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Care for God's Creation

News from the Stockton Diocese Environmental Justice Project

EVI brings clean cars, green jobs to Stockton

Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes.

- **Ezekiel 47: 9**

STOCKTON, Calif., March 29, 2012 /PRNewswire. In support of Governor Brown's recently issued Executive Order to encourage the use of zero-emission vehicles throughout California, Stockton-based Electric Vehicles International (EVI) announced plans to deploy 500 fully electric delivery trucks over the next two years. The state-of-the-art zero-emission vehicles will be made in California and will replace diesel trucks.

Dr. Robert Weisenmiller, Chair of the California Energy Commission, praised the 500 zero-emission truck initiative, saying, "EVI's endeavor is especially critical given the need to improve the air quality in the San Joaquin Valley and support Stockton's job market. Additionally, Governor Brown's recent announcement will help provide enhanced access to EV charging stations, cut California's dependence on fossil fuels, and improve our air quality..."

A leader in deploying fully electric return-to-base delivery trucks, EVI has established a presence with large fleet customers like UPS, Frito-Lay and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). With the partnership and support of agencies such as the California Energy Commission, the California Air Resources Board, South Coast Air Quality Management District, San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, and the Sacramento Air Quality Management District, EVI and UPS will put into service 100 zero-emission medium duty delivery trucks early this summer. "UPS' deployment of 100 EVI zero emission vehicles this year and EVI's 500-vehicle initiative over the next two years will greatly help improve public health in California by reducing air pollution. This proves that ultra-clean delivery vehicles are ready now for everyday use in our communities," said Mary D. Nichols, Chairman of the California Air Resources Board.

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- More clean tech jobs come to Stockton
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Looking for a speaker for your parish event?

The Environmental Justice Project can put you in touch with a speaker trained by the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change, a program of the U.S. Conference of Bishops. Your parish can participate in the St. Francis of Assisi Pledge to Protect Creation and the Poor. For more information, contact Betsy at: 209-444-5925 or betsyr@ccstockton.org



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Websites to Care for
Creation:

**Catholic Charities, Stockton
Diocese:** www.ccstockton.org

**National Catholic Rural Life
Conference:** www.ncrlc.com

Catholic Climate Covenant:
www.catholicclimatecovenant.org

Nitrates in Valley drinking water raise concerns

Central Valley Business Times, March 13, 2012. One in 10 people living in California's most productive agricultural areas are at risk of exposure to harmful levels of nitrate contamination in their drinking water, according to a report by the University of California, Davis...

"This report should help inform discussions among people involved with drinking water, waste discharge, and agricultural issues, including various local and state government agencies," [said Jay Lund, director of the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences and report co-author.]

[The report] examines data from wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, parks, lawns, golf courses and farms...In addition to the public health risk, nitrate groundwater contamination imposes major abatement costs on small rural communities, which often have little financial means or technical capacity to maintain safe drinking water...

The State Water Board will conduct a public workshop on May 23 to consider public comment, as well as discuss the findings and options outlined in the UC Davis report. Read more at:

<http://www.centralvalleybusinesstimes.com/stories/001/?ID=20613>

Earth Day ... Every day

Saturday, April 14th, 10 – 11:30 am, Stockton. Catholic Charities and Friends of the Lower Calaveras River will lead this month's walk along the river. Meet at the Student Union, second floor redwood deck, at the University of the Pacific in Stockton. For more info, contact Betsy at 209-444-5925 or betsyr@ccstockton.org

Saturday, April 21st, 10 am to 5 pm, Modesto. Annual Earth Day Festival, Graceada Park, 401 Needham Ave. For info: 209-577-5495

Sunday, April 22nd, 11 am to 5 pm, Stockton. Annual Earth Day Festival, Victory Park near Haggin Museum. For info: stocktonearthday@gmail.com

Interfaith Power and Light invites you to celebrate spring with the Sow a Cool Harvest gardening kit for congregations. If you don't have time or space to garden, the kit offers tips on how to green your pantry or host a local farmers market. Go to: <http://interfaithpowerandlight.org> and click "Food, Faith, Climate."

About the Stockton Diocese Environmental Justice Project...

Since 2005, the Environmental Justice Project has worked "to educate and motivate Catholics to a deeper reverence and respect for God's creation, and to engage local parishes in activities aimed at dealing with environmental problems, particularly as they affect the poor." The Project brings a unique Catholic voice to the public policy debate in the Central Valley and Sierra Nevada.