

# SPECIAL **POINTS OF** INTEREST:

- One out of every 3 bites of food you eat is there because of pollinators!
- Join CEPA in celebrating the **Environment** on Saturday, May 27th from 10:00 A-2:00 P
- Learn about how important composting is and how you can start composting at home

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# Campo EPA News

VOLUME 19, ISSUE I

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# Pollinators: They Are Important!

Pollinators are animals, like birds. bees, butterflies and bats, that move pollen from one flower to another. This is actually the first step in a process that produces seeds, fruits, and pretty much the next generation of plants. Somewhere between 75% and 95% of all flowering plants and trees on the earth need help with pollination they need pollinators!

# What's CEPA Doing For **Pollinators?**

In early spring 2022, CEPA submitted an application to the Xerces Society for a free Southern California pollinator kit. The kit contains 32 plants, including shrubs, milkweed, and grasses. CEPA was one of the sites chosen to receive the kits so, in November, staff picked up the pollinator plants from the Moosa Creek Nursery. The kits were put into several aboveground planter boxes in the Cam-



Pollinator Habitat Kits in Campo's Native Plant Nursery building

po Community Garden, behind the CEPA office, on December 6, 2022.

# Five Things Kids Can Do To **Help Pollinators:**

I. Be kind to pollinator friends. Pollinators are small and fragile. It's easy for people to hurt them. Be gentle and quiet when they are near!

2. Look, but don't touch! When you see a butterfly, bee,

beetle, or hummingbird, look, but don't touch! Pollinators won't hurt you if you leave them alone and are nice to them.



### 3. Don't use poison sprays.

Bug your family to stop using poison sprays in your house and garden. This poison kills bad bugs, but it hurts pollinators too. Bug your family to buy ORGANIC fruit and vegetables. These are grown without poison sprays, so they keep pollinators safe and happy.

# 4. Keep pollinators' homes safe.

And help make habitat for pollinators. Take care of a garden. Plant some flowers. When you find a bug in your house, gently take it outside to its natural habitat.

### 5. Bug someone!

Bugs and pollinators are fun and interesting. Teach your family and friends about these important animals. Teach them to say "Thanks Bugs!"

CEPA Video Link: https:// youtu.be/VOOQfRsvx9o

# Save the Date!

Saturday, May 27, 2023

The Campo Band of Mission Indians Tribal Environmental Fair

Saturday, May 27th 2023 from 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Join us for delicious food, fun, games, raffles, recycling, educational presentations and live entertainment!

CAMPO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Campo EPA 36190 Church Road, Suite #4 Campo, CA 91906 Phone: 619-378-5072 Fax: 619-478-5818 www.facebook.com/CampoEPA For more information or to volunteer, please contact the oo Environmental Department at: 619-378-5072

The Campo Environmental Fair will be taking place at the o Band Administration building.

It's finally that time again! The Campo **Band of Mission Indians Tribal Environmental** program is excited to announce our annual **Environmental Fair.** Please mark us down on your calendar for Saturday, May 27, 2023.

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CEPA operates a T640 monitor (above) and two PurpleAir sensors (below) to collect PM2.5 data



# Campo EPA Air Quality Updates

The Campo Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) is currently operating a Teledyne T640 air monitor and two PurpleAir PA-II-SD sensors to conduct hourly Particulate Matter (PM) sampling for informational purposes. Data from the T-640 is uploaded into EPA's AQS database on a quarterly basis and all PurpleAir sensor data is live on the PurpleAir map (https://

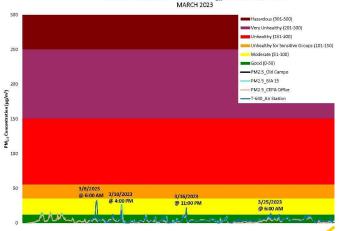
www2.purpleair.com/map). Data completeness for samples collected by the T640 is calculated on a quarterly basis to fulfill National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) requirements for completing annual averages. For second quarter, January through March, Campo has 93% completeness with 98.4% of daily averages falling in the "good" category on the AQI chart.



PurpleAir data for PM, temperature, barometric pressure and relative humidity has continued to be downloaded bi-weekly at two of the three installed sensors. In addition to the live data, CEPA compares them to all PM data collected by the T640 monitor. Using these low-cost air monitoring sensors will help to get representative data during wildfires and high dust events.

CEPA's Air & Met Data page: https://campoepa.wixsite.com/campoepa/air-met-data

Campo's PurpleAir & T-640 PM<sub>2.5</sub> Air Quality Index MARCH 2023



# Consumer Confidence Reports



A Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), which is sometimes also called an annual water quality report or a drink-

ing water quality report, provides information on the water quality of your local drinking water system.

The Campo Band
Tribal EPA currently operates
and maintains
three Public Drinking Water Systems
(PWSs) on the
Reservation.
Monthly coliform
samples, and

sometimes other required samples such as uranium, lead and copper, and disinfectant by -product are collected and taken to a lab for analysis. In May or June, CEPA sends out annual CCRs with information on the samples to all residents who are on any one of the three systems.

If your home is on the Old Campo PWS, South Campo PWS or Church Road PWS and you have not yet received a 2022 CCR the mail, you can also stop by our office to ask for a copy or check out the CEPA webpage (https://campoepa.wixsite.com/campoepa/ccrs) to view the PDFs.

# The Dirty on Composting...

When people think of recycling, they usually think of paper, glass, plastics, and metals...not food scraps. Composing, though, is nature's way to recycle organic waste such as food scraps and yard clippings. It is one of the most powerful actions we can take to reduce our trash, address climate change, and build healthy soil. But what IS composting?

Composting is the natural breakdown of organic matter (think: banana peels, egg shells, that broccoli or spinach nobody ate, or your grass trimmings and tree leaves) over time. Composting is a controlled, aerobic (oxygen-required) process in which insects, worms, fungi, bacteria, and other microbes break down organic waste to produce nutrient-rich and organic soil amendment or mulch. Food waste emits methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, in landfills. Composting helps avoid these emissions while creating compost - a dark, crumbly, earthysmelling material - that can be used to improve soil quality. Gardeners have used compost for centuries to increase soil organic matter, improve soil physical properties, and supply some of the essential nutrients for plant growth.

Most plant material can be used for composting. Leaves are perhaps the best material because of their availability and organic content; however, other types of organic materials such as animal manures, grass clippings, vegetable refuse, small tree limbs and shrub trimmings, coffee grounds, and rotted sawdust are considered good composting materials. Do not compost diseased plants, weeds with seeds. or invasive weeds such as tamarisk (salt cedar) and purple or yellow star thistle; avoid composting feces, meat products, or materials contaminated with chemicals.

For more information, US EPA has a website with all of the ins and outs of "Composting at Home":

# What are the benefits of composting?

# REDUCES LANDFILL WASTE



Composting helps divert materials from landfills. By

going to landfills. By composting wasted food and other organics, methane emissions are significantly reduced.

### **IMPROVES WATER QUALITY**

Compost can filter
pollutants caused
by automobile
traffic and
soils contaminated by
hazardous waste. In addition,
compost is great for wetland
reclamation or reforestation
projects since they require

highly organic material.

### REDUCES SOIL EROSION

Erosion occurs when topsoil is blown or washed away.
Compost helps to reduce soil erosion by binding soil together, increasing infiltration, and slowing the flow

soil together, increasing infiltration, and slowing the flow of water on and through soil; proving to be a tool for stormwater management too.

# CONSERVES MORE WATER

In addition to helping to manage stormwater, compost can also conserve water due to its ability to retain and efficiently

also conserve water due to its ability to retain and efficiently transfer water. This helps reduce how often plants need to be watered.

### REDUCES NEED FOR FERTILIZERS



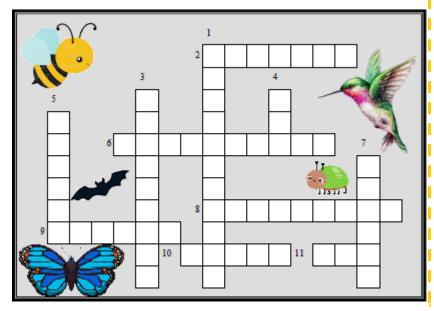
Compost promotes higher yields of crops. It sufficiently supplies soil with nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen. This reduces the need for synthetic or chemical fertilizers.

https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home

# Kids Corner: Spotlight on Pollinators

### Clues

- 1. A small bird that moves fast!
- 2. An animal's home.
- 3. Sweet! This treat is made possible by a pollinator.
- 4. This flying mammal likes cactus flowers.
- 5. Using this spray hurts pollinators too.
- 6. An animal that helps pollinate flowers.
- 7. Found in a flower. Sometimes it makes us sneeze.
- 8. A very colorful and beautiful pollinator.
- 9. Sweet liquid found in flowers.
- 10. Yum! Many pollinated flowers grow into these.
- 11. A busy garden insect.



\*HUMININGBIRD HABITAT CHOCOLATE BAT POISON POLLINATOR POLLEN BUTTERFLY NECTAR FRUIT BEE

36190 Church Road, Suite 4 Campo, CA 91906

# Campo EPA

# Campo Environmental Protection Agency



"To promote the health and welfare of the residents of the Reservation and in furtherance of the sovereign rights of the self-governance of the Campo Band, the General Council declares its commitment to the establishment and maintenance of the highest attainable standards of environmental quality within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation."

Campo EPA regulations.

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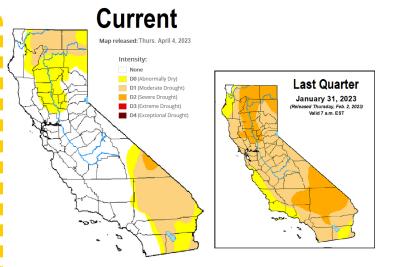
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www.campoepa.wix.com/campoepa





According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, 44% of California is experiencing some level of drought this quarter with less than 1% of the state experiencing severe drought. January through March yielded 15.12 inches of precipitation with a single day high of 1.52 inches on March 1st. Annual precipitation for 2023 is more than 10 inches higher than this time last year. To view the most recent Drought Monitor, visit:

https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/CurrentMap/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA



