

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 9, 2004

Contact: John Arnold
(916) 653-7090

Saturday, September 18

California State Parks Play Big Role In California Coastal Cleanup Day

California State Parks is joining communities and organizations throughout California to participate in the 20th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day on **Saturday, September 18**

"This is a very special event, and we invite everyone to join us and participate in one of the signature events in California," said State Parks Director Ruth Coleman. "We're proud of the volunteers who return year after year to help clean up our parks and beaches."

Once again, State Parks is participating with other agencies and corporate sponsors in this statewide program to demonstrate that environmental stewardship is everyone's responsibility. Because California State Parks is struggling with greatly reduced funding, it is particularly important for volunteers to participate in the cleanup endeavor this year. Ongoing maintenance is a major cost to the department throughout the state park system and volunteers can greatly assist in keeping parks clean during these hard times.

To emphasize the importance of community involvement in tackling the state's litter problem, all Californians are invited to organize and participate in cleanup campaigns in their communities. Many of the activities are in conjunction with the California Coastal Commission's Coastal Cleanup Day program.

To participate, volunteers are asked to contact parks and beaches in their community or call the statewide coordinator of the event, the California Coastal Commission, at (800) COAST-4U or www.coastforyou.org.

Here are some of the cleanup events at participating California State Parks. **Unless otherwise noted, all events will take place on Saturday, September 18.**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Leo Carrillo State Park will have a coastal cleanup. Directions to the park: from the south, 35 miles west of Santa Monica off of Pacific Coast Highway; from the north, 15 miles south of Oxnard. For more information, please call 805-488-1827.

MERCED COUNTY

San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area will host a shoreline cleanup project from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Participating visitors and boaters will receive a garbage bag at the entrance stations at San Luis Reservoir (Basalt), San Luis Creek (O'Neill Forebay), and Los Banos Creek Detention Reservoir upon entering. At the end of the day, bags of litter will be turned in from the shorelines. The park day use fee for that day will be waived for participants who collect garbage the entire four hours. For more cleanup information contact Randy Caldera at (209) 826-1196 extension 215, or e-mail rcald@parks.ca.gov. The park is located on Highway 152 at the base of Pacheco Pass. Approximately seven miles west of Highway 5, take the Basalt Area turnoff south from the highway and continue two miles to the entrance station, or take the San Luis Creek exit from the north side of Highway 152 to participate on the O'Neill Forebay. Or, follow the signs to the Los Banos Creek Detention Reservoir from the south side of Highway 152, three miles east of Highway 5. Day Use and Boating Hours are from sunrise to sunset. For non-cleanup participants, day use fees are \$6 per car and \$6 to launch a boat.

MONTEREY COUNTY

The following state parks and beaches will have cleanup projects in Monterey County: Asilomar State Beach, Carmel River State Beach, Marina State Beach, Monastery State Beach, Moss Landing State Beach, Salinas River State Beach and Zmudowski State Beach. Participants are asked to show up at any of the cleanup sites by 9 a.m. with water, comfortable shoes, layered clothing and sunscreen. Beach captains will have bags, gloves and data cards. Minors must have a parent or guardian available to sign the event waiver. Groups are encouraged to register in advance for favorite sites - or can be directed to sites that need extra help. For more information, contact Monterey County Coordinator Jean Scott at (831) 647-4238 or e-mail: marina_interp@hotmail.com

ORANGE COUNTY

Crystal Cove State Park, off Highway One between Corona del Mar and Laguna Beach, will celebrate Coastal Cleanup day on Saturday, September 18 from 9 a.m. to Noon. There will be two cleanup stations at both the Reef Point parking lot and Pelican Point parking lot # 4. The parking fee will be waived for volunteers entering the park between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. Trash and recycling bags, gloves and tally cards will be provided. Volunteers are asked to bring sunscreen, water and a hat. For more information, call (949) 497-7647 or e-mail crystalcv@fea.net or visit their website at www.crystalcovestatepark.com

PLACER COUNTY

Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, in partnership with the American River Conservancy, will have the third annual Lake Natoma volunteer cleanup day. Participants will include volunteers on land and divers in the lake. This family event will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lake Natoma, Negro Bar day use area. Participants will be treated to barbecue and prizes. Volunteers under 18 need signed parental release forms. For more information, call (916) 988-0205. Directions: From Sacramento, take Highway 50 East to Hazel Avenue. Go left (north) on Hazel, over the river. Go right at Sunset. When Sunset ends, take a left at the stop sign (Main Avenue). Take a right on Madison. Go through the light at Greenback and start down the hill toward Folsom. The entry to Negro Bar is on the right (there will be a big stone sign with a bear).

Enter the park and stay to the right, all the way to the end (day use area). From Folsom area, get to the corner of Greenback/Folsom Boulevard/Auburn-Folsom Road (new Folsom Bridge over Lake Natoma). Go toward Orangevale on Greenback and turn left into Negro Bar; follow instructions above to day use area.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

William Randolph Hearst Memorial State Beach, located directly across Highway One from the Hearst Castle® in San Simeon, will be the site of a special Oceans Fair sponsored by the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The event will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will feature activities for the whole family on the ocean and its inhabitants and how to protect our watersheds. There will be a barbeque and live music, plus raffle prizes for Coastal Cleanup participants. For more information about cleanup events through San Luis Obispo County visit the website at www.slocleanup.com. For more information on the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, go to www.montereybay.noaa.gov.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Border Field State Park will have a cleanup event on September 18th. Volunteers should meet near the park entrance. Event signs will be posted. Directions: from the I-5 or the 905, exit Dairy Mart Road and head south. Dairy Mart Road curves to the west and becomes Monument Road. Follow Monument Road as far west as you can go to the gate of Border Field State Park. Park at the gate. Participants will be driven to the beach. The park phone number is (619) 575-3613.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Refugio State Beach, 23 miles northwest of Santa Barbara on Highway 101, will have underwater and beach cleanup projects from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, September 18. For more information, please contact Al Fimlaid at (805) 968-3834 or (805) 968-5195.

For more information about the cleanup projects on-line, go to <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/>

###