

Sign up now for the 2011 Mokelumne River Cleanup on Saturday, September 17

*Posted by: Kim Hamilton
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On Saturday, September 17, people who care about the Mokelumne River will gather at six sites from Pioneer to Clements for the 2011 Mokelumne River Cleanup. "There's still time to sign up for this year's Mokelumne River Cleanup," said Randy Berg, Foothill Conservancy cleanup coordinator. "People who participate in the river cleanup always have a great time while they do something good for our local river." Mokelumne cleanup participants will work along the river's banks, in the river, and on Pardee and Camanche Reservoirs removing trash accumulated through the summer months. Previous cleanups have cumulatively removed tons of trash and recyclables. The cleanup benefits wildlife and water quality while keeping the river a beautiful place to visit.....

The event will be held at six locations: the Highway 26/North Fork Mokelumne crossing, Electra Road, the Middle Bar area, Pardee Reservoir, Camanche Reservoir, and the lower Mokelumne from the Mokelumne Day Use area downstream to Stillman McGee Park. Participants must register in advance.

Volunteers should register as follows:

- For the Electra and Highway 26 sites, sign up online at www.foothillconservancy.org or call Randy Berg at 209-295-4900. These sites will offer a special prize for the weirdest trash find and the chance to win cool prizes.
- For the Middle Bar site, Pardee Reservoir site, Camanche Reservoir site, and the Mokelumne Day Use Area below Camanche downstream to Stillman McGee Park, sign up online at www.ebmud.com/recreation or contact EBMUD's David Johnson: johnsond@ebmud.com.

Volunteers should wear long pants and sturdy boots and bring along work gloves, a hat, insect repellent, sunscreen, a water bottle and a bag lunch unless they plan to participate in a free post-cleanup barbecue for volunteers at Camanche South Shore. Water and snacks will be provided.

Flotation devices are recommended for those working close to the river's edge. Properly equipped paddlers are welcome to help from the river at the Electra, Middle Bar, and possibly other sites (ask when you register). No pets or alcoholic beverages, please.

River cleaners under 18 are welcome if accompanied by responsible adults. Minors must have their liability releases signed by a parent or legal guardian. Copies of the liability release for the Electra and Highway 26 sites will be sent to volunteers when they register or can be obtained from the Foothill Conservancy office.

Groups are welcome to participate—please call in advance for information. Foothill Conservancy also urges everyone to sign on to support National Wild and Scenic River designation for the Mokelumne – the only way to ensure we have a river in our future!

This year's Mokelumne River Cleanup sponsors are the Foothill Conservancy, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council, Mokelumne River Outfitters, Pardee Lake Recreation, Argonaut High School Home Economics, Amador High School S-Club, and Camanche Recreation Company.

Business sponsors include ACES Waste Services, California Waste Recovery Systems, New York Fitness, Jackson Rancheria, George Reed Inc., 7-11 Materials, Jackson Signs, Martell Safeway, Star Donuts, and Munnerlyn's Ice Creamery.

The Great Sierra River Cleanup is sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. For more information, contact Randy Berg at 209-295-4900, e-mail randy@foothillconservancy.org or visit www.foothillconservancy.org.