



9-22-83

A victim of the terrain robbery off Highway 1

Stop erosion before hills go 'slip sliding away'

SANTA CRUZ — Bare slopes and hillsides are shy. They need to be covered with grass or landscaping.

That's the premise behind the second annual Erosion Control Month in Santa Cruz County, Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. The Board of Supervisors, in conjunction with the county Resource Conservation District, set aside the month to encourage homeowners to follow preventive erosion control measures.

The control of erosion should be of prime concern to residents as the time for winter rains approaches. Because of our heavy seasonal rainfall, mountainous terrain and land clearing — erosion often occurs at two to seven times the natural rate here.

Now is the time to protect bare slopes and hillsides by grass seeding or landscaping. Fast growth, at this time, is assisted by higher-than-normal temperatures. Expected light rains should also make it easier on the new planting to get established.

To focus public attention on this critical time period where protective measures should be taken, the Conservation District and Environmental Planning Department are sponsoring several events.

An erosion control seeding demonstration will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday at the new county park at 30th Avenue and Brommer Street.

The demonstration will cover the correct manner to seed bare slopes with erosion control seed mixtures. There will also be a special demonstration on

hydromulching by Michael Lansdale. Staff will be available to answer questions.

Additional workshops have been scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon on Oct. 1 at

Aptos Village Park and Oct. 8 at Wilder Hall in Ben Lomond.

The Aptos workshop will center around homeowners and what basic erosion control techniques they can do

around the home. In Ben Lomond, the workshop will cover a variety of erosion control topics for mountainous terrain.

In conjunction with Erosion Control Month, lo-

cal nurseries are offering discounts on materials ranging from jute netting and native plants to retaining wall lumber.

Call 688-1562 for information.