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**BACK TO NATIVES RESTORATION COLLABORATES WITH ORANGE COUNTY
INTERFAITH COALITION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
TO PERFORM SERVICE LEARNING PROJECT IN IRVINE**

IRVINE, Calif., April 5, 2011 – Back to Natives Restoration, a 501 (c)(3) non profit public charity is collaborating with the Orange County Interfaith Coalition for the Environment (OCICE) to restore habitat in Mason Regional Park in Irvine on April 9, 2011 from 9AM to 12PM. Service Learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. Students will be removing non-native invasive weeds and seeding with native plant seed.

“The program is intended to introduce potential science careers, and generate interest in the environment,” said Back to Natives Director of Restoration Reginald Durant. “Students will learn what it is like to be a real restoration ecologist, as they participate in the restoration process. Students will become aware that, even if they do not choose a career in the natural sciences, they can play a direct role in the health of their local natural areas.”

Back to Natives strives to involve the community in the process of ecological restoration and conservation because it believes that a little "ecological enlightenment" and a chance to "get your hands dirty" is the best way to improve relations between people and nature.

About Back to Natives

Back to Natives Restoration, a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, is dedicated to the restoration and conservation of Orange County and California wildlands, through education and restoration programs featuring native plants as a centralizing theme. For more information, please visit www.backtonatives.org or call 949-509-4787.

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