



LAYLAN CONNELLY

beach blog

Big beach clean up in Huntington kicks off early Earth Day celebration

April 12th, 2012, 2:51 pm - [View 1 comment](#) - posted by [Laylan Connelly, staff writer](#)

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There's a big beach clean up event happening at Huntington State Beach this Saturday, and after the big storm there will be plenty of trash that flows down to the coast that will need to be picked up.

More than 1,000 people are expected to show up as part of the [Preserve Our Parks Campaign](#), a corporate initiative by Stater Bros., Coca-Cola and California State Parks employees that also invites the public to participate and get involved. The event will happen rain or shine.

The event – now in its fourth year – will remove beach litter, weeds and restore native plants. There will also be some fun and educational activities for the family, such as water testing and rain barrel assembly. Specialists from five Southern California state parks will lead family activity stations throughout the clean-up for hands-on ecological and environmental learning.



Last year's event brought 1,100 volunteers to the beach, making it the largest volunteer event in California State Parks history.

Sign ups start at 8:30 a.m., and the volunteer work runs from 9 a.m. to noon. Stater Bros. is hosting a lunch afterwards. Show up at Huntington State Beach at lot 6, enter at PCH and Magnolia Street. Tell the kiosk you are there for the clean up event and your \$15 parking fee should be waived.

This is the fourth year that Coca-Cola and Stater Bros. have initiated an environmental stewardship program to benefit California State Parks. This year's program "Preserve Our Parks" is an intensive, six-week campaign with the goal of raising one million dollars to help provide forest preservation, trail maintenance, habitat preservation and beach clean-up for the state park system in Southern California.

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Customers support their local parks while shopping at Stater Bros. supermarkets. Shoppers can make a one-dollar or five-dollar tax-deductible donation at Stater Bros. checkout stands through April 24, 2012. Online donations can be made at www.preserveourparks.info. Additionally, Coke will donate one dollar towards preservation efforts in Southern California when consumers purchase ten dollars' worth of Coca-Cola products through May 8, 2012.

Make sure to check out OC Register's Pat Brennan's Science Blog for updates on upcoming Earth Day events coming up the following weekend.

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