

watershed



Back to School Means Back to the Bay for Local Students

“This is a very empowering community service and environmental education opportunity. Save The Bay does great work on behalf of all of us. The instructors are wonderful, informative, and enthusiastic. Thank you!”
 —Lorraine Gallagher, Montessori Family teacher

“Save The Bay’s field trip allows my students an opportunity to take action in restoring their environment. These trips are educational, active, and well-planned.”
 —Mardi Mertens, Berkeley High teacher

“This field trip ties into what my students are learning about biodiversity and solid waste impacts. It’s really powerful for my students to look at the Bay’s history and explore how it has changed over the past 1,000 years. This is a great way to teach outside of the classroom.”
 —Tracy Ostrom, Skyline High School teacher

That’s what just a handful of teachers have to say about Save The Bay’s award-winning Watershed Education Program. And right now, Save The Bay staff is busy gearing up for our fall season—during which 800 students will spend a day restoring and learning about the natural treasure that defines our region: San Francisco Bay.

Using the Bay as our classroom and laboratory, Save The Bay offers field trips to middle and high school students that teach and inspire ecological stewardship and community leadership.

“We strive to imbue students and teachers with a sense of wonder and responsibility for the Bay by connecting their daily lives with their local wetlands,” said Darcie Goodman Collins Ph.D., Save The Bay’s Habitat Restoration Director.

Save The Bay’s free, day-long restoration programs are available to students

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help clean up Bay Trash Hot Spots on September 25—**Coastal Cleanup Day 2010**.

Do your part to rid the Bay of garbage to protect water quality and Bay wildlife.

Reserve your spot today by signing up: saveSFbay.org/volunteer

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SAVE THE BAY
www.saveSFbay.org



Save The Bay Takes On Styrofoam



ADRIENNE MILLER

Save The Bay and our supporters work diligently to reduce the amount of trash flowing to San Francisco Bay, where it poisons wildlife and degrades water quality. This work includes urging the Regional Water Board to include tough regulations in the Municipal Regional Permit for stormwater, as well as documenting hot spots so polluted

with trash they violate the Clean Water Act and are thus mandated for cleanup. However, with 80 percent of waterborne trash coming from land, the frequency and volume of litter that continues to clog our storm drains and creeks demands that individuals and cities do more. It also demands a new and innovative approach to pollution prevention.

Save The Bay created the Clean Bay Project to reduce Bay runoff pollution. Much of that work includes helping cities pass ordinances targeting hot ticket litter items, including polystyrene/Styrofoam, which is toxic to both humans and wildlife. And we've enjoyed several victories thus far.

After advocacy by Save The Bay and our members, the Fremont City Council passed an ordinance banning polystyrene foam to-go containers. Save The Bay also worked with San Mateo County, and asked supporters in the area to urge their Board of Supervisors to move forward with a polystyrene ban (both foam and clear food packaging containers). We are happy to report the Environmental Quality Committee recommended the ordinance to the full board.

“With Save The Bay’s assistance with education and outreach, our proposed ordinance to ban polystyrene products received strong support from the business community and a unanimous vote from the City Council,” said Fremont Councilmember Bob Wieckowski.

Other cities are also on the “ban-wagon.” In fact, Oakland and Millbrae have already banned Styrofoam and Save The Bay is now working with Hayward and Santa Clara to develop bans on this problem pollutant.

Save The Bay’s work supporting these local efforts has been instrumental in stopping trash at its source. Yet there is still more work to be done. While Save The Bay continues to work with municipalities to pass bans on polystyrene and other plastics, community volunteers are also needed to clean up creeks and shorelines inundated with pollution. Save The Bay hosts cleanups year-round, including several for Coastal Cleanup Day in September. Register for a cleanup at saveSFbay.org/volunteer. And to learn more about Save The Bay’s Clean Bay Project, visit saveSFbay.org/clean-bay-project.

—Amy Ricard

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Fall 2010

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Bay Trash Hot Spots 2010 Help Save The Bay Adopt a Spot!

Save The Bay is gearing up for the release of its 5th annual Bay Trash Hot Spots—and this year YOU get to decide the top spot! Save The Bay will “adopt” one of the hot spots, hosting several cleanups at the site throughout the year. Be sure to visit our website on **September 21** to vote! You can also take action and learn more about how to prevent Bay trash at saveSFbay.org/baytrash.

State, Federal Agencies Affirm Salt Ponds Are Part of San Francisco Bay

The gushing oil in the Gulf of Mexico was a daily reminder of how vulnerable our bays and oceans are to devastation from human activities. But the efforts of brave people over decades also prevented man-made destruction that threatened to shrink our bay to a river.

Now thousands of people are working to restore San Francisco Bay for people and wildlife. So it's shocking that the country's largest private corporation proposes to pave over San Francisco Bay salt ponds where tidal marsh could be restored.

While Minnesota-based Cargill and Arizona-based DMB Associates continue to push forward their plans to build a new city on Redwood City salt ponds, State and Federal agencies are making strong statements about the importance of protecting this part of the Bay.

The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board recently became the latest agency to weigh in, telling Redwood City that in their current condition these salt ponds are "an important biological resource" that "provide foraging and nesting habitat for a variety of birds."

That echoes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' conclusion in April that the entire property is "waters of the United States," legally protected under the Clean Water Act. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also called the salt ponds "critically important aquatic resources that warrant special attention and protection."

But Cargill and its deep-pocketed developer continue a massive public relations effort to "sell" their plan for 12,000 new homes on the Bay. They call these salt ponds an "industrial site," a "moonscape," and a "refinery" that is "inhospitable to man or beast." The two companies have bombarded Redwood City with television and newspaper advertisements, community sponsorships, glossy mailings and "economic summits." They have spent millions of dollars on advertising, high-priced consultants, pollsters and lobbyists to sell their project to the Redwood City community.

With your support Save The Bay continues to build region-wide opposition to the project, affirming that salt ponds are habitat to be restored, not land for paving.

David Lewis



RUSS JUSKALIAN

*Save The Bay
Executive Director
David Lewis*

Call for Volunteers to Represent Save The Bay

We are looking for a dedicated team of volunteers to help spread our message! Would you like to help represent Save The Bay at events? We will provide the training and tools you need to succeed. If you would like to be part of our team please contact Natalie LaVan at 510-452-9261 x 109 or email at natalie@saveSFbay.org.

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in grades 5 and up. Optional one hour, in-class presentations are recommended to prepare students for field trips. Whether students are exploring plants and wildlife, or restoring critical wetland habitat along the shoreline, Save The Bay's Watershed Education Program promises a fun and interactive day on the Bay!

To learn more and sign up visit:
saveSFbay.org/environmental-education

—Jessica Castelli

Check Out Our New Campaign and Lend a Hand to Stop Cargill



Your help is needed to stop Cargill and protect our Bay for people and wildlife. Learn more about Cargill's destructive plan and add your name to the thousands of people who want to protect San Francisco Bay at DontPaveMyBay.org.

NEWSLETTER INSIDE

Matching Grant Doubles Your Gift

The single most important campaign to protect the Bay is the fight to stop Cargill's massive Bay fill plan on restorable salt ponds. Two dedicated Bay advocates feel so strongly about protecting our Bay, they have offered to match every gift we receive before September 17, up to \$80,000.

Now is the time to make a special gift, because the impact of your donation will be doubled!

The KSB Foundation and the Barkley Fund at Philanthropic Ventures Foundation have made this offer because they are passionate about the health of our Bay and they want to further inspire Save The Bay constituents like you.

As you know, there are very few shoreline parcels left that can be restored and added to the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Yet a recent report identified 40,000 other buildable sites for housing and other developments in our region. We have to tell Cargill, Don't Pave My Bay!

Please make a special gift today and help protect the Bay for future generations. Remember, the power of your gift will double if we receive it by September 17. If you'd like to make



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your gift online, please visit
saveSFbay.org/secure/donate-dont-pave.

Thank you.