





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023

San Diegans Urged to 'Think Blue' and Show Love for Clean Water and Clean Beaches in February

RESIDENTS CAN JOIN COMMUNITY CLEANUPS AND EDUCATIONAL WEBINARS TO HELP CREATE A MORE SUSTAINABLE CITY

SAN DIEGO – With Valentine's Day approaching, <u>Think Blue San Diego</u> – the public education and engagement program of the City's Stormwater Department – is encouraging San Diegans to show their love for clean water and clean beaches this month by participating in community cleanups and educational webinars to help create a more sustainable city.

Think Blue's nonprofit partner <u>I Love A Clean San Diego</u> is joining the City in hosting a series of events throughout February, including major cleanups in Barrio Logan and City Heights, that residents can participate in.

"To keep our city clean and beautiful, we're asking San Diegans to show their love for our town by attending a cleanup or webinar this month," said Bethany Bezak, Interim Director of the City's Stormwater Department. "These opportunities to 'Think Blue' and make a difference will help preserve and protect our amazing local environment."

Opportunities for San Diegans include:

Conscious Closets Webinar – Wednesday, Feb. 8, 5 p.m. – This free hour-long online session, sponsored by the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department, will share how to make your closet more sustainable. Attendees will learn about sustainable fashion including textile recycling and upcycling ideas, low waste laundry routines, the environmental impacts of fast fashion, how to mindfully clean out your closet, thrift shopping tips and local secondhand store recommendations.

• Register to receive a link to the live webinar. For those who can't attend, please register to receive a recording to watch later.

Coffee Date Cleanup – Saturday, Feb. 11, 9 a.m. – This Valentine's weekend cleanup in Barrio Logan, sponsored by Think Blue, will help divert litter and debris from the Chollas watershed and prevent it from

reaching the ocean. Before the cleanup, volunteers will learn about the watershed and how to recycle right. Coffee and hot chocolate will be provided by Café Moto.

- Memorial Dog Park, 2975 Ocean View Blvd., San Diego, CA 92113
- Volunteers can <u>register here</u>.

Say No to Single-Use Plastic Webinar – Thursday, Feb. 16, 5 p.m. – This free hour-long online session, sponsored by the County of San Diego, helps residents learn how to eliminate single-use plastic waste through zero waste swaps. Attendees will learn how to properly recycle or dispose of plastic waste, what happens to plastic after it's thrown into a bin or dumpster, and why it's important for public and environmental health to reduce plastic usage.

• Register to receive a live link to the webinar. For those who can't attend, please register to receive a recording to watch later.

Sunset Sweep: Manzanita Canyon Cleanup – Thursday, Feb. 23, 3 p.m. – During this two-hour cleanup, sponsored by Think Blue and <u>San Diego Canyonlands</u>, volunteers will remove litter and debris from Manzanita Canyon near City Heights and keep it from flowing through the watershed into local waterways and the ocean.

- The Manzanita Gathering Place, Manzanita Place, San Diego, CA 92105
- Volunteers can <u>register here</u>.

Organic Recycling Webinar – Saturday, Feb. 25, 10 a.m. – This free hour-long online session, sponsored by the City of San Diego's Environmental Services Department, focuses on the City's new curbside organics waste recycling program. Attendees will learn how to reduce food waste through meal planning/storage, how to properly dispose of food waste through the new program, what types of waste go into the organics waste recycling bin, and the importance of diverting organic waste from landfills.

• Register to receive a live link to the webinar. For those who can't attend, please register to receive a recording to watch later.

"There are many great opportunities throughout February for San Diegans to get involved and show their love for our waterways and ocean," said Ann Marie Sack, Director of Community Engagement at I Love A Clean San Diego. "Residents can volunteer for a cleanup and learn how they can do their part to live more sustainably by attending a free educational webinar."

To learn more about Think Blue San Diego and how to implement a Think Blue mindset, go to thinkblue.org.

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