



EARTH DAY RESTORATION AND CLEANUP

The California State Parks Foundation developed its Earth Day Restoration and Cleanup program in 1998 to encourage a day of action that would engage Californians in caring for our state's threatened natural resources. Despite substantial state budget cuts over the past two decades that have resulted in threatened park closures, reduced hours and services, and the elimination of education programs, park visitation is nearly 70 million annually—highlighting the important role CSPF and our partners play in ensuring our parks are protected and accessible for today's and future generations.

Thanks to sponsor support, the Earth Day program provides much-needed funding and volunteer muscle to help make long overdue park improvements. At the same time, the program serves to educate the next generation of environmental stewards, as volunteers learn ways to protect and preserve parklands and open spaces in their communities. Over the past 17 years, this massive event has mobilized more than 81,670 Californians statewide. Hundreds of miles of trails have been restored; thousands of native trees and flowers planted; dozens of recycling bins installed; and tons of trash and debris removed from fragile wildlife habitats, beachfronts and estuaries. The cumulative effect of all this good work will be felt by generations to come.





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CALENDAR ADVISORY

**CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION'S 18TH ANNUAL EARTH DAY
RESTORATION & CLEANUP PRESENTED BY PG&E
WITH PROJECTS AT PARKS STATEWIDE, SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016**

WHAT: Volunteers are needed at select California state parks on Saturday, April 16th, 2016 for the 18th Annual California State Parks Foundation's (CSPF) Earth Day Restoration & Cleanup presented by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E).

California's state parks need this annual refurbishment. The chronic underfunding of the state parks system has resulted in a backlog in overdue maintenance projects of approximately \$1.3 billion, the elimination of many education programs for kids, reduced staffing, and curtailed operating hours. Businesses and individuals are sought to actively participate with their communities to help restore the beauty and glory of California's treasured state parks. Trail and campground improvements, trash cleanup, tree planting and restoring wildlife habitats are just some of the projects planned for Earth Day.

This annual event is made possible by the generous support of our program sponsors including PG&E, Edison International, Oracle, and Southern California Gas Company, and the contributions from our refreshment providers Peet's Coffee and Tea and Nature's Path.

Since its inception in 1998, CSPF's Earth Day Restoration & Cleanup program has resulted in 81,670 participants contributing more than 334,301 volunteer hours worth nearly \$6.39 million in park maintenance and improvements. Additionally, more than \$4.6 million has been raised for the Earth Day program.

WHEN: Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

WHERE: Visit calparks.org/earthday in February 2016 for a complete list of volunteer sites and times.

TO VOLUNTEER: Individuals, groups or businesses interested in volunteering on Earth Day should register at calparks.org/help/earth-day/ or call 1-888-98-PARKS. Registration is now open.

ABOUT CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION

With its 130,000 members, California State Parks Foundation is the only independent nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting, enhancing and advocating for California's magnificent state parks. For more information about California's state parks, visit calparks.org. For high resolution images, please contact Christina Mueller, cmw@christinamueller.com.