



# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## PLEASE DON'T TRASH CALIFORNIA

**SAN BERNARDINO** – Every year Caltrans celebrates Earth Day by encouraging motorists to keep California clean and beautiful. The “Don’t Trash California” campaign is in place to remind motorists to pitch in and stash their trash. Caltrans District 8 spent **\$6.423 million** in 2015 cleaning up Inland Empire state highways and interstates. Those funds could be better spent on such items as pavement and pothole repair and other roadside improvements.

Caltrans District 8 maintains over 7,200 highway lane miles throughout a twenty-eight thousand, square-mile district that encompasses Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Caltrans utilizes a variety of litter removal programs such as Adopt-a-Highway (AAH), work release or probation programs, one day “clean ups” by groups and local agencies under permit, and our own Caltrans’ maintenance crews.

Caltrans District 8 Director, John Bulinski states, “We need your help! Keep litter inside your vehicle, don’t throw cigarette butts out the window, and secure all loads on your vehicle.” Fines for littering can be up to \$1000.

In August 2013, District 8 began the Caltrans Parolee Program (CPP) with a nine person crew working to improve the appearance of roadsides in the San Bernardino Metro Area.

Make a difference by joining the AAH program (at no cost) and helping to maintain a section of state highway. In return, a freeway sign recognizing your contribution is installed along the adopted section of roadway to showcase your community pride. Caltrans will provide you with the supplies and safety training necessary to complete the task. Benefits include: preventing potential pollutants from entering our waterways, saving taxpayers millions of dollars and improving the aesthetics to the area in which you live.

Please set a good example for your children and your peers. “Stash Your Trash” until it can be disposed of in a proper waste receptacle. Make a difference and show you care--**Don’t Trash California!**

*Know before you go!* To stay on top of roadwork in the Inland Empire go to [www.caltrans8.info](http://www.caltrans8.info) and sign up for commuter alerts. View traffic conditions at <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov>.

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