



City of Malibu News

23825 Stuart Ranch Road • Malibu, California • 90265-4861
Phone (310) 456-2489 • Fax (310) 456-3356 • www.malibucity.org

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Contact: Christine Shen, Environmental Sustainability Analyst

310-456-2489, ext.

Cshen@malibucity.org

Malibu Community Members Encouraged to Volunteer for Dune Restoration Project During Earth Month

(Malibu, CA) – Malibu community members of all ages are encouraged to volunteer to help The Bay Foundation remove non-native vegetation, care for native plants and seeds, and repair restoration elements at the Malibu Living Shoreline Project on Saturday, April 30, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM at Point Dume State Beach.

“I encourage everyone to celebrate Earth Month by joining in this fun, educational, hands-on project to help protect our precious and fragile coastal dune habitat, or just come and observe and learn about the project,” said Mayor Paul Grisanti.

The Bay Foundation, in partnership with the City of Malibu, L.A. County Department of Beaches and Harbors, and the California State Coastal Conservancy, began restoring approximately 3 acres of dune habitat at Zuma Lagoon in December 2020 and at Point Dume State Beach in 2021 to increase the resiliency of the beach shoreline.

The project provides a cost-effective and low-impact solution to increase the resiliency of the sensitive coastal dune habitats from their current degraded condition by removing non-native invasive plants and replacing them with native dune plants that will create a natural barrier to protect the dunes from erosion. Coastal dunes are considered a natural, effective, sustainable method to protect coastal habitats and communities from the threats of rising sea levels, storms and erosion that have accelerated due to climate change.

The non-native plants that are being removed include ice plants, European sea rocket, Bermuda grass, myoporum and carnation spurge. They are being replaced with native sand verbena, beach evening primrose, beach saltbush and beach bur, which naturally collect sand and build up dunes. After planting, educational and recreational interpretive signage and pathways will be installed for people to interact with the site, observe native dune plants growing and flowering, and bird watch.

After the restoration work is complete at both sites, there will be long-term monitoring, maintenance, and adaptive management of the project to determine the project’s success.

The Bay Foundation plans to pursue more Living Shoreline Projects on Manhattan Beach and Dockweiler Beach. Similar dune restoration projects have also been undertaken in Ventura County and Santa Monica.

To register to volunteer, or for more information, including a map and parking instructions, visit <http://www.malibucity.org/DuneRestorationVolunteer/>

For more information about the City’s Earth Month events, visit www.MalibuCity.org/EarthMonth.

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