oak Habitat Restoration Project page](#).

**California Park and Recreation Society – Outstanding Non-Profit Organization Partner**
April 5, 2005 - The California Park and Recreation Society (CPRS), District 3, recognized the Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation as an Outstanding Non-Profit Organization Partner for its work in our Open Space and in Heather Farm Park. CPRS is a professional society for city and other public agency workers in the parks and recreation field.

**Walnut Creek Park Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Commission**
July, 2008 - The Commission honored Bill and Lesley Hunt for more years of leadership of various Open Space projects and other volunteer service to the City.

April, 2008 - The PROS Commission honored Ralph Kratsch and Dick Daniel for their many years leading the Oak Habitat Restoration Project.

**Walnut Creek City Council**
October 3, 2006 - The Council recognized Ralph Kratsch as a Champion Citizen for his work on the Oak Habitat Restoration Project.

Fall, 2005 - The City Council named the original oak habitat area the Bob Wexler-Grace Oak Habitat Restoration Area to honor Bob for his work in creating it.

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**California Park and Recreation Society – Outstanding Volunteer: Bill Hunt**
April 5, 2006 - Foundation board member Bill Hunt was also recognized as an Outstanding Volunteer in a separate award for his work in restoring the [Heather Farm Park Nature Area](#).

**Threats of Hope Award – Volunteer Nominees: Bill Hunt and Ralph Kratsch**
One of the Foundation’s volunteers and Board Members, Bill Hunt, was selected for the finalist for the Diablo Magazine Threats of Hope Award for his work on various Open Space projects. The previous year, Ralph Kratsch was a finalist for his leadership of the Oak habitat Restoration Project.

**Fifth Symposium on Oak Woodlands - Volunteer Speaker: Ralph Kratsch**
October 2001 - One of the Foundation’s volunteers and Board Members, Ralph Kratsch, was invited to speak on the oak habitat restoration project at the Fifth Symposium on Oak Woodlands: Oaks in California’s Changing Landscape. For more information about our work and current progress visit our [Oak Habitat Restoration Project page](#).

**International Society of Arborists – Gold Leaf Award: Ralph Kratsch**
May 1, 2000 - Foundation Board Member Ralph Kratsch was recognized for his efforts on the [Oak Habitat Restoration Project](#) by the International Society of Arborists in Austin, Texas.

**Grants**

**Native Plant Nursery**
In May, 2009, we received a grant from the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee to build a Native Plant Nursery.

**Oak Habitat Restoration**
The Oak Habitat Restoration Project has received various grants from Chevron and in 2004 the project received a grant from the Rose Foundation.

**Heather Farm Nature Area Restoration**
The Heather Farm Nature Area Restoration Project received grants from the Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee in 2003 and 2005. This project also received a Civic Pride Grant from the City of Walnut Creek in 2002.

**Shell Ridge Open Space bench addition**
July 3, 2001 - The Foundation received a grant funding from the Central Contra Costa Solid Waste Authority to cover the purchase of ten recycled-content benches that were installed by the City of Walnut Creek along various trails in Shell Ridge Open Space.