

City of Vacaville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CITY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MAINTAIN HUME GROVE

The City of Vacaville is offering residents a chance to get involved with their community by helping maintain a Vacaville landmark.

At 7 p.m. on Monday, April 20 the City of Vacaville Park Maintenance Section will host a meeting to talk about volunteer opportunities at the Hume Grove. The meeting will be held in the Arts & Crafts Room at the Three Oaks Community Center, 1100 Alamo Drive.

Hume Grove is a stand of redwood trees located on the Butcher Bike Trail between the end of Butcher Road and Lagoon Valley Park. It is also the site of a native plant garden.

The grove was first planted in September 1982 in honor of Basic Vegetables Company's 50th anniversary. From small five-gallon trees, the redwoods grew well but little was done to the grove over the next eight years. During the early years the grove was minimally maintained by the City's Park Maintenance Department.

In October of 1990, Jack Hume gave his first donation to help enhance and maintain the grove at a higher level of service. Jack passed away shortly after that in 1991. His passing led to further discussions by the Hume family with City Landscape Architect Bob Farrington and additional work was planned and a new design took shape for the grove. In the summer of 1992 the construction was completed and the size of the grove was doubled. Additional native plants and trees, an irrigation system, paths, and other park amenities were constructed by City crews through a substantial gift from the Hume family through the Jaquelin (cq) Hume Foundation.

(More)

On October 12, 1992 the newly remodeled grove was dedicated honoring the life and accomplishments of Jack Hume. During the summer of 2007 the Hume family spent additional money upgrading the old irrigation system and adding some additional native plants.

The City is hoping to interest volunteers to help with the maintenance and continuation of this beautiful redwood grove. Those interested in the gardening aspect of grounds maintenance would be ideal, but all skills are needed and encouraged to attend. As this effort grows and others step up, jobs like docents to lead educational and informational tours could be put to work. Exhibit and curatorial-type volunteers, who could label native plants, educate the public about the collection of plants, local ecology, and low water use plants will also be needed. Those who are good with event planning might consider volunteering to assist with the planning and facilitation of related social, educational, and fund raising type events for the grove.

City of Vacaville Park Manager Rollie Simons will be there to answer your questions and share the vision of the Hume Grove volunteers. For more information, call 469-6510.

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