

Developing Virtue's Girls' Division Joins 2019 California Coastal Cleanup Day 培德女中參加2019年「加州海岸清潔日」

By Wei Bisi, Siyan Chan Chinese translated by Wei Bisi

危必思 陳施恩文 危必思 中譯



California Coastal Cleanup Day is an annual event. Volunteers throughout the state gathered to pick up trash and recyclables from the beaches, lakes, and waterways of California on this day. This event takes place every year on the third Saturday in September. It's September 21 this year. The fall is chosen in order to get trash and recyclables before the winter rains begin and wash them all downstream.

The girls' students from Developing Virtue School (DVGS) have joined this event for the past four years. This year, 20 DVGS students, 10 parents and teachers also helped on the cleanup day along with more than 100 local volunteers and students from other schools in Ukiah to clean up Ukiah Valley Russian River and its tributary streams including Mill Creek.

The theme this year was The River Starts Here

每年九月的第三個星期六，是一年一度的「加州海岸清潔日」，今年適逢九月二十一日。這一天，加州各地的義工聚集在一起，從海灘、湖泊、河流等處撿拾垃圾和回收物。選擇秋天舉辦這項活動，是希望在冬天雨季來臨前，先行清理水域，以免雨水將垃圾和回收物全部沖到下游。

培德女中自四年前即參加這項環保活動。今年培德女中二十位同學以及十位家長和老師照例參加，她們和一百餘位社區義工以及瑜伽市其他學校的學生，共同清理瑜伽谷俄羅斯河及其支流（包括彌兒溪在內）的垃圾和回收物。

今年的清理主題是「河川此處來」，文宣照片特別顯示停車場裡亂丟的垃圾。重點強調在任何一個地方亂丟的垃圾，都將因風吹雨打而被送到小溪、河流、最後進入海洋；一路上不僅造成汙染，也毒害野生動



with a photo of litter in a parking lot to highlight the fact that litter anywhere will migrate with wind and rain to the creeks and rivers, then eventually the ocean, polluting the water along the way and poisoning wildlife. The idea is also to illustrate that we are all responsible for the problem—it is not just people living near the river, but everyone who produces waste.

Local volunteers and students met at Low Gap Park in downtown Ukiah around 8:00 am on September 21. When DVGS students, parents and teachers arrived, many people were already gathered around at the meeting point. After a short briefing by the organizer, DVGS people picked up the tools and trash bags, prepared to begin work.



植物。這正是告訴大家，我們每個人都要為這個問題負責——不光是住在臨近河川的人要負責，而是每個製造垃圾的人都要負責。

九月二十一日上午八時起，社區義工和學生們在瑜伽市區的羅蓋普公園集合。當培德女中師生和家長抵達時，只見許多人已聚集在集合地點。主辦人簡短說明注意事項後，培德女中師生和家長們隨即領取工具和垃圾袋，準備一展身手。

大批人馬接著分成小組，前往不同的地點。每一支隊伍走到河床附近，使用垃圾專用夾開始工作。每個人都得戴手套，河床上的每一件垃圾和可回收物都得撿起來。培德女中組隨著帶隊人員，前往彌兒溪動手清理。

當天艷陽高照，培德女中組無懼高溫，繼續沿著小路撿拾垃圾。大家發揮團隊精神，互相照應，一起撥開多刺的樹叢，將塑膠瓶和其他垃圾撿出來。



The huge group was then separated into smaller groups to various locations. Teams walked in and near the creek bed and used trash grabbers to pick up trash. Everyone must wear gloves and all items must be picked up with a grabber. DVGS team followed their leaders to Mill Creek, where they began their trash-picking.

As the sun scorched on from above, DVGS team were not deterred but continued to hike up the trails, picking up trash along the way. Working as a team, they helped one another prod through thorny bushes to retrieve plastic bottles and other trash.

Soon, it was 11:30 am—time for the event to come to an end, DVGS team hiked down and gathered back at Low Gap Park for some drinks and snacks.



The students felt that although it was tiring, it was definitely a worthwhile experience, as all of them felt the joy of giving back to the environment.

Deborah S. Edelman, Project Manager of Mendocino County Resource Conservation District, later announced that a total of 152 volunteers picked up 2,500 pounds (or 1.25 tons) of trash & recycling for a cleaner watershed in Ukiah Valley on September 21.

She also stressed that every piece of litter that is disposed of properly makes a difference. It is rare to be able to do something simple that literally makes an immediate improvement to the local and global environment, but picking up litter does just that. Every piece picked up is a piece that won't contaminate the creek, won't end up mistaken for food by a fish, won't end up in the Pacific Garbage Patch. ❀

很快就到上午11時30分，活動進入尾聲。培德女中組沿著小路走下來，回到羅蓋普公園吃點心、喝飲料。培德女中的同學們認為這項義務工作雖然辛苦，卻是非常值得的經驗，因為她們都感受到回報給大自然的喜悅。

曼都仙諾縣資源保育區項目經理黛博拉·艾德曼事後宣佈，9月21日當天共有152名義工撿拾了2,500磅（相當於1.25噸）的垃圾和回收物，使得瑜伽谷的水域乾淨多了。

她也強調，每一片妥善丟棄的垃圾，都能為環境帶來正面的影響。做一件簡單的小事，就能立即改善本地和全球的環境是很少見的，而撿拾垃圾恰足以達到這樣的效果：每一片撿拾起來的垃圾都不再汙染溪流，也不至於被魚兒當作食物誤吞，最後更不會堆積在太平洋垃圾帶。❀

為什麼打地藏七？因為現在世界災難太多了，所以祈禱地藏菩薩本願的力量，將一切災難消滅。

地藏菩薩所注重的就是孝道，因為他生生世世都是孝順父母。可是這並不容易，都是在困苦難艱中鍛鍊出來的。

他的父母不信三寶，然而他能順承其意，用種種善巧方便法門來誘導他們生正信三寶之心。

他到處所行的菩薩道是無相無著。無相是因他所行所作都不居功，不讚自己德行。就算救度衆生，他也說是衆生自度的。而不要衆生來感謝他，叩頭頂禮。

— 宣公上人開示



What is the motivation of holding the seven-day Bodhisattva Ksitigarbha (Earth Treasury or Earth Store) retreat? As disasters ravage rampant throughout the world, we pray to Bodhisattva Ksitigarbha in the hope of evoking his vow to end all these disasters.

Bodhisattva Ksitigarbha places great emphasis on filial respect as he has been filial to his parents life after life. This is by no means easy. He has undergone many ordeals and hardships in order to perfect this practice.

His parents did not believe in the Three Jewels (Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha). Although he respected and complied with their wishes, he never failed to apply all kinds of skillful means to guide them, inspiring them to bring forth genuine faith in the Three Jewels.

Wherever he goes, the Bodhisattva path that he walks is free from forms and attachments. He is unattached to forms because he neither takes credit for nor brag about his virtuous deeds. After he has rescued living beings, he asserts that they have saved themselves, instead of asking his beneficiaries to thank and bow to him.

—By Venerable Master Hua