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Public Works Week Event Connects Environment with Careers

By David Goldstein, Ventura County Public Works Agency, IWMD

“Public Works Connects Us” is the theme of this year’s Public Works Week, and an upcoming event will connect students to careers with environmental benefits. On May 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Ventura County Government Center’s Hall of Administration Parking Lot, informational and display booths, demonstrations, presentations, and hands-on stations will introduce school groups and the public to the work of Public Works.

Many students are interested in careers benefitting the environment and working in the public interest. Public Works Agencies offer such careers, so staff at the event will highlight their work. This includes revegetation with native and drought tolerant plants; measuring rain and stream flows; composting with worms; developing solar power; building landscape channels to remove trash and sediment from our watersheds; installing raptor perches and nesting facilities for owls and hawks to help control rodents burrowing into neighboring levees; and installing porous surfaces to filter storm water, capture pollutants, reduce flooding, diminish runoff to the ocean, and re-charge underground aquifers with much-needed water.

At a “Pledge to Recycle” booth, attendees will have the opportunity to commit to one of the public works services present at every curbside. Markers, stencils, stamps, and other art supplies will be provided to make the pledge poster colorful and creative. Students who make the pledge will have the opportunity to receive a reusable lunch sack or BPA-free reusable water bottle, to further encourage their commitment to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

At this County of Ventura event, city of Ventura staff will also host booths, including a prize wheel spin opportunity and information about storm water pollution prevention, household hazardous waste, and green business certification. The city will also demonstrate their equipment used for fixing potholes.

The County’s Human Resources Department will have information about job opportunities with the County of Ventura and will provide guidance regarding the application process. This summer, the Ventura County Public Works Agency will have jobs available for student workers. Applications are available at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ventura> (type in key word “student”).

Similar Public Works Week events will take place in Thousand Oaks (Municipal Service Center May 23 & 24,) and in Oxnard (City Hall Parking lot at Second and B Streets, May 23, 12 to 5 pm).

On the net:

<http://www.vcpbublicworks.org>