

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the
County of Monterey, State of California**

Resolution No.:

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** 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 ___th of April 2026, upon motion of Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____ by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book ___ for the meeting on _____.

Dated:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Monterey, State of California

By _____
Deputy