

## ***Templeton Community Services District Community Clean-Up Day and Barbecue Orientation and Safety Information***

*Volunteers taking care of our community are vital. Over a year's time lots of debris, trash and hazardous materials can make their way into our waterways with the help of the wind, rain, and human carelessness. Once in our creeks, rivers and ocean, this trash can dramatically change an ecosystem and endanger, maim, and even kill the animals and plants living within it. These living things are vital to the health of our planet and existence. Keeping our environment healthy for all living things starts with keeping our neighborhoods clean. Thanks for caring enough to be part of this year's clean up effort. **Here are some important safety rules to follow while volunteering:***

- Leave any large drums alone and report their location to your crew captain.
- Wear heavy gloves, closed-toe shoes, sun block, Deet, and long shirts/pants to protect you from sharp debris and from the sun and insects.
- Exercise caution at all times, being mindful of traffic, steep terrain, and other elements in the environment that might be hazardous.
- Walk cautiously along creek banks; do not trample on or remove any of the natural vegetation (no pulling of weeds).
- Avoid lifting anything too heavy; when in doubt, don't try!
- Avoid touching or picking up dead animals, or attempting to move injured ones. *Make your cleanup captains aware of the animals and where they are located.*
- Don't handle syringes, needles, or any sharp objects. Mark the area and notify the captain of their location. Crew captains will tag these items with landscape flags and report the locations to the event coordinator for removal at a later time.
- Always stay in groups of at least 2 or 3 people.
- Avoid over-exertion, sunburn, heat exhaustion, and dehydration. When in doubt, come in early.
- An adult should *always* supervise children.
- We pick up only human-created matter (plastics, metal, glass, Styrofoam, lumber, etc.). Natural debris including tree branches and nests is part of the natural environment that we are working to protect, and should be left alone.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO KEEP OUR WATERSHED HEALTHY**