



VENTURA COASTKEEPER

Trash Pickup Volunteer Event: **Help Protect & Restore Oxnard's** **Ormond Beach Wetlands**

When: November 22, 1pm – 4pm (please arrive on time)

Where: J-Street Drain, Oxnard, CA -Meet in the Parking Lot at 869 West Hueneme Rd, Oxnard, CA (corner of Hueneme Rd. and J St)

Introductory Remarks: Jason Weiner, VCK's Associate Director & Staff Attorney

Cultural Perspective: Mati Waiya, Chumash Ceremonial Elder & VCK's Executive Director

Bring Sturdy Shoes (no sandals), gloves will be provided, must be able to walk down steep slopes with rope assistance

RSVP & Questions: jweiner.venturacoastkeeper@wishtoyo.org

How Volunteering to Pick Up Trash From J-Street Drain Will Help Protect & Restore the Ormond Beach Wetlands

J-Street Drain is littered with trash that is swept into Ormond Beach Wetlands and Oxnard's coastal waters following every rain event. Trash significantly degrades the ecological integrity and water quality of Ormond Beach Wetlands, which is home to, and serves as migratory grounds for, numerous federally listed endangered species including the snowy plover, California least tern, and tidewater goby. The wetlands are of significant importance to Oxnard's residents, many of which are economically and politically marginalized. Picking up trash will help protect and restore Ormond Beach for the benefit of all. By recording the trash we pick up and submitting our data cards to local government agencies, we are also providing our local governments with the information they need to implement effective solutions to prevent trash and the contaminants it carries from entering our coastal Waters.

What Trash Does to Our Waterbodies

Trash in waterways causes significant water quality problems. Small and large floatables can inhibit the growth of aquatic vegetation, decreasing spawning areas and habitats for fish and other living organisms. Wildlife living in rivers and in riparian areas can be harmed by ingesting or becoming entangled in floating trash. Except for large items such as shopping carts, settleables are not always obvious to the eye. They include glass, cigarette butts, rubber, construction debris and more. Settleables can be a problem for bottom feeders and can contribute to sediment contamination. Some debris (e.g. diapers, medical and household waste, and chemicals) are a source of bacteria and toxic substances. Floating debris that is not trapped and removed will eventually end up on the beaches or in the open ocean, repelling visitors away from our beaches and degrading coastal waters.