

Over 16,000 lbs of Waste Collected at the 5th Annual Great American Cleanup

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Waste Management

Media

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Temescal Valley volunteers tackle illegal shooting ranges for national Great American Cleanup event

Temescal Valley, CA - July 2, 2012 - On Saturday, June 23rd, over 80 volunteers participated in the annual Temescal Valley Great American Cleanup. Local residents, ranging from children to adults, eradicated 16,500 pounds of discarded trash and debris from the Lake Mathews region.

The Great American Cleanup, founded by the Keep America Beautiful organization, is the country's largest community improvement initiative that brings together four million volunteers nationwide to beautify and improve more than 17,000 communities. Waste Management awarded several Great American Cleanup Think Green Grants of \$5,000 to support the community events, and Temescal Valley was a grant recipient.

Saturday marked the fifth consecutive year of the Temescal Valley Great American Cleanup organized by local residents and the Waste Management El Sobrante Landfill. Each year, the cleanups are dedicated to the restoration of local environments facing extreme degradation.

This year, volunteers expanded their cleanup efforts to open space in Lake Mathews to address illegal shooting ranges located four miles from Temescal Valley homes. The recreational shooting ranges polluted the land with rubble, discarded waste, artificial targets and shotgun shells.

"Although temperatures were warm, volunteers happily rolled up their sleeves and restored the environment back to a healthy condition," said Miriam Cardenas, community relations specialist for the Waste Management El Sobrante Landfill. "We hope the beautified countryside inspires the gunmen to end their dangerous shooting activity."

Riverside County First District Supervisor Bob Buster kicked-off the cleanup event and presented Keep America Beautiful Hometown Hero Awards to Temescal Valley residents Michelle Randall, Robert Hafner, Martin Lange, and the McFadden family; Bridget, Jim, John, and Ryan. The honorees have demonstrated for the past five years extraordinary voluntary commitment to the Temescal Valley community and the Great American Cleanup.

The event included a treasure hunt for young participants from Letha Raney Intermediate School and Boy Scout Troop 13 of Corona. Volunteers celebrated their commitment to a clean and safe community with a barbeque after the cleanup. Supervisor Bob Buster's Office, Riverside County Departments of Waste Management and Code Enforcement, the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management, and the Temescal Heritage Foundation supported the cleanup effort.

About Waste Management El Sobrante Landfill

Waste Management's El Sobrante Landfill is located in the unincorporated area of Riverside County. The landfill serves more than one million Inland Empire residents and is a critical component of Riverside County and the greater Los Angeles region's infrastructure. The site has more than 650 acres in permanent preservation and is a critical component of preserving open space in Riverside County. For more information on the landfill, please go to www.keepinginlandempireclean.com

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