

May Volunteer Opportunities

The Human Race

Date: May 11th

Time: Various shifts covering the morning and ending in the early afternoon

Location: 2300 Deleware Ave and West Cliff Drive

Description: Enjoy a day on beautiful West Cliff Drive volunteering at the Human Race Walkathon and Fun Run, the largest collaborative fundraiser in Santa Cruz County! The Human Race raises funds for over 120 schools, churches and nonprofits throughout the County and would not be possible without the amazing volunteers who help put it on. Volunteer jobs include setting up, serving food or water, being a crossing guard, cheering on runners, and more! We welcome families, youth and groups to volunteer, as there is a role for everyone interested in this collaborative event.

Contact: Elana, 831-427-5070 americorps@scvolunteercenter.org

Henry Cowell Park Beautification Day

Dates: May 4th

Time: 9:00 am – 2 pm

Location: Emerald Bay Apartments, Live Oak, Santa Cruz

Description: The California State Parks Foundation Park Champions program is currently seeking volunteers to help maintain and beautify Henry Cowell State Park. Work will focus on making improvements to Campgrounds, picnic areas and general maintenance of the park. Please join us by registering link below. Snacks and lunch are provided! Some of the events will have free camping. Please look for details on the California State Parks Foundation website. Online registration is required.

Register: www.calparks.org/volunteer

Snapshot Day

Dates: May 4th

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: varies – contact coordinator for details

Description: Snapshot Day is the oldest and largest single-day annual water quality monitoring event in California. On the first Saturday in May each year hundreds of volunteers join the Coastal Watershed Council and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff to take a “snapshot” of the health of rivers and streams flowing into the Sanctuary. This favorite event draws people of all ages from all over California’s Central Coast to collect scientifically valid water quality data and to learn more about their local watersheds. Data from field measurements and lab analysis are collected and analyzed to determine the biggest threats to water quality and best management practices to address them. Training for new volunteers is recommended

Training Dates: Wednesday, April 24 from 6-7:30pm and Sunday, April 28 from 11am to 12:30pm

Contact: Alev, abilginsoy@coastal-watershed.org

Sign Up online: <https://coastal-watershed.org/san-lorenzo-river/our-approach/community-science/snapshot-day/>

May Volunteer Opportunities

Guelaguetza Cultural Festival

Date: Sunday, May 19th

Time: Saturday, May 18 - Set Up - Help for 2-3 hours; get a ticket for free entry to Sunday festival
Sunday, May 19 - Festival Helpers for 2-3 hrs. Enjoy the festival before or after your shift

Location: San Lorenzo Park (near Downtown Santa Cruz), between Dakota Avenue (behind Paradox Hotel off Ocean Street) and River Street (across the pedestrian bridge near Trader Joe's)

Description: The Guelaguetza is an authentic cultural festival featuring food, dance, music, crafts of Oaxaca, Mexico. Guelaguetza is a Zapotec (one of the many indigenous languages of Oaxaca) word that means "a commitment of sharing and cooperation." Last year our festival attracted over 4500 attendees. We need lots of volunteers to make our event a success! If you volunteer for a shift at the festival, you will receive free admission to enjoy the festival before or after your volunteer time.

Sign up online: volunteersignup.org/TQ97A

Wetland Restoration 4th Saturday

Dates: Saturday, May 25th

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: Fitz Wetlands Education Resource Center located at the top of the Pajaro Valley High School campus (500 Harkins Slough Rd) at 9 a.m.

Description: Wetlands Restoration invites you to participate in this family-friendly outdoor volunteering activity helping to restore wetland habitat. Volunteer work includes planting native plants, removing exotic invasive plants, and helping in our native plant greenhouse. Afterwards, they will go for a guided nature walk. Please bring water, and wear layered work clothes, sturdy shoes and a sun hat. They will provide tools, gloves, and a snack.

Contact: Denise, denise@watsonvillemetlandswatch.com (831)234-3210

Sign Up online: <https://bit.ly/2FYLRzA>

DeLaveaga Elementary Carnival

Date: May 31st

Time: 3pm to 8 pm, 1 hour and 1.5 hour shifts available.

Location: Delavega elementary school

Description: Come spend an hour or two to help our annual spring carnival fundraiser a huge success! This is our biggest and funnest fundraiser of the year and helps raise funds to provide teacher's aids and grants, and student enrichment programs such as Life Lab, music and arts. Volunteers will do a variety of tasks such as running small carnival games, face painting, selling food, or help with raffles. It's a lot of fun, the kids love it, and it helps to support our local public schools!!

Sign Up Online: <https://bit.ly/2DqUQrB>

May Volunteer Opportunities

Commons Roots Farm Hand

Date: Tuesdays

Time: 10 am to 12 pm

Location: 335 Golf Club Drive, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Description: Costanoa Commons Farm is an urban, organic farm where people with and without disabilities grow healthy food and build community. We have countless projects that would benefit from you or your group's help. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up online.

Contact: Kyle, volunteer@costanoacommons.org

Sign Up Online: www.costanoacommons.org/volunteer

Homeless Garden Project Farm Drop In

Date: Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

Time: Thursdays & Fridays: 10 am – 2 pm, Saturdays & Sundays: 10 am – 4 pm

Location: Shaffer Road at Delaware Ave., Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Description: On the farm you will meet the crew, learn more about the farm, and join that day's activities which may include: weeding, harvest, planting, building compost and more. Projects are weather dependent and defined by the day's priorities. We often can't tell you exactly what project you'll be working on in advance. If you are group, please contact Justin ahead of time.

Contact: Justin, justinw@homelessgardenproject.org, 831-426-3609 x 10

Santa Cruz Shakespeare Prepare Outdoor Theatre

Date: Every Saturday in May and June

Time: 10:00 – 3:00 pm (you can join for 2 or more hours)

Location:

Description: Preparation for the Grove outdoor theater site requires no special experience. Related skills and tasks include: raking, weeding and doing general debris collection. We also have a need for special skills such as electrical, plumbing, tree work and carpentry. We provide tools, and there is a restroom on site. Dress comfortably, wear sunscreen and bring gloves and water or snack. Come join us! **Volunteers who serve for 10 or more hours will receive 2 free tickets to a show.

Contact: Douglass, volunteer@santacruzshakespeare.org

Weekend Friends Book Store Host

Dates: Saturdays (10 am – 1 pm, 1 pm – 4 pm), Sundays (1 – 4 pm)

Location: Friends Downtown Santa Cruz Library bookstore (224 Church St)

Description: We are looking for weekend hosts at our Friends Downtown Santa Cruz Library bookstore. If you would like to host you will learn to use a square system to receive payments as well as manage a small bookstore while you are here.

Contact: Mary, mary@fscpl.org

May Volunteer Opportunities

Grey Bears Volunteer Orientation

Date: Thursdays

Time: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Location: Grey Bears, 2710 Chanticleer Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95065

Description: Grey Bears improves the health and well being of seniors through food distribution, volunteerism and community participation. Volunteers are essential to the success of Grey Bear's programs! Volunteer opportunities include packing food for the Brown Bag Delivery program, cooking lunch, ringing up sales at the thrift store, sorting recycling, assisting in the office, selling books online, facility maintenance and more! Before volunteering we ask that you attend an orientation. We hold an orientation every Thursday at 1pm in the main office of Grey Bears. At the orientation you can sign up for the project that fits your interests.

Contact: Michelle, michelle@greybears.org, (831) 479-1055 ext 226

Transportation Hero for a Senior

Date: Ongoing, flexible schedule

Time: Monday- Friday 9am to 3pm

Location: Countywide

Description: "It's So Much More Than A Ride". As a volunteer driver, you provide rides to seniors for doctor and dentist appointments, grocery shopping and banking. Volunteers have the freedom to choose their destination, driving schedule and frequency. Drivers will receive a mileage reimbursement and the satisfaction of connecting with isolated seniors in need.

Contact: Tara, (831) 427-5070, helpinghands@scvolunteercenter.org