Redwood Valley Rancheria Environmental Newsletter

February 2026

🌍 **2026 – Year in Preview**
Major Events & Changes

Political Changes:
Bulgaria Adopts the Euro: On January 1, 2026, Bulgaria officially adopted the euro as its currency, becoming the 21st member of the eurozone.
Venezuela Leadership Shift: After the reported capture of Nicolás Maduro by U.S. forces, Delcy Rodríguez was sworn in as acting President of Venezuela on January 5, 2026.

International Relations:
United States Leaves WHO: On January 22, 2026, the United States officially withdrew from the World Health Organization (WHO) after completing a year-long process initiated by an executive order in 2025.

Sports Events:
2026 Winter Olympics: The Winter Olympic Games will be held in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, from February 6–22, 2026. The Paralympic Winter Games follow March 6–15, 2026.

Fun Facts:
2026 in Roman Numerals: MMXXVI
Calendar Notes: It is a common year starting on Thursday, and will include the unusual occurrence of three Friday the 13ths.

Chinese Zodiac:
Year of the Fire Horse: According to the Chinese zodiac, 2026 is the Year of the Fire Horse, a once-every-60-years cycle. The Chinese New Year begins on February 17, 2026.

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WASTE & RECYCLING

Redwood Valley Rancheria will be holding our quarterly community clean up event from February 17th–27th. Tribal Members who need assistance with large bulk items or waste disposal of any kind are encouraged to contact the Tribal EPA Department,our staff will be happy to assist.

When disposing of hazardous materials (HAZMAT), please ensure all waste is placed in containers with secure lids. Recently, we have encountered instances of unidentified hazardous materials left in open containers, such as uncovered five-gallon buckets. For the safety of our staff and the protection of our environment, proper containment is required at all times.

If you do not have an appropriate container with a lid, you may request one from the Tribal EPA Department. Thank you for your cooperation and for helping keep our community and lands safe and clean.

WATERSHED PROTECTION

ON THE LAND

- PROTECT TREES AND NATURAL BUFFER ZONES NEAR WATER.
- AVOID DUMPING YARD WASTE INTO DITCHES OR STREAMS.
- KEEP STORM DRAINS CLEAR—ONLY RAIN SHOULD GO DOWN THE DRAIN.
- REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING OR POLLUTION.
- SUPPORT WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAMS AND POLICIES.

COMMUNITY/HOME

- PROPERLY DISPOSE OF OIL, PAINT, CHEMICALS, AND MEDICINES
- USE ECO-FRIENDLY SOAPS AND CLEANERS
- FIX LEAKS AND CONSERVE WATER
- KEEP TRASH AND PET WASTE OUT OF STREETS AND DRAINS
- KEEP SEPTIC TANK PUMPED AND SERVICED REGULARLY.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

- Provides clean drinking water
- Supports water quality, wildlife, and wetlands
- Reduces flooding and erosion
- Protects cultural and natural resources
- Keeps our community healthy for future generations

Protecting freshwater ecosystems is crucial for a sustainable future. Every action counts! Get involved, spread the word, and support initiatives that conserve and restore these vital resources.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

REDWOOD VALLEY RANCHERIA ICWA PROGRAM PRESENTS

REGISTRATION FOR THE RUN/WALKERS BEGINS AT *8:30 AM

SPIRIT RUN AND WALK

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026

RUN AND WALK STARTS AT 9:00 AM

REDWOOD VALLEY RANCHERIA CARLA GUTIERREZ VILLAGE LEARNING CENTER
3250 ROAD I, REDWOOD VALLEY, CA

- LUNCH AND SNACKS PROVIDED
- TRADITIONAL DANCERS
- T-SHIRTS FOR RUNNERS AND WALKERS
- RAFFLES AND PRIZES

JOIN US FOR A BLESSING RUN AND WALK THROUGH OUR VALLEY
COME HONOR YOUR CHILDREN AND THOSE WHO CAN NO LONGER WALK FOR THEMSELVES ANYMORE

Local Vendors, Artists, and Service Providers are invited to participate!

Vendors, artists and service providers please call to reserve a booth space. You must bring your own table & chairs

Booths open at 9:30 AM

Volunteers needed: Set up, food preparation, transport & clean-up

Bring your lawn chairs and water bottles!

For more Information Contact

Chris Piekarski, ICWA Director Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo Indians
3250 Road I, Redwood Valley, California (707) 391-1389 Email: icwa@rvrtribe.com

No Dogs Allowed!

This is an Alcohol & Drug Free Event

Thank you for your continued support!

Breathe Again Project

Newsletter

Empowering Tobacco Prevention Efforts in Tribal Communities

Update

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Tribal Members who attended the Tribal Strategy Chart

Wesincerelyappreciate all our tribal memberswho dedicated their weekend to join the Tribal Strategy Chart meeting on December 7, 2025! The turnout was fantastic, and your insights, suggestions, and encouragement will play a vital role in advancing this project positively. We will incorporate all the valuable information shared during the meeting into our plans for the next three years of our new funding cycle. We eagerly anticipate your continued support!

CYAN Youth Quest Event 2026

Youth Quest is an annual event organized by CYAN to celebrate and promote youth advocacy in tobacco control. This event offers youth advocates the opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to a smoke- and tobacco-free California, gain insights into current tobacco prevention initiatives, and enhance their advocacy skills by sharing their local efforts with legislators.

This year, the Youth Quest event will take place at the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center in Sacramento, as well as at the State Capitol. We are excited to announce that we will once again be bringing our youth coalition to participate in this important event!

New Year New Multi-Generational Coalition!

We are seeking to recruit 6 to 8 volunteer community members to be apart of our new multi-generational coalition. You will assist in various activities, including planning, data collection, educational visits, public speaking, and letter writing. Annually, we will conduct 4 to 6 community meetings and work-groups. Our first meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2026, from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM, and refreshments will be provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

We will have a table at the upcoming Annual Spirit Run on April 11, 2026. If you are interested in joining our coalition, please visit us and sign up!

GUESS WHAT?

THE COMPUTER LAB IS OPEN!

Come check it out!

Our Hours are Mon-Thurs 12-5

- *State-of-the-Art Mac Computers*
- *Separate Elder & Children's Space*
- *Printer Available*
- *Computer Assistance as Needed*
- *Sign up for a monthly Workshop*

All Tribal Members & Employees are welcome!

Youth Newsletter Page

Are you interested in contributing to the Tribal Newsletter?

Join us for a weekly Youth Newsletter Workshop, held Wednesdays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM starting March 18th in the Computer Lab.

This workshop provides Tribal youth with the opportunity to:

- Contribute content to the Tribal Newsletter
- Create and manage their own dedicated youth page
- Share perspectives on climate and environmental issues
- Design puzzles, games, and creative features to be published in the quarterly newsletter

This is a great opportunity to build skills, express your voice, and be involved in an important community publication.

For more information or questions, please contact Tribal EPA Director Leandro Gutierrez at the Tribal Office.

FEBRUARY 2026

REDWOOD VALLEY RANCHERIA CARLA GUTIERREZ VILLAGE LEARNING CENTER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Full Moon	2 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Title-VI Tutoring 4:00 Groundhog Day	3 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Kajukenbo 5:00-7:00	4 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Kajukenbo 5:00-7:00	5 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Red Road 6:00	6 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	7
9	5 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Title-VI Tutoring 4:00 Talking Circle 5:30	10 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	11 Youth Computer Workshop 3:00-4:00 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	12 Elder Computer Workshop 3:00-4:00 Red Road 6:00	13 Diabetes Prevention Program 12:30 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	14 Valentine's Day
15	16 Offices Closed in Observance of Presidents' Day	17 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Kajukenbo 5:00-7:00 Chinese New Year	18 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Kajukenbo 5:00-7:00	19 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Red Road 6:00	20 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	21
22	23 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Title-VI Tutoring 4:00 Talking Circle 5:30	24 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	25 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	26 Computer Lab 12:00-5:00 Red Road 6:00	27 Diabetes Prevention Program 12:30 Homework Hours 3:00-5:00	28

Be on the lookout for fliers with details about all RVR Carla Gutierrez Village Learning Center cultural classes that will be distributed to the community.