

COUNTY OF SONOMA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SONOMA COUNTY CLEANUP EVENTS ABOUND FOR EARTH DAY

-- Community groups seek volunteers to Keep Sonoma Clean --

March 27, 2009 – Santa Rosa, CA – More than a dozen community groups organize volunteers throughout Sonoma County to collect litter and garbage from local roadways, creeks and beaches. Many of these events take place around Earth Day, as County residents seek ways to maintain scenic areas and preserve local habitats. The County Web site www.KeepSonomaClean.org now offers a comprehensive list of volunteer opportunities for individuals interested in participating in these cleanup events.

“We are very grateful that these organizations are helping us clean up litter and garbage from places where they don’t belong,” stated Karina Chilcott, project manager for Keep Sonoma Clean. “We want to encourage volunteers to seek out these opportunities, and to make it easy for volunteers to find all of the cleanup events listed in one place.”

In the weeks leading up to and immediately following Earth Day, at least 10 separate cleanup events will take place in locations from the Sonoma Coast to the Sonoma Valley. Those events include:

- April 18, 9 a.m. to noon – Bennett Valley Vision’s Spring Cleanup (<http://BENNETTVALLEYVISION.BLOGSPOT.COM>)
- April 18, 9 a.m. – Santa Rosa Cycling Club, meet at Passalaqua Winery on Lambert Bridge Road. (<http://srcc.memberlodge.com/calendar>)
- April 24, 1-5 p.m. – Agilent Environmental Challenge, through the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County (Glen Ellen and Healdsburg). (<http://www.volunteernow.org/agilent2.htm>)
- April 25, 9 a.m. to noon – Volunteer Center of Sonoma County Hands Across the County (multiple locations). (www.volunteernow.org/handsnew.htm)
- April 25, 2009, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods, meet at Sonoma Coast Park Visitor Center in Jenner. Volunteers may participate on foot or by kayak; kayakers should RSVP to watertreks@yahoo.com. (www.stewardsofthecoastandredwoods.org)

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- April 25, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Join Sonoma Ecology Center at Nathanson Creek Preserve (behind Adele Harrison Middle School and Sonoma Valley High School) or Fryer Creek at Sassarini Elementary School. If you are bringing a group of ten or more people to a cleanup, please RSVP to Julie Jehly at julie@sonomaecologycenter.org. (www.sonomaecologycenter.org)
- April 26, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Cotati Creek Critters, meet at Falletti Park in Cotati. (www.cotaticreekcritters.info/stewardshipdays.htm)
- May 2, 8 a.m. to noon – City of Santa Rosa Spring Clean (multiple locations) (www.srcity.org/SpringClean)
- May 25 (Memorial Day), 10 a.m. – Surfrider Sonoma Coast Chapter, meet at North Salmon Creek Beach and look for the Surfrider banner. (www.surfrider.org/sonomacoast/#beachcleanup)
- May 31 – Tentative date for the next ABC Rides. Bicyclists will set out from Helen Putnam Plaza in downtown Petaluma and ride Sonoma County’s back roads, taking note of illegal dumping sites for subsequent cleanup by County crews. www.abcrides.blogspot.com will have details as they become available.

Additional details about these Earth Day cleanup events and links to all participating organizations can be found at KeepSonomaClean.org. Click on “Get Involved.” KeepSonomaClean.org also offers information about cleanup opportunities for other times of the year, as well as complete information about proper disposal or recycling of unwanted goods. To report an illegal dump site, visit the Web site or call 877-565-DUMP (3867).

Keep Sonoma Clean is a cooperative effort between the Sonoma County Department of Health Services, Environmental Health Division; the Sonoma County Department of Transportation and Public Works, and the Sonoma County Sheriff, and is funded by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Zero Waste – You Make It Happen!

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