



MADERA COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION TEAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Madera County Will Celebrate International Walk to School Day

Madera, CA – The Madera County Department of Public Health’s CalFresh Healthy Living Program, in partnership with the City of Madera Police Department and the City of Madera Parks & Community Services, is excited to celebrate *International Walk to School Day* throughout October 2024.

This annual event promotes safe, healthy, and walkable communities by encouraging students, parents, school staff, and community leaders to walk or bike to school together. Over 400 participants per school site are expected to walk or bike to school on the following dates:

- **James Monroe Elementary School** - Wednesday, October 2nd, 2024 (Pan American Park)
- **George Washington Elementary School** - Friday, October 11th, 2024 (John Wells Park)
- **Sierra Vista, Virginia Lee Rose Elementary and Martin Luther King Middle Schools** - Wednesday, October 16th, 2024 (McNally Park)
- **Cesar Chavez Elementary School** - Wednesday, October, 23rd, 2024 (Parkesdale Village II)

Each event will begin at 6:30 a.m. with fun exercise activities in the park, followed by a community walk. Walkers and bicyclists will arrive at their school sites by 7:45 am to continue the celebration.

International Walk to School Day highlights the need for safe, walkable communities. In rural communities in Madera County, the lack of sidewalks and other infrastructure to support walking and bicycling is a leading cause of physical inactivity. By participating, the Madera County Department of Public Health and partners aim to strengthen connections between families, schools, and the community while promoting a healthier, more active lifestyle for residents of all ages.

For additional information, please visit: Walk to School Day in the USA- www.walkbiketoschool.org, National Center for Safe Routes to School-www.saferoutesinfo.org, International Walk to School Day- www.iwalktoschool.org.

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