



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MONTEREY BAY

100 Campus Center Seaside, California 93955-8001

October 2, 2000

Dear Resident,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the *Central Coast Cultures Project Garbage Survey* of the Institute of Archaeology of the California State University Monterey Bay. The Central Coast Cultures Project Garbage Survey is conducting a study to determine the types of information available from the study of garbage in urban or rural settings. The CSUMB student researcher that has approached you for this project seeks your cooperation as a study participant. If you agree to be a project volunteer, you may remain anonymous if you so choose, or be acknowledged in the student's specific report.

The study will commence in early October and continue through December 2000, while the actual garbage collection will last for approximately one month (at a time to be arranged by the student and your family). During the course of the garbage collection, the student will collect and randomly sample your trash, and will sort the trash into different categories (by type, material, quantity). For this reason it is important that you do not recycle or use the garbage disposal in your home during the study period (if you do recycle, inform the student researcher of the specific items that you recycle, and the student researcher will collect your recyclables and return them to you). The student will then incorporate all relevant information into a data table, and will then interpret your household food practices from the garbage sampled in the survey. In addition, the student researcher bearing this letter will be required to conduct an interview with you at the end of the garbage study in which a generic questionnaire will be completed by way of interview. Please inform the student researcher at the outset of the project if you are unable to comply with any of the requirements outlined here. If you agree to serve as a project participant, please sign both copies of this letter, and return one copy to the student researcher. I will require that each student submit a signed copy of this letter before they can begin their respective portion of the study. Again, if you so choose, you may remain anonymous, however, the interview with the student researcher will be critical to the successful completion of the student's project.

I wholeheartedly thank you for your cooperation in this significant study of Fort Ord, the Central Coast, and its neighborhoods. If you have any further questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact me at phone (831) 582-3670.

Sincerely,

Ruben G. Mendoza, Ph.D., Program Director
Institute of Archaeology

Note: This request letter, and its guarantees, are only official if signed by Professor Mendoza. All student project participants are required to have Professor Mendoza sign this letter prior to its use in administering interviews on behalf of the project. Signed letters will be returned to the student for submission to, and approval by, Professor Mendoza.

I agree to participate in this project survey: _____

Date_____ Do you wish to remain anonymous? yes____, no____.