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***“Film for our Future” Racing to Zero to Screen at Mendocino Film Festival on
May 29***

Mendocino Film Festival and Mendocino Solar Service Partner for Environmental Education

MENDOCINO, CA – The Mendocino Film Festival and Mendocino Solar Service will screen *Racing to Zero: In Pursuit of Zero Waste* on Friday, May 29, at the Festival Tent at 3:00 pm as part of the Tenth Anniversary Mendocino Film Festival. Director Christopher Beaver will be in attendance for a Q&A after the screening.

After the mayor of San Francisco pledged to achieve zero waste by 2020, the filmmakers behind *Racing to Zero* followed San Francisco’s trail of trash behind-the-scenes to track the possibility and discovered that the simple substitution of the word RESOURCE for the word GARBAGE transformed a culture.

Here in Mendocino, meanwhile, we have made great strides in the Race to Zero with some wonderful initiatives of our own.

Plastic Bag Ban

While last year’s legislature-approved statewide ban of single-use plastic bags has been put on hold until the Fall 2016 ballot, Mendocino County has led the charge on reducing waste, with a plastic bag ban in place since December 2012 in Fort Bragg and January 2013 in the rest of the county. In addition, consumers must purchase paper bags at a charge of 10 cents or bring their own.

Since this ordinance went into effect, many more people have started to bring their own bags to the store. One reusable bag has the potential to replace over 600 single-use bags, and this ordinance has already significantly reduced local waste. In addition, for those times that a plastic bag is necessary, local grocery stores and pharmacies have receptacles available to deposit single-use plastic bags for recycling.

Green Waste: Composting for a Cause

One eighth of all solid waste is compostable material that has the potential to generate clean, renewable energy. Food waste recycling helps save space in landfills while providing inexpensive compost and other fertilizer products. Taking care of your food waste is simple: just place your food waste in your green bin container, and Waste Management will collect it on a regular schedule.

Noyo Food Forest

Noyo Food Forest supports sustainable agriculture through free and low-cost workshops, educational activities, and providing training to garden-based business enterprises, cutting down on our carbon footprint and helping to educate the public on compost and gardening. At the Learning Garden at Fort Bragg High School, Noyo Food Forest grows local food and provides affordable and healthy food options to the community.

Noyo Food Forest also hosts an Annual Earth Day Celebration at the Learning Garden, featuring live music and entertainment, a culinary showcase of local food and chefs, workshops, children's activities, and a Spring Plant Sale. This year's Ninth Annual celebration will be held Saturday, April 25, from 12 to 5 pm at the Learning Garden.

Very appropriately, this year's International Earth Day theme is "It's Our Turn To Lead." The Mendocino Film Festival and Mendocino Solar Service invite the public to join them for a hands-on solar energy project, information about renewable energy and the Tenth Anniversary Mendocino Film Festival program, and the chance to win tickets to *Racing to Zero*.

For more information about the Mendocino Film Festival, including the 2015 program, call (707) 937-0171 or visit www.MendocinoFilmFestival.org.

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