



NEWS RELEASE

12-029

Today's Date: Thursday, April 19, 2012
District: 1 - Eureka
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALTRANS CLEANS UP ON ANNUAL LITTER DAY

Eureka – Caltrans Maintenance crews statewide have dedicated April 19 to litter removal for this year's Annual Litter Day. Last year's Annual Litter Day efforts resulted in the removal of 2,533 cubic yards of litter statewide, enough to fill 158 garbage trucks.

This cleanup effort is part of the Great American Cleanup campaign, sponsored each spring by the non-profit organization Keep America Beautiful. Over 2,800 Caltrans Adopt-A-Highway groups are also helping this campaign by picking up litter along their sections of highway sometime in April or May.

Litter is an ongoing problem on State Highways. Litter is not only ugly; it can lead to pollution in our lakes, rivers, and beaches. Cigarette butts are the number one item littered in California — they are discarded by the millions, often causing roadside fires, clogging storm drains, and threatening our water quality and wildlife. In addition, motorists face the risk of accident, injury, and death as the result of trash and other debris fallen from vehicles hauling unsecured and untarped loads.

“During this time of limited public resources, Caltrans is spending millions of dollars every year cleaning up litter from California highways,” said Caltrans District 1 Director Charlie Fielder. “There are so many other uses for that money. We’re asking the public to help us reduce the litter problem — please Don’t Trash California.”

For more information on the Caltrans Adopt-A-Highway program, please call Mike Cossolotto at 707-445-5761.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Photos of the cleanup effort will be made available. Please contact Phil Frisbie, Jr. at 707-441-4678 or Phil_Frisbie@dot.ca.gov.

