



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Save Our Shores Supplies Oil Absorbent Pads and Cleanup Kits in Wake of Tsunami Disaster**

**(March 14, 2011) Santa Cruz, CA** - [Save Our Shores](#) (SOS) the leader in ocean awareness, advocacy and citizen action on California's Central Coast, is working to prevent additional oil spills and debris from entering the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in the days immediately following the tsunami that hit the Pacific Coast on Friday, March 11. The environmental damage and amount of fuel spilled into the Santa Cruz Harbor remain unknown. The effects the oil spills will have in the marine environment are still yet to be seen.

SOS is responding to the needs voiced by boat owners and concerned citizens since the natural disaster first struck by providing oil absorbent pads and do-it-yourself cleanup kits to boat owner and those interested in helping keep pollution to a minimum in the wake of this natural disaster. The Save Our Shores office will be open during their special drop-in hours from 9am-5pm at 345 Lake Avenue, Suite A, at the Santa Cruz Harbor.

Concern has been pouring in from local citizens asking how they can help with post-tsunami cleanup efforts, but because officials are restricting access to the harbor as they deal with the aftermath of this natural disaster, SOS will not be conducting a community cleanup in the harbor at this time.

SOS is standing by, ready to organize a disaster relief cleanup in the community. In the meantime, SOS asks concerned citizens to pick up a do-it-yourself cleanup kit from the SOS office and take action for the health of the ocean by cleaning up any debris washed ashore from the powerful force of the tsunami surges. For more information, contact [andrew@saveourshores.org](mailto:andrew@saveourshores.org), and stay tuned to [saveourshores.org](http://saveourshores.org) for more information.

By the time the tsunami surges hit the Santa Cruz Harbor on Friday, March 11, the Save Our Shores office had been placed under mandatory evacuation. SOS returned to the office Friday afternoon to survey the damage and assist in the emergency effort by handing out oil absorbent pads. Boat owners and concerned community members continued to stop by the SOS office looking for information on dock closures, oil in the water, floating debris, and to request oil absorbent pads, trash and recycling bags to aid in their cleanup efforts.

Concerned onlookers and boat owners watched as oil bubbled to the surface of the water from the fuel dock, dreading the possibility that the fuel could make its way out of the Harbor mouth.

### **About Save Our Shores:**

Save Our Shores is the Central Coast leader in caring for the marine environment through ocean awareness, advocacy and citizen action. Our core initiatives are Plastic Pollution, Clean Boating, and Ocean Awareness. Over the last 30 years, Save Our Shores helped to establish the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, prevent offshore oil drilling and cruise ship pollution, and today focuses on educating youth about our local watersheds, tackling pollution on our beaches and rivers, implementing our renowned DockWalker program, and providing our community with educated and inspired Sanctuary Stewards. For more information visit: [www.saveourshores.org](http://www.saveourshores.org).

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*Caring for the marine environment through ocean awareness, advocacy and citizen action.*