

SOLVE Launces Summer with Solve Campaign

Taking Action and Preserve Outdoor Spaces

Summer is here, and with it comes more opportunities to enjoy the PNW's beaches, parks, and rivers. However, the increased outdoor activity also leads to more litter and strain on the environment. To combat this, SOLVE is launching its Summer with SOLVE campaign, designed to take action, connect communities, and celebrate the beauty of our region through environmental action.

"Summer is a time to enjoy the outdoors, but it's also a time to ensure these spaces remain clean and sustainable for future generations," said Kris Carico, CEO of SOLVE. "Together, we can create cleaner, more inviting spaces that reflect our pride in our region and our commitment to caring for the environment. By working together, we can make a significant impact and inspire others to join in the effort to protect our natural spaces that we love to enjoy, especially during summer."

SOLVE kicked off summer with Pick It Up, Portland!, a city-wide celebration on World Envi-



SOLVE volunteers at Sellwood Riverfront Park

ronment Day, June 5. The event focused on four different locations across Portland: Market Street Downtown, Holladay Park, Sellwood Riverfront Park, and Eastbank Esplanade. This was the first of many volunteer opportunities offered by SOLVE this summer, with more projects planned throughout the season, including the ongoing Waterway Cleanup Series, protecting the health of local rivers, streams and creeks.

As outdoor recreation increases, SOLVE volunteers will remove litter from parks, neighborhoods, beaches, and riverbanks. Maintain recreation sites and public green spaces. Mulch around native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive plant species that thrive in summer months like Japanese knotweed, Himalayan blackberry, and Scotch broom

Upcoming Summer Events include the Post-4th Cleanups

(July 5-6) during this event volunteers will tackle the debris left behind from holiday celebrations to help restore outdoor spaces and shorelines. Next is the Willamette River Cleanup (August 9) which is focused on cleanup of the Willamette River, combating litter both on the water and along the riverbanks. Following that is the Waterway Cleanup Series (ongoing through September) which is a series of cleanup efforts dedicated

to preserving Oregon's rivers and streams during the peak outdoor season. There is also the Monthly Detrash Portland Events which are Community cleanups in Portland's business districts, focusing on revitalizing key areas in the city.

Looking ahead, SOLVE is also preparing for its annual Beach & Riverside Cleanup, September 20-28, part of the global International Coastal Cleanup, World Rivers Day and National Public Lands Day initiatives. This summer, SOLVE invites you to take part in protecting and preserving the natural spaces that make our region special. Whether you're volunteering at a cleanup event, leading your own group, or taking on a DIY project, there's a way for everyone to get involved.

Try the Trash Bag Challenge—pick up a bag of litter, then challenge friends or co-workers to do the same. Pass the bag, spread the impact, and inspire others to take action.

Every effort counts. Together, we can keep our neighborhoods, parks, and waterways clean and beautiful for generations to come.

For more information about Summer with SOLVE and how to get involved, visit solveoregon.org/seasons or follow us on social media.

OREGON PROBLEM GAMBLING RESOURCE

OPGR

TIME TO REFLECT

When the summer sun starts shining, many of us get a new sense of optimism. As the spring clouds break, we start to look forward to weekend getaways, summer road trips, and changing up some habits for our health. Maybe cutting back on gambling is one of those healthy changes you want to make.

YOU'RE IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT

At OPGR.org, they have research-supported tips and tactics to help you make the changes that work for you. Take a quiz, check out free resources, or download Evive, an app that's free for Oregonians, to help you cut back or pause your gambling.

Explore your options on your terms. You've got this.

Visit OPGR.org and take back control.