



PRESS RELEASE

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GIVE THE WORLD'S TALLEST GIFT ON EARTH DAY OR MOTHER'S DAY

--Save the Redwoods League and California State Parks' redwood seedling program helps consumers give 'green' on Earth Day and Mother's Day

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (April 13, 2009) – On Earth Day, April 22, and beyond, [Save the Redwoods League](#) and [California State Parks](#) make it possible to give a gift that gives back to mother and Earth for years to come.

For a donation of \$50 to Save the Redwoods League, gift-givers can have a [redwood seedling](#) planted in honor of a loved one in a California state park. An eco-friendly gift for Mother's Day, May 10, Save the Redwoods League delivers a commemorative card featuring a photograph of an ancient redwood forest to the recipient to showcase the gift. All dedicated trees support forest restoration efforts in California State Parks.

"With many people looking to spend their dollars in a way that makes a positive impact, dedicating a redwood seedling is an easy and meaningful way to support the environment on Earth Day or Mother's Day," said Ruskin Hartley, executive director, Save the Redwoods League. "The League's partnership with California State Parks will help us restore and rejuvenate forestlands that were once overharvested."

In 1850, there were nearly 2 million acres of ancient coast redwood forests in California. Today, less than 5 percent remains. Save the Redwoods League and California State Parks are leading a new movement to restore the complexity, diversity and ecological values of the remaining young redwood forest stands throughout their natural range so that one day they can begin to resemble an ancient redwood forest.

- More -

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Save the Redwoods League and California State Parks Redwood Seedling Program Page 2

"Once these fragile saplings are planted in a state park, they will always be protected so that they can grow strong and be still standing hundreds of years from now," said Director Ruth Coleman of California State Parks. "In addition to providing shade and habitat, they reduce atmospheric carbon that contributes to global warming. New this year, we're proud to expand the seedling program to include planting of other tree species, as needed, to best support healthy and diverse ecosystems within our parks. "

Steve Horvitz, superintendent of North Coast Redwoods District at California State Parks, will ensure that genetically similar trees are planted together so that the delicate redwood forest can be restored as naturally as possible. While redwood seedlings are the first to be planted through the program, other trees species such as western hemlock, Sitka spruce, red alder, Douglas-fir and big leaf maple will be planted if no additional redwood seedlings are needed in an area. California State Parks staff will determine where trees will be planted to effectively promote the health and diversity of state park forests.

To place an order for a seedling gift, please visit the League online at savetheredwoods.org/give or send an e-mail to membership@savetheredwoods.org. For more information please call 1-888-836-0005. The opportunity to have a seedling planted in honor of a loved one or organization exists year-round.

Editors, please note: For more information or to request images, contact Heather Platisha, Landis Communications Inc. at 415-359-2306 or heather@landispr.com.

About Save the Redwoods League

For more than 90 years, Save the Redwoods League has been dedicated to protecting the ancient redwood forests so all generations can experience the inspiration and majesty of redwoods. In 1850, there were nearly 2 million acres of ancient coast redwood forests in California. Today, less than 5 percent remains. Since its founding in 1918, the League has completed the purchase of more than 181,000 acres of land. For more information, visit savetheredwoods.org.

About California State Parks

California State Parks manages more than 1.5 million acres that make up California's 279 state parks. These include beaches, museums, recreation areas, state vehicular recreation areas, state reserves and historic parks. The department's mission is to provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

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