

**NEWS RELEASE** 

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

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**GREEN DIAMOND HOSTS OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP:** 

Over 200 Volunteers Help Tidy Forestlands

(May 1, 2017, SHELTON, Wash.)- Green Diamond Resource Company hosted over 200 volunteers Saturday, April 29, for "Operation Clean Sweep" on the company's private working forest lands near Shelton, Wash. The volunteers, representing Puget Sound Enduro and Shelton Dirt Rider Motorcycle Clubs, Grays Harbor County Chapter of the WA Backcountry Horsemen, Shelton Nimrod Club, Olympus Rally Club and other user groups that recreate on Green Diamond's lands, gathered seven 40-yard dumpsters from seven major dump sites that had accumulated on Green Diamond's lands. Volunteers also salvaged several hundred tires for recycling.

Green Diamond started Operation Clean Sweep several years ago to get citizens involved in clean up. "Many people who use our lands approach us and ask whether they can help out, because they are so frustrated by the dumping that occurs," explained Green Diamond Security Officer Matt Nixon, who organized the event this year.

"I hate garbage," said Ken Howard, a volunteer who grew up in Mason County and founded Olympic Tree Hound Association, which trains and runs hounds on Green Diamond lands. Howard has participated in Operation Clean Sweep every year since Green Diamond's security patrol initiated the event 10 years ago. "Who wants to see garbage when you're in the woods?"

Sue Watson, a member of the local Back Country Horsemen Association, participated in Operation Clean Sweep for the first time this year, though she often cleans up garbage on her rides through Green Diamond land. "We see a lot of small stuff," she said, "and we want to give back because Green Diamond allows us to do fundraising rides on their land."

"We are extremely grateful to all those who helped with the clean up this year," Nixon said. "These folks come out, work hard to clean up some pretty ugly sites, and have a great time doing it," he continued. "We just couldn't accomplish this by ourselves."

Green Diamond Resource Company is a privately held forest products company that owns and manages working forest lands in Washington, Oregon, and California. Learn more about Green Diamond Resource Company at <a href="www.greendiamond.com">www.greendiamond.com</a>. In Washington and Oregon, the company's forest lands are independently certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) standard. In California, Green Diamond's forest lands are independently certified to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) standards.

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