



# Great Earth Walk

## Saturday, May 1, 2004



The Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends, a volunteer group dedicated to protecting the habitat and wildlife of Upper Newport Bay, requests your sponsorship of our volunteer walker, \_\_\_\_\_, who is participating in the Great Earth Walk.

The Walk, a statewide event organized by The Earth Institute to promote environmental education, will take place from 8 to 11 am on Saturday, May 1. It is expected to draw from 25,000 to 50,000 people throughout California, all walking to raise money for participating non-profits. Upper Newport Bay will be the primary walk site in Orange County. The Bay is an estuary – a coastal wetland where salt water from the ocean mixes with nutrient-rich fresh water that drains from inland sources. It is the largest of only a few remaining protected estuaries in Southern California. It is the home of nearly 200 species of birds, including several endangered species, as well as numerous species of mammals, fish and other creatures.

The Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends (NBNF) coordinates and conducts educational programs and community-based restoration projects, and advocates for the Bay on issues affecting its fragile ecosystem.

NBNF volunteers conduct free school tours exposing students to the wonders of nature while covering core Life Science curriculum. Unfortunately, the children that would most benefit from this enthralling outdoor learning experience attend inner city schools that are unable to afford the expense of bussing the children to the Bay. With sufficient funding we will also be able to provide the transportation.

NBNF volunteers remove invasive non-native plants and restore areas with indigenous plants, perform trail maintenance and other tasks. However, their efforts alone cannot stop the degradation of sensitive habitat or remediate flood, erosion and other large-scale damage. We have provided the seed money to initiate major projects, such as the Big Canyon Restoration Project, to restore natural habitat, improve public trails and clean up polluted urban runoff. With additional funding, other restoration projects, both large and small, can be undertaken in other areas of the Bay.

The person named has made a commitment to support our work at Upper Newport Bay by walking to raise money on our behalf. Please show your support by making a donation on his or her behalf. For more information visit [newportbay.org](http://newportbay.org) and click on the Great Earth Walk link, or call (949) 640-6746.

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### Great Earth Walk 2004 Donation Form

Yes, I want to support the efforts of The Earth Institute, the Newport Bay Naturalists and Friends, and the walker named with a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- My check payable to The Earth Institute is enclosed.
- Please charge my Visa ( ) MC ( ) Amex ( ) Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Person walking on behalf of NBNF:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail completed form to:

NBNF  
P.O. Box 10804  
Newport Beach, CA 92658

My company will match this contribution.

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_