



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VICTORVILLE COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY A HUGE SUCCESS
CLOSE TO 800 VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATED**

Community support and enthusiasm, combined with Mother Nature providing a gorgeous day, made for a hugely successful Victorville Community Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 11th. A total of 779 volunteers took to the streets of Victorville to pick up litter and other items dumped in the desert. The volunteers collected 9.69 tons of litter and other trash during the event. The litter and trash filled 5 large, construction sized “roll-off” trash containers, plus a compacting trash truck. This is equivalent to filling about 2 “semi” tractor-trailers. With each volunteer collecting 2-3 bags of litter, it is estimated that over 1,500 bags of litter were collected on Saturday.

Volunteers represented area schools and colleges, churches, club and service organizations, homeowner associations, businesses, non-profits, families, friends, neighbors, and individuals. There were participants from 28 different organizations, including Advance America, Best Buy, Catholic Daughters of America #2446, City of Victorville, Cypress Pointe HOA, Desert Trails Prep Academy, Discovery School of the Arts, Excelsior High Desert Young Marines, Galileo Academy, Goodwill Industries, High Desert Hospice, Home Depot—Bear Valley, Iglesia Cristiana Samaria, Inland Valley Hospice Care, Klokeid family, Church of Latter Day Saints-Mesa Linda Ward, Pino Family, Salvation Army, Set Free Church of the High Desert, Shabazz Family, Silvas Family, Trinity Lutheran Church and Girl Scout Troop 1393, University Prep, Victor Valley Christian Elementary, Victor Valley Church of Christ, Victorville Tae Kwon Do, Walgreens, and Zion Lutheran Church.

“This year’s volunteers ranged in age from 1 ½ to 87 years old,” said John Garcia, Victorville Sanitation Enforcement Officer and event coordinator. “This is a great community event that really brings all people together.”

Team leaders reported that the most common items picked up were plastic bags, paper, fast food wrappers, and to-go beverage cups. Larger items dumped in the desert, included furniture, tires, car parts, and mattresses. One group was happy to find a \$5 bill!

MORE

The Victorville Community Cleanup Day is a semi-annual event, held each October and April. The first Victorville Cleanup Day was held in October 2007. Since then, more than 8,785 volunteers have worked together to collect over 94 tons of litter from Victorville roadsides.

The event is coordinated by the City of Victorville's Environmental Programs Division. This April's event had 20 sponsors, including AlaskaUSA Federal Credit Union, American Landscape Maintenance, American Organics, Auto Park at Valley Center, Cemex, the Daily Press, Desert Valley Medical Group, Helping Hands Realty, High Desert Association of Realtors, High Desert Hospice, Mojave River Watershed Group, Plastipak Packaging, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, ServePro, Shear Realty, Sherwin Williams, Splattered Ink, USAgain, Victor Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Victorville Disposal, a Burrtec Company.

Local restaurants providing discount lunch and dinner coupons to volunteers included Applebee's, , Chili's Grill & Bar, Denny's, FarmerBoys, FatBurger & Buffalo Café Express, HomeTown Buffet, Mimi's Café, Original Roadhouse Grill, and WaBa Grill.

Photos of the event will be posted on the City of Victorville's website at www.Victorvilleca.gov (Quick Link: Community Cleanup) by the end of the month.

For more information about sponsoring or volunteering for future Victorville Community Cleanup Days, contact the City of Victorville Community Services Department, Environmental Programs Division at (760) 955-5095.

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