

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Lafayette Celebrates 40th Anniversary of Earth Day with A Special
Community Picnic & Eco-Learning at the New Library**

(Lafayette - CA) – This year, Earth Day will be 40 years old. The residents of our eco-friendly Contra Costa community are celebrating this milestone, and the remarkable progress we've made, by hosting a special community picnic in the center of town.

The Lafayette Earth Day celebration is being organized and hosted by Sustainable Lafayette, the Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, the City of Lafayette and the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.

When: Sunday, April 25th 11:30 – 4:00

Where: Downtown Lafayette – Margaret & Elam Brown Plaza
at Moraga Rd. and Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette Library – at Mt. Diablo Blvd and First Street

What: Three main elements to this year's celebration:

- 1) **Picnic on the Green** (11:30 - 2pm)
The community will gather to enjoy a local, organic, sustainable lunch in the downtown Plaza Park with live music and activities. Groups and individuals from across Lafayette will be recognized for contributing to a more sustainable community, including the 2009 City of Lafayette Green Award winners.
- 2) **Equip Your Life for Sustainability** (11:30 - 4pm)
With the latest green products from local merchants. A sampling of new products costing less than \$20 and organic veggie starters will be for sale. And a new Lafayette Green

Guide will be unveiled.

3) **Eco-Learning at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center** (1 - 4 pm)

The Library will have an array of educational and crafty activities for adults and children. There will be a special movie screening, the Rossmoor Big Band will play, and local non-profits will be on hand to share information and exhibits.

What makes this year's celebration so special:

Before the first Earth Day celebration in Lafayette four years ago, most of the community had hardly heard of the term "sustainable," and now there is evidence of trying to build a sustainable community all over town.

Sustainable Lafayette has grown to over 700 members in the past three years; the City of Lafayette is working hard to make sustainability a central goal of the new downtown plan, and is embarking on a city-wide Climate Action Plan; the Chamber has an active Green Committee that has designated over 30 Lafayette Green Businesses; the Lafayette School District has installed a huge solar system and is auditing every campus for ways to reduce energy, water, and waste; and a new farmers market has been started. These are just the highlights of a town that is confidently moving towards a more sustainable future and that is something to celebrate!

This year's Earth Day event will honor many organizations and roughly 200 individuals that are actively working to help Lafayette become a more sustainable city. All of their contributions are making a difference, both large and small. In addition, up to 10 City of Lafayette Green Award winners (for 2009) will be announced during the picnic.

For more information, please visit www.sustainablelafayette.net

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