



**Environmental
Nature Center**

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Press Release

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ENVIRONMENTAL NATURE CENTER TURNS 45

The ENC celebrates 45th anniversary with 45 events

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif., February 15, 2017 – The Environmental Nature Center, founded in 1972, will be celebrating its 45th anniversary this year. In celebration, it has shared a calendar of 45 low-cost and free events planned for the year. The community is encouraged to participate. Events are listed at encenter.org/visit-us/upcoming-events

The ENC was founded in 1972 from land that was considered little more than an eyesore. After Newport Harbor High School constructed their Olympic-sized swimming pool, the excess soil was dumped near a gully that ran behind the adjacent Newport-Mesa Unified School District administrative offices. Nearby land was little more than a lot full of weeds previously used for an agricultural program. Dedicated and determined science teachers and student volunteers eventually turned the soil into a home for a living nature laboratory.

Since its inception, students from throughout the community have been invited to explore, maintain, and nurture the land, all while learning to both use and respect its resources. The ENC has become a leader and authority on ecological responsibility, sustainability, and environmental education.

"The 45 events the ENC has planned for this year are geared toward educators, families, children and adults," said ENC Executive Director Bo Glover. "There is something for everyone!"

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- Citizen Science and [Teacher's Night Out](#) workshops teach educators to incorporate hands-on learning for their students through applied science and outdoor exploration.
- [Campfire programs](#) are meant to bring the community together to listen to stories, sing or play music, hang out with loved ones, and make new friends.
- [Reading in the Redwoods](#) and [Little Naturalist](#) programs introduce young children to Nature, and provide opportunities for families to spend time together in the outdoors.
- The [Adult Speaker Series](#) provides monthly opportunities for adults to gather, socialize over wine and hors d'oeuvres, and gain knowledge about interesting, timely topics.

For more information or to register for an event, interested parties can visit encenter.org.

About the ENC

Founded in 1972, the ENC is a fascinating combination of 15 California native plant communities, wildlife habitat, walking trails, and sustainably designed, LEED Platinum certified learning center. For 40 years, the ENC has been shaped and caressed into a 3.5 acre landscape for learning, a sanctuary from life's pressures and a place of preservation and instruction. Serving over 21,000 students and thousands of visitors annually, the ENC is recognized as a leader in science and social science education providing opportunities for increasing our community's knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

The ENC recently purchased property to develop a nature play area, and construct our community's first nature based preschool. With a mission of providing quality education through hands-on experience with nature, the ENC inspires all generations to protect the natural world by serving as our community's foremost authority on ecological responsibility, sustainable practices and environmental education. The ENC is a non-profit 501(c)-3 public benefit corporation. For more information call 949-645-8489, or visit www.ENCenter.org. The ENC is located at 1601 16th Street in Newport Beach.

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