



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE ECOLOGY CENTER ANNOUNCES COLLABORATION WITH GREAT PARK NEIGHBORHOODS

CELEBRATING THE GRAND OPENING OF PARASOL PARK

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA, January 19, 2017 - The Ecology Center is excited to announce a new collaboration with Great Park Neighborhoods as the award-winning master-planned development in Irvine celebrates the grand opening of its newest residential community Parasol Park.

The Ecology Center's mission is to inspire and create programming and tools that help transform schools, homes and communities into vibrant, sustainable spaces. The Ecology Center is known for its excellence in ecological design and community building as demonstrated by the construction of its one-acre model facility in San Juan Capistrano.

The success of this "best in class" educational facility led to the collaboration between The Ecology Center and Great Park Neighborhoods to design a vibrant garden environment within Parasol Park that will celebrate community and cultivate multi-generational gardening and programming.

With a vision to create a thriving communal environment, Parasol Park will feature a community greenhouse, organic garden and outdoor kitchen where The Ecology Center team will be onsite to facilitate monthly workshops and weekly garden work days. Workshops will include Patio and Kitchen Gardening 101, Bread Making and Natural Dyes, which will be held every third Saturday from 2-4 p.m. The Ecology Center staff will also offer demonstrations and lectures about greenhouse propagation, planting and harvesting. Family garden days are also scheduled for Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and staff will be onsite Tuesdays 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m. to answer questions and greet visitors.

"We are honored to help design and build a vibrant community ecosystem at Great Park Neighborhoods. We have seen first-hand that when families engage in gardens, they forever become part of the solution," said Evan Marks, founder and director of The Ecology Center.

For interviews, high-resolution images, and/or additional information, please contact Jamie Werner at 760-809-3487 or jamie@theecologycenter.org.

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ABOUT THE ECOLOGY CENTER

The Ecology Center is a non-profit eco-education center focused on creative solutions for thriving on planet Earth. By inspiring communities and providing the tools necessary to make simple daily changes, The Ecology Center is helping to transform schools, homes, workplaces, and communities into vibrant spaces. www.theecologycenter.org

ABOUT GREAT PARK NEIGHBORHOODS

Great Park Neighborhoods is a master-planned community located adjacent to the Orange County Great Park in the heart of Orange County, California, in the City of Irvine. The multi-generation neighborhoods include a variety of residential choices with features that encourage neighbors to connect with each other and with nature. Great Park Neighborhoods is ultimately envisioned to include an innovative blend of “main street” retail, office, commercial and educational uses. Walking and biking trails are incorporated into the neighborhoods and will connect to open space, future neighborhoods, the Orange County Great Park and to the larger Irvine and Orange County Bikeway systems. www.greatparkneighborhoods.com.

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