

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Storms leave huge amounts of trash along the San Diego River

The River Park Foundation is organizing a big community clean-up and needs volunteers

San Diego, CA – As flood waters recede, a significant amount of trash is being left behind. The San Diego River has been significantly impacted.

The San Diego River Park Foundation is organizing a huge community event to clean up one of the worst places along the San Diego River in Mission Valley.

The cleanup is on February 24, 2024, starting at 9 am. Two different events are being planned, one from 9 am - 11 am and one from 1 pm – 3 pm. The River Park Foundation believes at least 200 people will be needed to clean up all the trash in this one area.

Rain flushes trash from adjacent neighborhoods and communities into the River and the narrower parts of the riverbed get choked with bottles, plastic waste, cups and a lot of other items. The San Diego River between Fashion Valley Road and the 163 overpass is one of the narrowest sections and so it has seen a lot of trash deposited.

“A goal has been set to clean the entire area of the riverbed between Fashion Valley Road and Highway 163.”

Future storms will wash this trash downstream into an ecological reserve and eventually into the ocean. So a goal is to not only to clean up this area, but also to prevent harming wildlife in the future.

The River Park Foundation has a long history of hosting successful community cleanups, and last year their program picked up 232,590 pounds of trash.

Support for the event is being provided by Clark Construction, Riverwalk Golf Course, Town and Country Resort and Fashion Valley Mall.

WHO: The San Diego River Park Foundation, community volunteers

WHAT: Big River Post Storm Cleanup

WHERE: Fashion Valley Mall, 7007 Friars Rd., San Diego, CA 92108. Take the San Diego Trolley to the Fashion Valley stop or park in empty spots just south of Tesla Parking Station at Fashion Valley Mall. Click map [here](#).

WHEN: Saturday, February 24th in two shifts:

- Morning shift is from 9 am - 12 pm
- Afternoon shift is from 1 pm - 3 pm

CONTACT (DAY OF): Sarah Hutmacher, Chief Operating Officer, (559) 280-4696, sarah@sandiegoriver.org

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About The San Diego River Park Foundation

The San Diego River Park Foundation's mission is to engage people to work toward a better future for the historic San Diego River and the creation of a 52 mile river parkway from the mountains to the ocean. The River Park Foundation is a non-profit community-based organization founded in 2001.

Visit www.sandiegoriver.org for more information.