

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
STAFF REPORT**

BOARD MEETING: March 13, 2019

SUBJECT: Environmental Education and Community Outreach Update

PRESENTER: Jackie Nelson, Environmental Education Supervisor

REPORT: MPRPD and community partners prepare for the following sponsored events. Please mark you calendar and join us.

***California Wildlife Day!* at Palo Corona Regional Park-
Discovery Center, Saturday, March 23, 2019:**

The Carmel River Watershed Conservancy and Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District are hosting the second annual *California Wildlife Day!* (*CWD!*) on Saturday, March 23 from 10 am-3 pm. Created to honor California's diverse and rich wildlife, both the California State Assembly and Senate unanimously voted to pass Senate Concurrent Resolution 23, formally recognizing *CWD!* in March 2017. Event co-sponsors are REI, Santa Lucia Conservancy and the Pacific Grove Museum Natural History Museum.

As part of this annual celebration we, and our partners, network with Monterey County's K-12 schools and colleges to invite students to enter into the art and poetry contest, and scientific posters exhibit. At last year's inaugural event students, as young as seven, inspired us as they presented their scientific posters to some of the nearly 400 participants. These students, our next generation of stewards, remind us about the importance of our California native wildlife and their habitats.

The 2019 keynote speakers include Assemblymember Mark Stone, Supervisor Mary Adams, and Director Kelly Sorenson. Also presenting are Linda Yamane, Lynn Cullen's, Executive Director of Mountain Lion Foundation, and students, grades elementary school through college, on their respective wildlife research projects.

Activities will range from environmentally themed games, arts and crafts, live raptor demonstrations, 26+ exhibitors, habitat restoration as participants plant native vegetation, hikes, and more. Participants will also enjoy free food (pizza, salad and cookies). The event is free to all.

For a program with the complete listing of activities and partners please contact Jackie Nelson or visit www.californiawild.net.

Earth Day Celebration at Locke-Paddon Wetland Park, Marina, Saturday, April 13, 2019: Started by MPRPD, the City of Marina and a small group of volunteers, this annual event is now organized by the Citizens for Sustainable Marina and community partners. Observing its 13th year, more than 300 people are expected to participate this year to enhance the park through beautification and restoration projects. Over the years, the park's ice plant has been removed, split-rail fencing installed, trails updated, restroom, benches and trash bins painted, oak grove planted, lots of litter removed, and camaraderie and partnerships built. The residents take pride in cleaning the park at this community event and year-round.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$5,500

FUNDING SOURCE: 6312-Insurance – EE/CO: special events insurance
6349-Professional Services: permits
6354-Special Events: advertisement

FUNDING BALANCE: As of December 31, 2018, 6354-Special Events \$1,022.14
6349-Professional Services \$3,450.37
6312-Insurance – EE/CO \$1,500

RECOMMENDATION: Informational only.