

For Immediate Release

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## ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVALS TO KICK OFF GLEE EXPO

GLEE has announced its schedule of films to be shown prior to the group's annual Expo. The series, to be exhibited on three nights, will include films about new forms of earth-friendly construction, the threat of coal to the environment, and the problems the planet encounters from the ever increasing mountains of trash that are accumulating.

GLEE will show films on three nights in Marathon at Crane Point beginning on Friday, May 2. The environmental films will show at 7:30 p.m.

The series will kick off on Friday night with "Fighting Goliath: Texas Coal Wars." The film, commissioned by Robert Redford's Sundance Preserve, spotlights the coalition of cities, environmentalists, and ranchers to fight a move by the governor to enable the construction of 11 coal-fired generating plants. The 36 minute documentary is narrated by Redford.

The second film to be shown that night is "The Queen of Trees." The hour-long film follows the ecology of a fig tree growing at the edge of a river in Africa for years, using cameras to show the microcosm of the fig environment, and how interconnected every tiny aspect of life truly is. The film has some of the most spectacular nature footage ever seen.

On Saturday, GLEE will exhibit "Garbage Warrior," a profile of Michael Reynolds. Reynolds is a creative architect, with an out-of-the-box style, who makes buildings literally out of garbage, from discarded beer cans to car tires and more. His constructions don't sit well with the authorities and the film chronicles his battles with the New Mexico state legislature to be able to build his unusual houses.

"Garbage Warrior" will challenge viewers to be more inventive and to think twice next time they throw away a plastic bottle of water. Viewers should note that the film contains adult language and may not be appropriate for young viewers.

That film will be paired with an animated short called "The True Cost of Food." In a humorous style the film illustrates what food really costs consumers and the environment.

Sunday's films kick off with "Gimme Green," a humorous look at the American obsession with the residential lawn and the effects it has on our environment, our wallets, and our outlook on life. It's estimated that Americans use approximately 50 percent of their household water on their yards. By examining the social, commercial, and environmental pressures surrounding the green grass aesthetic, we begin to understand how a non-edible, resource-intensive plant could become our nation's largest irrigated crop.

The second film that night is "Trashed," an investigation into one of the fastest growing industries in the United States: garbage. The film examines the disposal of what people think of as waste without thinking of the consequences. The film analyzes the causes and effects of the seemingly harmless act of taking out the trash.

The GLEE Expo will be staged at Marathon High School from May 9-11. For more details on it and the film festivals in both Marathon and Key West go to [www.keysglee.com](http://www.keysglee.com).