

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
NEWS RELEASE



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Community Groups and Local Youth to Beautify 14 Miles of the
Sacramento Northern Bike Trail as Part of Earth Day and National Youth Service Day**

Sacramento, California, April 20, 2007—Earth Day was established in 1970 to champion the protection and preservation of the environment. National Youth Service Day empowers youth across the nation to serve their community. These two initiatives have energized millions to engage in acts that benefit our community and natural environment. On Saturday, April 21, the Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation will partner with Americorps *NCCC Western Region, Hands On Sacramento, the Pacific Forest & Watershed Lands Stewardship Council, and the California State Parks Foundation to beautify the Sacramento Northern Bike Trail in celebration of Earth Day and National Youth Service Day.

The Sacramento Northern Bike Trail is 14-miles long, starting at C Street and 19th Street and ending at Ascot Avenue. Once an important link connecting Sacramento's Noralto, Del Paso Heights and Robla neighborhoods to the City's downtown, the trail became plagued with illegal dumping and graffiti; and was threatened by invasive plant species such as the star thistle. In 1996, the City of Sacramento partnered with the Sacramento Tree Foundation and local volunteers to transform the trail into a beautiful area covered with thousands of trees and natural shrubs. Every year, community groups and local volunteers gather to clean-up and beautify the trail.

"This is a great opportunity for environmentally conscious young people to make a difference in our community and set an example for the rest of us," said Councilmember Sandy Sheedy.

This year's clean-up will be an impressive effort with more than 250 community volunteers already signed-up to plant trees, mulch rose beds, clean-up abandoned campsites, collect man-made debris, and remove invasive plant species.

Details

Event: 14 Miles of Service Clean-up Along Sacramento Northern Bike Trail
Date: Saturday, April 21, 2007
Location: Robla Community Park, 625 Bell Ave, Sacramento
Schedule: 7:30 AM Registration Begins
8:00 AM Kick-off Rally
8:25 AM Depart to Clean-up Assignments Along the Trail
12:00 PM Project Wind-down/Celebrate Accomplishments
12:30 PM Celebration Lunch at Robla Community Park

Residents who wish to volunteer or get more information about the clean-up can contact Volunteer Coordinator Julie Mier at, (916) 808-2285 or jmier@cityofsacramento.org.

Media inquiries should be forwarded to Hindolo Brima, Public Information Officer, Department of Parks and Recreation, (916) 808-5972.

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