

# County of Monterey

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION

**Resolution No.: 26-108**

Adopt a resolution proclaiming April 2026 as Monterey County Earth Awareness Month in the County of Monterey, and encouraging residents, as well as public and private organizations, to participate in Clean-Up Day events across cities and unincorporated areas throughout the County..... )

**WHEREAS**, illegal dumping of solid waste and the accumulation of litter are major problems in the County of Monterey (County) that raise significant concerns regarding the environment, health and safety, property values, and quality of life in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, illegal dumping and littering occurs at abandoned industrial, residential, or commercial buildings; on publicly and privately-owned vacant lots; and in alleys or roadways throughout the County, negatively impacting tourism and agriculture; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Monterey Health Department’s Environmental Health Bureau is the facilitating member of the Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement Task Force, a group of state and local public agencies, community members, and business representatives formed to identify and address the causes contributing to illegal dumping and littering in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement Task Force have determined that the environmental and financial impacts of illegal dumping and littering to our community are substantial; and

**WHEREAS**, the efforts to mitigate illegal dumpsites and litter are a task that must be addressed through a unified effort of the community, state, and local public agencies, by way of education, increased recycling, funding of clean-up activities, and action; and

**WHEREAS**, in January of 2006 the Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement Task Force coordinated public resources to establish a Disposal Voucher Coupon Program to fund the cost of solid waste disposal at local landfills, for use by victims of illegal dumping or by community groups in litter abatement activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement Task Force established a “Monterey County Clean-Up Day” in April of 2006 to promote the Disposal Voucher Coupon Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Clean-Up Day events have been held annually since 2006, with public participation having grown each year to about 2,000 residents volunteering at over 36 locations throughout the County; and

**WHEREAS**, volunteering personally in local cleanup events helps reduce litter as well as nurtures one’s sense of place and community; and

**WHEREAS**, the goal of Earth Awareness Month is to broaden, diversify and activate the environmental movement worldwide, through a combination of education, public policy, and consumer campaigns that will be celebrated during the month of April; and

**WHEREAS**, Earth Day events annually have culminated in multi-agency clean-up events such as those held at Carr Lake in Salinas in partnership with multiple agencies including Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority, Return of the Natives, and the Health Department’s Environmental Health Bureau and with the assistance of volunteers, with thousands of pounds of trash having been collected; and

**WHEREAS**, litter and illegal dumping continues to be an issue of concern within our communities, therefore; the Illegal Dumping and Litter Abatement Task Force recognizes April 25, 2026 as a dedicated day to heighten awareness of community clean-up efforts and activities to significantly reduce or eliminate the threats to the environment caused by illegally disposed solid waste, while promoting a clean and healthy Monterey County; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey hereby proclaims the month of April 2026 as Monterey County Earth Awareness Month and encourages residents, public and private organizations to participate in Clean-Up Day activities throughout the County and recognizes and commends the community volunteers whose efforts contribute to a cleaner, healthier Monterey County.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026

*Wendy Root Askew*  
Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

*Kate Daniels*  
Vice Chair Supervisor Kate Daniels

*Luis A. Alejo*  
Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

*Glenn Church*  
Supervisor Glenn Church

*Chris Lopez*  
Supervisor Chris Lopez

