



City of  
**OAKLAND**  
California

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## News from: Oakland Public Works Agency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2012

# Volunteers Lend a Hand to Clean & Beautify Oakland

**Oakland, CA** – On Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am to 12 Noon, rain or shine, thousands of community and corporate volunteers will clean and green over 90 locations throughout Oakland. **Earth Day** is Oakland's largest community volunteer event, regularly drawing as many as 4,000 volunteers. This year, Oakland volunteers have committed to cleaning and greening over 35 parks and recreation centers, 20 creeks and waterways and 35 neighborhood locations.

Each volunteer will receive a special commemorative event patch. The first 3,000 volunteers will also receive a complimentary *Chinook Book* and smart phone application that includes over 350 coupons for local, green businesses in the East Bay.

**Earth Day** marks the anniversary of what many consider the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970. According to Earth Day Network, "more than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day activities each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world."

West Oakland's DeFremery Park is one of this year's featured locations. What Now America (a local non-profit organization) is anticipating a large turnout for their beautification project. "Earth Day allows us as members of the community to give back in an effort to beautify West Oakland with the help of students, parents, volunteers and City officials," states Executive Director Milad Yazdanpanah. The What Now America program is tailored to the youth of West Oakland as a community resource center every Saturday from 12 Noon to 5:00 p.m. They offer weekend programs that promote personal development, physical and behavior wellness, and academic success, while supporting youth empowerment, community involvement and cultural pride.

Mayor Jean Quan sees **Earth Day** as an opportunity for Oaklanders to get to know their neighbors and to help preserve and protect our City's great treasures. "In Oakland, the people make all the difference. When Oakland residents and business people build community by volunteering in our parks, creeks and neighborhoods, they are not only making our City more beautiful, but safer, too."

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**Earth Day** activities are sponsored by the City of Oakland Public Works Agency and include creek restoration, graffiti removal, weed abatement, planting projects, park and community cleanups and neighborhood beautification.

**Oakland Earth Day Featured Locations:**

FROG Park, at the end of Hardy Street  
Morcom Rose Garden, 700 Jean Street (west of Grand Avenue)  
DeFremery Park, DeFremery Recreation Center, 1651 Adeline Street  
Lake Merritt Sailboat House, 568 Bellevue Avenue  
Dimond Park, Dimond Recreation Center, 3860 Hanly Road  
Peralta Hacienda Historical Park, 2465 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Arroyo Viejo Park, 7701 Krause Avenue  
East Oakland Boxing Association, 816 98<sup>th</sup> Avenue

For more information about the events and a complete list of volunteer locations and interactive site map, call (510) 238-7611 or visit our website at [www.oaklandearthday.org](http://www.oaklandearthday.org).

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