

# The GREAT Pittsburg Clean Up

The Partners for the Watershed, The Dow Chemical Company and the City of Pittsburg invite you to join us to clean up Kirker Creek!



Saturday, May 22nd, 9 AM – 11 AM

Meet at: Central Park (Pittsburg-Antioch Hwy.)



Help us plan by registering at 925-252-4129 or just show up!

Wear appropriate shoes and clothes for possible wet, muddy conditions.

Groups *please* RSVP! (So we can stock gloves & snacks)

Volunteer Release Form required on day of the event. If under 18, parent signature will be required.

Call number above to get a form.

Service Credits available for graduation!

Release Form also available at :

[www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us](http://www.ci.pittsburg.ca.us) look under Upcoming Events for The GREAT Pittsburg Clean Up.



## Facts & Information on Litter, Litter Everywhere:

Lifespan of commonly littered items:

\* Glass Bottle ~ Approx 1 million years

\* Nylon fabric ~ 30-40 years

\* Cigarette butt ~

\* Painted wood stake ~

2-5 years

13 years +

Source: California Waste Management Bulletin / Keep California Beautiful

Ventura, CA volunteers picked up 229,928 cigarette butts from California's coastal and inland waterways in 2007. Facts:

- Cigarette litter is deadly to wildlife on land, which mistake the filters for food. Many butts left on sidewalks and streets wash into storm drains, which take them to the ocean and other waterways. Marine animals eat the litter, think they are full, then die of starvation.
- Children who find and ingest more than one cigarette, or more than three cigarette butts may show symptoms of nicotine poisoning.
- Cigarette filters are not biodegradable. Many contain plastics (not cotton as in the past) and can take up to five years to break down, leaking toxins into land and water environments. Source: City of Ventura Integrated Waste Management Division

Plastic is not biodegradable and very little of it (less than 4%) is recycled. Because it is durable and light-weight, plastic debris travels over vast distances and accumulates on beaches and in the ocean. The majority of marine debris is plastic.

In the Central North Pacific Gyre, pieces of plastic outweigh surface zooplankton by a factor of 6 to 1. Fish and seabirds mistake plastic for food. Plastic debris release chemical additives and plasticizers into the ocean.

Source: Alglita Marine Research Foundation



Keep Pittsburg Clean & Beautiful!!!