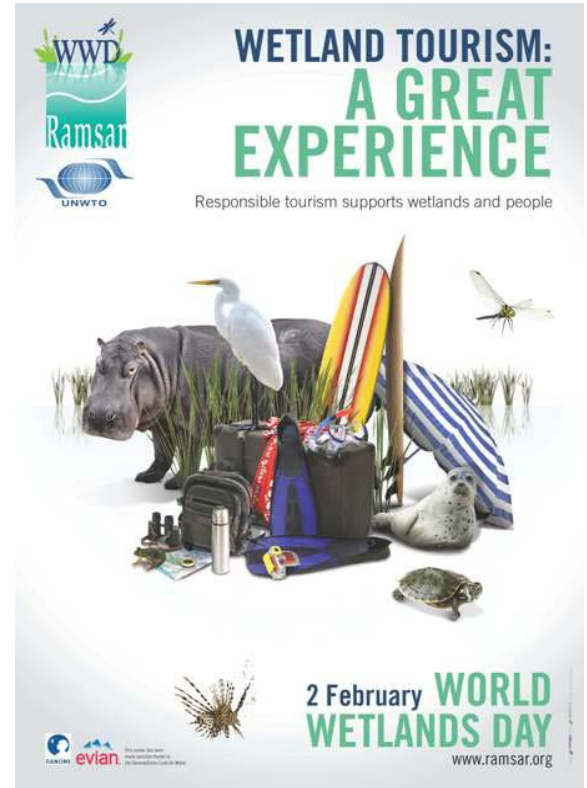




## Conservation District of Southern Nevada offers Volunteer Opportunity to Celebrate World Wetlands Day

February 2, 2012 is World Wetlands Day, your chance to find out more about the Wetlands of Las Vegas! The Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee, which the Conservation District of Southern Nevada (CDSN) is a member of, has organized several activities throughout the day to enlighten and educate both young and old. Activities include a cleanup event at the Pabco Road Weir site to give volunteers an opportunity to participate in restoring the beauty of our wetland.

February 2nd was chosen as it marks the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands which took place in the Iranian city of Ramsar near the Caspian Sea on February 2, 1971. Since 1997, government agencies and private organizations around the world have celebrated World Wetlands Day on that date. Events are held around the world in over 98 countries celebrating through community cleanups, nature walks and seminars.



The 2012 theme is "Wetlands and Tourism". Wetlands tourism can benefit people and wildlife both locally and nationally. Throughout the world approximately 35% of wetland sites record some form of tourism. CDSN would like to invite NACD Conference attendees to participate in the World Wetlands Day Celebration and join the cleanup that will occur on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you are interested in participating in this volunteer opportunity, contact Jennifer Clifford at [jclifford@cdsn.org](mailto:jclifford@cdsn.org). Transportation will be provided to and from the Cosmopolitan and the LV Wetlands.

Historically, the Las Vegas Wash was comprised of more than 2,000 acres of lush wetlands. As the population continued to grow and more water was discharged into the Las Vegas Wash it eroded soil and diminished the wetlands to approximately only 200 acres by 1990. The Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee has worked to stabilize, protect, and rehabilitate hundreds of acres of wetland and the Las Vegas Wash and its tributaries. Twelve weir structures, as well as several miles of bank protection, have been installed into the system to reduce water flows and erosion while reversing the trends of wetland degradation.