



Join us for the EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge

As part of our Million Reasons Campaign, we're excited to invite your family to join the **EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge**, an easy, joyful way for kids to build confidence, practice community leadership, and help make environmental education accessible for all.

Challenge Dates: March 1 – April 30, 2026

Environmental Volunteers (EV) is in the midst of the biggest opportunity in our 53-year history: An anonymous donor has offered to match every gift dollar-for-dollar, up to \$1 million, unlocking a \$2 million investment in nature and science education for kids.

The EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge is one of the many "Million Reasons" we believe in the power of young people. Through this challenge, kids complete simple, meaningful missions, such as sharing a favorite nature memory, talking with neighbors, fundraising with seed packets, and joining our Earth Month celebration. Along the way, they build confidence, practice leadership, and strengthen community.

By participating, your family helps raise awareness for EV's work and supports the revitalization of the EcoCenter — our home in the Palo Alto Baylands — transforming it into a vibrant, year-round hub where students and families can explore nature and science together.

In a time of climate anxiety, screen overload, and growing disconnection from the outdoors, nature-based learning offers something essential: curiosity instead of fear, connection instead of detachment, and hope and agency instead of helplessness.

Thank you for helping kids lead the way. We'd love for your family to join the EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge and be part of the Million Reasons community, learning, sharing, and growing together this spring.

With gratitude,
Team EV

About Environmental Volunteers: EV is a 53 year old, Palo-Alto based environmental organization that provides hands-on nature and science education to thousands of elementary students, especially in underserved communities, through field trips and classroom programs. They do this through a network of passionate community and college volunteers across the Bay Area and beyond.

Environmental Volunteers is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit
Federal tax ID#:94-2550385
EcoCenter: 2560 Embarcadero Road · Palo Alto, CA 94303



EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge

If you love playing outside, getting your hands dirty, or simply noticing the tiny miracles of nature, **you're ready to be an EcoCenter Ambassador!**

With parent/guardian support, you'll complete a few fun missions and help kids and families discover science in the wild at the EcoCenter in the Baylands.

Challenge Window: March 1 – April 30, 2026

Your Goal: Be brave, be kind, be curious... and do all 4 missions!

Mission 1: FRIEND-RAISE: Talk to 5 People 🌍

Find 5 neighbors / uncles and aunts / parents of your friends and tell them about Environmental Volunteers (EV) and the EcoCenter.

Your mission:

1. Share what EV does (helps kids fall in love with nature through fun science!)
2. Ask if they want to support nature learning
3. Collect: name, address, email
4. Write down any funny/sweet reactions you get

Here's a kid-friendly script (you can read it!):

"Hi! I'm doing the EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge with Environmental Volunteers (EV)! EV helps thousands of elementary school kids learn about nature and science.

EV's home is the EcoCenter at the Palo Alto Baylands, right across from the duck pond. At the EcoCenter you can do things like nature walks, messy science, and other super fun events for kids, teens, and families.

Do you think it's important for kids and families to play outside and connect with nature? If yes, can I write down your name, address, and email so EV can tell you about upcoming EcoCenter events?"

★ Bonus Points: Ask them, "What's your favorite nature memory?"

Mission 2: FUND-RAISE with Native Seed Packets! 🌱

Help EV reach our \$1,000,000 (that \$1 Million!) goal by offering EV native seed packets. Every penny counts!

Suggested donation: \$5

Your target: \$50 (that's 10 seed packets!)

Extra points: for the person who raises the most!



Here's a kid-friendly seed packet script:

"Would you like to donate \$5 or more to EV and get a native seed packet? Thanks to a generous donor, your donation will be matched and become two times as big. Your gift will help kids learn about nature and science and help to keep the EcoCenter open for more families."

Bonus Points: Practice your "thank you" smile and say, "You just helped a kid get out and enjoy nature!"

Mission 3: SHARE a Favorite Nature Memory 🌈

Create a short nature story in any style you want!

Choose one: write / speak / sing / act your favorite nature memory.
Was it kissing a banana slug? Finding a feather? Watching hummingbirds?
Splashing in rain puddles? That counts!

Extra points if you share your nature memory online with a guardian/parent's help and tag @EnvironmentalVolunteers! Use hashtags #EcoCenterAmbassador and #MillionReasons

Mission 4: SHOW UP to the EcoCenter Earth Month Celebration! 🌍

Come celebrate Earth Month at the EcoCenter on Saturday, April 18, 2026, 10am–1pm. Bring a friend... or 5!

When you finish all 4 missions, you'll receive...

- ☀️ An **official EcoCenter Ambassador badge**
- ☀️ **Recognition at the EcoCenter and on EV socials** + website (with parent/guardian consent)
- ☀️ **Bragging rights** for being a thoughtful environmental volunteer!
- ☀️ **An invitation to an exclusive, plastic-free nature party at the Baylands**
- ☀️ **Service hours**

Ready to take on the EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge? [Sign up](#), grab your mission kit (check list and seeds), and let the adventure begin!



EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge Checklist

Step 1: [Sign up](#) and let us know you'll be participating!

Step 2: Start your mission!

Download the challenge. Use this checklist to keep track of your progress. [Email](#) us to schedule a time to collect your seed packets.

Challenge Dates: March 1 – April 30, 2026.

Email a picture of your completed checklist by May 1 to viadj@environmentalvolunteers.org.

Name: _____ **Age/Grade:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

City: _____ **School** _____

☒ **Mission 1: FRIEND-RAISE**

Goal: Tell 5 people about EV + the EcoCenter. Collect their info online or on this sheet of people. Just let us know what you prefer!

☐ I am using the QR code to [collect info](#).

☐ I am collecting the info on a form (see last page).



★ Bonus: ☐ I talked to ____ more people.

Mission 1: Date completed: _____

☒ **Mission 2: FUND-RAISE (Native Seed Packets!) 🌱**

Goal: Raise \$50 or more (suggested \$5 donation/packet).

My fundraising tracker: Seed packets given: _____ Total donations raised: \$_____

★ Bonus: ☐ I raised more than \$50! I raised a whopping _____!

Mission 2: Date completed: _____



✓ **Mission 3: SHARE a Nature Memory** 🌈

Goal: Create and submit a short nature memory.

I chose to: ☐ Write (50–100 words) ☐ Speak ☐ Sing ☐ Act (30–60 seconds)

Title (optional): _____

★ Bonus: ☐ I shared online with parent help ☐ I tagged @environmentalvolunteers

☐ I used #EcoCenterAmbassador and #MillionReasonsEV

Mission 3: ☐ Submitted to viadj@environmentalvolunteers.org on date: _____

✓ **Mission 4: ATTEND the EcoCenter Earth Month Celebration on April 18** 🌍

Goal: Attend EV's Earth Month Celebration on April 18, 2026 | 10am–2pm

☐ I attended the celebration and signed my name at registration!

★ Bonus: ☐ I brought my friends and family to the celebration!

Mission 4: Date Completed: _____

☐ **I Completed all 4 Missions of the the EcoCenter Ambassador Challenge!** 🎉

My name for the certificate: _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Tell us, what was your favorite part of the Challenge?



Mission 1: FRIEND-RAISE

Goal: Tell 5 people about EV + the EcoCenter. Collect their info here. Use as many sheets as you need.

1. Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Their reaction / comments: _____

2. Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Their reaction / comments: _____

3. Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Their reaction / comments: _____

4. Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Their reaction / comments: _____

5. Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Their reaction / comments: _____