



Monterey County Farm Bureau

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Watershed Group Takes Earth Day Seriously

The Arroyo Seco Watershed group gathered eleven, large bags of trash from along Arroyo Seco Road on EARTHDAY. "Growers in the area have adopted our watershed and we're taking every opportunity to keep it clean and safe," said Roger Moitoso, grower for Arroyo Seco Vineyards which farms approximately 1,000 acres in the watershed.

As part of Monterey County's Annual Clean County Day, Farm Bureau Watershed Coordinator Traci Roberts brought trash bags, gloves, and a signed voucher to dump the trash for free. Growers in the watershed met her and collected bottles, cans, styrofoam containers, baby car seats, a suitcase, baby diapers, clothing, a computer monitor, radios, calculators, lawn furniture, motor oil, and more. The clean up prevented the trash from eventually falling down the bank into Arroyo Seco Creek – one of the cleanest and most well-protected in the county.

Michael Griva grew up on the Franscioni & Griva ranch right in the center of the watershed, "When we bought, leased or grew up on this land, we automatically took responsibility to protect it and be good stewards," said Griva, "that responsibility is ours everyday, whether it's earth day or not."

Monterey County Farm Bureau, the Salinas Valley Water Coalition co-sponsored the clean up event providing hand wash water, refreshments and hauling the trash out.

The Environmental Health Department of Monterey County has a voucher program available to groups or individuals who want to haul away illegally dumped items from their property or along county roads. The Earth Day Clean County Day helped launch the program which is available all year round. You can find out more about the voucher program by contacting *Ted Terrasas, Recycling & Solid Waste Division, Dept. of Environmental Health, Office (831) 755-8977, Email: terrasastj@co.monterey.ca.us*

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