



# NEWS RELEASE

12-087

**Date:** Tuesday, April 10, 2012  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CALTRANS GOES ON LITTER STAND DOWN TO PROMOTE CALTRANS ANNUAL LITTER DAY!**

**Inland Empire** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is asking you to help keep California clean and beautiful. The celebration of Earth Day is also the week that Caltrans highlights the “Don’t Trash California” campaign.

Caltrans District 8 encompasses over 7,200 lane miles throughout Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The Department utilizes many avenues to fight litter on our state highways: Adopt-a-Highway, Probation Programs, one day clean ups by local agencies under permit, and our own maintenance crews.

**On Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, all District 8 Maintenance crews, some Adopt-a-Highway members, and management staff will report to various locations on state highways to abate litter from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. throughout Riverside and San Bernardino counties.**

Caltrans invites you to help us keep our highways litter-free by joining the Adopt-A-Highway Program. You or your City can make a difference in your community by maintaining up to two-mile sections of roadside within California’s State Highway System. In return, you get a freeway sign recognizing your contribution and the supplies to clean the highways at no cost. This builds community pride and adds to the aesthetic benefits of cleaner and more beautiful roadsides for gateways to your communities. Also by doing so, participants help to prevent potential pollutants from entering our waterways and save taxpayers millions of dollars every year.

Caltrans District 8 Acting District Director, Syed Raza states, “The Department recognizes and thanks the efforts of the adoptees in our Adopt-a-Highway Program. Currently there are an estimated 305 adoptions covering approximately 600 miles of state highway in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.”

Littering is a crime and a hazard to motorists. District 8 spent \$1.27 million in the 2011/12 fiscal year (which is not complete until June 30, 2012) on litter removal. Those funds could be spent on more important things such as new pavement, pothole repairs, and roadside improvements. The biggest way you can help is to keep your litter inside your vehicle, don’t throw out cigarette butts, and keep your loads secure on your vehicle. Caltrans reminds parents to set a good example for your children and stash their trash. Let’s make a difference and show you care. Don’t Trash California!

For more information and to see how you can join, go to <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/maint/adopt/>.

*Media: For photo opportunities or interviews contact Terri Kasinga at the number above.*

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