



6980 Santa Teresa Blvd. Suite 100, San Jose CA 95119 Tel: 408-224-7476 [www.openspaceauthority.org](http://www.openspaceauthority.org)

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Patty Eaton, [peaton@openspaceauthority.org](mailto:peaton@openspaceauthority.org), 408-224-7476 or 408-712-4041 (Cell)

**Coyote Valley Family Harvest Feast Celebrates Urban Farming and Healthy Food**  
*Featuring Veggielution, La Mesa Verde and Garden to Table*

**San Jose CA – August 2, 2016:** The Open Space Authority cordially invites the community to the Coyote Valley Family Harvest Feast, a celebration of locally-grown food, local farms, and Silicon Valley's agricultural roots. This free and family-friendly festival will take place on Saturday, September 10, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve, 550 Palm Avenue in Morgan Hill. Attendees are encouraged to register in advance at [www.CoyoteValley2016.eventbrite.com](http://www.CoyoteValley2016.eventbrite.com).

The Family Harvest Feast will feature cooking demonstrations, music and entertainment from around the world, guided hikes, and affordable, delicious food. There will be plenty of shade and fresh drinking water. Attendees should bring re-fillable water bottles, wear sturdy closed-toe shoes, and bring a wide-brimmed hat and sunscreen to protect them from the sun.

This year's theme is urban agriculture, a worldwide movement to make cities healthier and more sustainable by growing and selling locally-harvested food. Attendees will learn about kid-friendly healthy eats, tips for starting a vegetable garden, and more. The event will feature three San Jose-based urban farming innovators:

- **Veggielution** - a community-based urban farm and farm stand serving East San Jose and people from all walks of life
- **La Mesa Verde** - a home and community gardening initiative started by Sacred Heart Community Services that empowers local families to grow their own healthy foods
- **Garden to Table** – a nonprofit that runs a community-based 1-acre urban farm near downtown San Jose and advocates for urban agriculture policy

It will be a delicious event for food lovers, according to Jamie Chen, Organizing Director of La Mesa Verde. "People will experience the fun of growing food together and enjoy delicious recipes with fresh summer produce right from the farm." Veggielution Executive Director, Cayce Hill adds, "This event will be a unique opportunity to learn how to participate in creating the community's food system. Through cooking and urban farming demonstrations, people will learn about the many choices we have to access delicious, healthy foods of our own choosing in our own communities."

*The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority conserves the natural environment, supports agriculture, and connects people to nature, by protecting open spaces, natural areas, and working farms and ranches for future generations. Since 1993, the Open Space Authority has protected nearly 20,000 acres of open space, preserving the region's scenic beauty, protecting water resources and other natural capital, and providing outdoor recreation opportunities for Santa Clara County residents. Visit [openspaceauthority.org](http://openspaceauthority.org) or call 408-224-7476.*

There will be family-friendly activities throughout the day. Scheduled activities include:

- Home gardening, farming and craft food demonstrations
- Cooking demonstrations led by local chefs
- Food trucks featuring locally-grown ingredients
- Music and entertainment from around the world
- Kid-friendly games and activities
- Docent-led hikes in the 348-acre Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve

Scheduled to appear:

- Juvenile Mariachis - Mexican mariachi music and dance
- Akoma Arts & Drums – West African and African-American drumming and dance
- Wings of Hundred Viet Dance Company – Traditional Vietnamese dance
- Kathak Dance with Madari - Traditional Indian dance and rock music
- Andy Z – Kid-friendly music & comedy
- House of Inanna - Middle Eastern belly dancing

Attendees can bring a picnic lunch to enjoy, or purchase delicious food from our on-site food trucks. Food cost is about \$10.00 per person. Confirmed food vendors include:

- The Fish Taco Wabo - Mexican
- DUM Truck - Indian
- BBQ Kalbi - Korean Fusion

This year's Family Harvest Feast is generously sponsored by Bay Area Parent and American AgCredit. For additional information and registration for this free event, visit [www.CoyoteValley2016.eventbrite.com](http://www.CoyoteValley2016.eventbrite.com).

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