



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PRESS RELEASE

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Santa Cruz County Parks Department Welcomes AmeriCorps

The Valley Women's Club, San Lorenzo Valley Native Habitat Restoration Program, and Santa Cruz County Parks are pleased to announce the return for the 5th year of the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC). The team will engage in the ongoing effort to restore native habitat throughout the San Lorenzo Valley Watershed by creating demonstration gardens, assisting with improving County Parks infrastructure and removing invasive, non-native plants such as ivy, vinca and blackberry. This year the team will expand their efforts of restoring native habitat and improving infrastructure to South County project sites. They will be in the county February through April 2020.

“These young people provide a valuable service to our community while developing their leadership skills through direct, team-based national and community service. We are fortunate to be able to benefit from their public service,” stated Supervisor Bruce McPherson.

The 2020 project sights will include: San Lorenzo Valley Museum, The Nature Discovery Park at the new Felton Library, Highlands Park, Quail Hollow Ranch, the Ben Lomond and Boulder Creek Libraries, Camp Joy, Henry Cowell Redwood State Park, the Santa Cruz Estuary Re-vegetation Project site on the lower San Lorenzo River, Pinto Lake County Park, Bert Scott Park, Anna Jean Cummings Park, and Aptos Village Park. Monarch Butterfly Nectar demonstration gardens are planned at Mountain Community Resources, the Senior Citizens Center, and the Ben Lomond and Boulder Creek Libraries.

The 2020 team consists of 12 team members – ages 18 to 24 – who will be known as Team Gold 7. Donations of food, tools, and entertainment for the team can be coordinated through Santa Cruz County Parks, Volunteer Coordinator, Margaret Ingraham (Margaret.ingraham@santacruzcounty.us) or Linda Skeff, Program Director San Lorenzo Valley Native Habitat Restoration Program, Program Director, (lindaskeff@gmail.com).