

An Environmental Affair

Volume 21, Issue 8

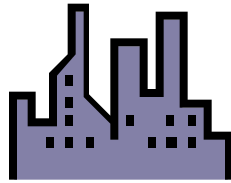
August 2001

The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department was established in 1990 to advise the city on environmental issues and provide a centralized source of environmental information. The Environmental Affairs Department seeks to protect and enhance the environmental quality of life for residents, workers and visitors in the City of Los Angeles.

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Major Plans for Improving LA's Air



Two plans to clean up Los Angeles's air will soon be released for public review and comment. The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is updating the 1997 *Air Quality Management Plan* in order to decrease emissions that contribute to dirty, unhealthful air and smog. In a separate, but related effort, the California Air Resources Board is preparing a *Clean Air Plan: Strategies for a Healthy Future* that will address the future for air quality in California. The SCAQMD is the agency principally responsible for comprehensive air pollution control in the South Coast Air Basin, which includes the City of Los Angeles. The SCAQMD works closely with the Air Resources Board, which regulates mobile sources and consumer products statewide. Together, the two agencies are preparing plans to reduce air pollution to meet federal and state health-based standards.

Next Action Steps for the City

The proposed air plans are important to the City as well as its businesses and residents. In order to provide a comprehensive and coordinated response, relevant City departments and offices will work together under the lead of the Environmental Affairs Department to review the draft plans. Additionally, prior to the close of the public comment periods on the draft plans, recommendations for City comments will be presented to the City Council and Mayor for consideration and approval.

What Can I Do?

It is not too late to make a difference. The draft *Air Quality Management Plan* and draft *Clean Air Plan* will soon be circulated for separate public review and comment periods each lasting at least 30 days. The Air Resources Board is scheduled to consider the final *Clean Air Plan* at its September 2001 public meeting while the SCAQMD Governing Board is expected to consider the final *Air Quality Management Plan* at its regular meeting in October 2001. For those who want to learn more about the plans, contact the Air Resources Board and South Coast Air Quality Management District. Specifically, read about the *Clean Air Plan* at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/planning/caplan/caplan.htm> and the *Air Quality Management Plan* at <http://www.aqmd.gov/aqmp/>. For CARB general inquiries or comments, please call (800) 363-7664 (in California) or (800) 242-4450 (outside California) or e-mail helpline@arb.ca.gov. For SCAQMD general inquiries, call (909) 396-2000 or fax (909) 396-3340 or e-mail ataber@aqmd.gov. Mail can be sent to: California Air Resources Board, 1001 "I" Street, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812 and SCAQMD, 21865 E. Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182.



An Environmental Affair is produced monthly by the EAD to inform residents about environmental issues and activities in Los Angeles. For questions, or to update or cancel your free subscription, call the Environmental Information Center Hotline at (213) 978-0888, send an e-mail to: info@mailbox.lacity.org, or visit our website at www.lacity.org/ead. You can also reach us by fax at (213) 978-0893. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with

Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.

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PLEASE POST

Environmental Papers Do the Job, EAD's Study Finds

Last year EAD conducted an in-house study to compare the performance of papers with greater recycled content and other environmental benefits to those currently in use within the City. Over a four month period, staff evaluated, for normal office use, three alternative 8.5"x11" copy papers which offer superior environmental characteristics over the 30% post-consumer recycled content (PC) and chlorine processed paper currently used by EAD and most government agencies. EAD selected these papers based on availability, environmental characteristics, physical specifications, and cost. The study included a review of paper performance in typical office machines, staff surveys, an environmental profile of paper making processes, and an environmental cost/benefit discussion of additional purchase costs versus savings inherent in reduced paper usage and reduced environmental damages.

The study found:

1. No significant operational differences were found among the papers tested. In a blind comparison, staff recorded incidents of jamming, smearing, creasing, and other problems for all office equipment (copiers, printers, faxes) and provided general feedback on each paper as well.
2. In terms of environmental benefits, the papers ranked: 1) 45% organic straw residue-45% PC/chlorine-free/minimal effluent, 2) 100% PC/chlorine-free, 3) 50% PC/reduced chlorine and 4) 30% PC/chlorine (current paper).
3. A strong correlation currently exists between environmental benefits and product cost. The study addressed increased costs by recommending reduced overall paper use and helping environmentally-preferable papers achieve cost competitiveness.

The study recommended the implementation of an environmentally-preferable paper program within EAD. The first major element of that program, EAD's own purchasing policy, is featured in the accompanying article. If you have questions about the study, please contact Craig Tranby at (213) 978-0871.



EAD Switches to Virgin Wood-Free and Chlorine-Free Copy Papers

Raising the bar in environmental purchasing, EAD recently pledged to purchase only virgin wood-free and chlorine-free copy papers. This decision arose from EAD's own in-house study of environmentally preferable office paper as described in the accompanying article.

The study recommended that EAD initiate an environmentally-preferable paper program which includes purchasing 100% post-consumer recycled content (PC) paper for primary office use and purchasing organic straw residue/PC paper for special publications. Both papers are processed chlorine free with the latter featuring minimal effluent.

To offset the increased costs of these purchases, EAD will institute a paper reduction program featuring increased duplexing, 2-up printing, electronic file sharing and other measures.

EAD will promote the use of environmentally preferable papers to inspire other organizations to follow suit. The increased demand and stability will help environmentally preferable paper production to attain the critical mass needed to eventually reduce prices for consumers.

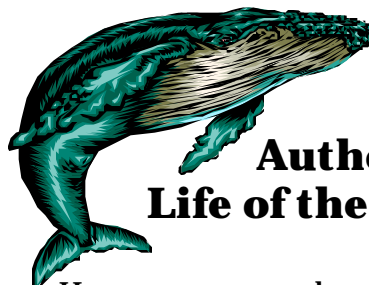
If you have questions about the study, please contact Craig Tranby at (213) 978-0871.

Madrona Marsh Prepares to go Migrant-spotting



The Madrona Marsh Preserve is getting ready to welcome some new birds to the neighborhood next month. The Preserve, located in Torrance, will take visitors on a free walk to observe the beginning fall migratory birds feeding on sunflowers with they ear-round resident birds.

Just how many of the 103 migratory species will arrive? Experienced birder Bob Shanman will lead a tour at 8 am on Wednesday, September 12 to find out. The Madrona Marsh Preserve can be contacted at 310-326-2774. Be sure also to check out the Marsh's Tyke Hike and Habitat Restoration Days programs on page 5 of the newsletter.

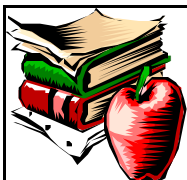


Author Discusses Life of the Gray Whale

Have you ever wondered what life is like for the enormous Gray Whales that roam the ocean? Who do they impact and who impacts them? Dick Russell, a noted environmental writer will answer those questions and discuss his new book, *Eye of the Whale*, at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium on August 9 at 7:00 pm.

Afterward, Russell will sign copies of his book (books will be available for purchase). For details, contact the Cabrillo Aquarium at 310-399-5367

TEACHER'S CORNER



The Environmental News Network

ENN is a web resource with all the information needed to keep an individual or an entire class up-to-date on the environment. Features include news, Real Audio files, and in-depth reports on important environmental issues. Perfect as an everyday source of environmental news. ENN can be found on the web at <http://www.enn.com>.

Environet Monitoring Projects

Environet offers a number of environmentally oriented project ideas along with the results from previous years' projects. Subjects range from monitoring acid rain and ozone to bats, birds, and road kill. No data is currently being pooled, but project guidelines are still available for classroom use. Outlines and other useful information can be found at http://earth.simm ons.edu/m onit oring_projects/index.html.

Bullfrog Films

An online resource for finding the perfect video or film for class. Includes a searchable index of over 200 films on the environment, ecology, sustainable development, indigenous people, and cultural diversity. Online at <http://www.bullfrogfilms.com>.

The GLOBE Program

Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE), a worldwide organization, teams the work of students, the oversight and guidance of teachers, and the analysis of scientists to better understand environmental issues. The program has various ongoing activities that can be performed in the classroom. More information on the program and on how to participate can be found at the GLOBE homepage, <http://www.globe.gov>.

Environmental Media Online Catalog

Specializes in environment-related books, videos, and CD ROMs to fit into various curricula. Several of their resources have been reviewed by the National Project for Excellence in Environmental Education and teaching guides are available for free download off the internet. For more information, head to <http://www.envmedia.com/catalog/index.html>.

\$\$\$ FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES \$\$\$
(See the EAD website for other current grant opportunities.)

**30th Congressional District Grants Workshop**

Congressman Xavier Becerra is hosting a workshop on identifying grant sources, writing grant proposals, and filling out government grant applications. The seminar will be held at Occidental College from 8:30 am—4:00 pm. The event is free but registration is required. For registration information, contact the office of Congressman Becerra at 213-483-1429.

California Community Foundation

Support for the rehabilitation, maintenance and beautification of parks and recreation areas. Contact Sr. Program Secretary at (213) 413-4130, or visit the website at www.calfund.org for more info.

California State Coastal Conservancy

Proposition 204 funding specifically allocated for LA River Projects that focus on habitat restoration, construction of public access facilities and others. Projects must show linkage to the coast. Call (510) 286-4169 for more info.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund

Loan program established by the Clean Water Act to local agencies for water quality improvement projects. Call the EPA Water Division at (415) 744-1948 for more info.

Economic Development Administration Grants

The US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration will give priority consideration to projects that help communities achieve and sustain economic growth. Visit the website at www.doc.gov/eda for more info.

Energy Research Grants

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is seeking applicants for up to \$6 million in grants to research renewable energy programs. Call the US Department of Energy at (800) 683-0751 for more info.

Jobs Through Recycling

Recycling business development program that seeks to foster recycling/reuse businesses that increase the use of recyclable or reusable materials and contribute to economic development and jobs creation. Call Julia Wolfe with the EPA Waste Management Division at (415) 744-2131 for more info.

Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund—Provides loans to ensure that drinking water remains safe and affordable. Call EPA's Drinking Water Office: (415) 744-1852 for more information.

Pulling Together Initiative

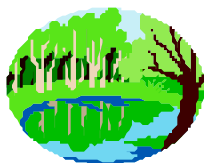
Provides a means for federal agencies to be full partners with state and local agencies, private landowners, and other interested parties in developing long-term weed management projects within the scope of an integrated pest management strategy. Full Proposal Due Date: November 6, 2001, Notification Date: April 1, 2002. Contact: Gary Kania, kania@nfwf.org, and visit: http://www.nfwf.org/programs/rfp_2002.html.



AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EACH MONTH:

Down-by-the-River Walks



Friends of the Los Angeles River and the Sierra Club are sponsoring monthly walks along the banks of the LA River. Join them at 4:30 pm. on the third Sunday of each month for an informal, leisurely, hour-long walk. The walk is canceled if it rains. For more info., visit the FoLAR website: www.folar.org, or call Joe Linton: (213) 381-3570.

Japanese Garden Tours

Docent-led tours of the Japanese Gardens at the D.C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant in Van Nuys are offered during the day on Monday through Thursday and again on Saturday. Reservations are required. Call (818) 756-8166.

Hyperion Wastewater Treatment Plant Tours

Free public tours of the facility (located near El Segundo in Los Angeles) are available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday starting at 9 a.m. Contact Felice Kidd: (310) 648-5363 for details or to schedule a tour.

Habitat Restoration Days

Help restore wildflowers, trees and shrubs that were once here 200 years ago at the Madrona Marsh Preserve.

You are invited to help in planting, weeding and collecting and growing seeds every second Saturday of the month. Morning maintenance is done from 9 am-noon every Tuesday and Wednesday. Call (310) 32-MARSH.



Afternoons in the Lab

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium's education staff and volunteers are available every Wednesday from 3-5 pm to answer questions and involve students of all ages in exploring local marine life in the hands-on Discovery SEA Lab. Activities cover a wide range of scientific fun. The lab, located at 3720 Stephen White Drive in San Pedro, opens with a different theme each week. The science education afternoon is free. Groups should make reservations. For more info., call: (310) 548-7562.

Satwiwa Sundays

From 10 am to 5 pm at Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa. Meet guest hosts, watch demonstrations and share the experiences of the Native American LA Community. Call (805) 370-2301.

Smart Gardening Workshops

The Los Angeles Countywide Yard Waste Program hosts Smart Gardening workshops year-round throughout the County. Topics covered include backyard and worm composting, grass recycling, and water-wise gardening.

For more information, call (888) CLEAN-LA or visit www.smartgardening.com. "Smart Gardening" and Composting workshops also are held at Griffith Park. Call the Bureau of Sanitation: (213) 473-8228 for more information.



Nature-Bird Walk

Two walks will take place—one on Saturday, and one on Sunday—both at 10 am. The walks will meander through the Madrona Marsh Preserve, starting at the Natural History Center in Torrance. Call (310) 32-MARSH.



The EAD website, located at www.lacity.org/EAD, contains updated information on this month's events. To ensure your event is included in our monthly newsletter, submit information to the editor by the 10th of each month prior to publication. After the 10th, events can be entered into our website calendar only.

The EAD reserves the right to edit all submittals and does not necessarily endorse the events listed. All events are subject to change, so call listed event contacts to verify information.

Recycling Workshops

Many workshops and seminars are regularly provided throughout the year on source reduction, recycling and composting. Please call the Bureau of Sanitation: (213) 473-8228

Tyke Hike

This hike is scheduled every first Thursday of the month in the Madrona Marsh Preserve and involves looking for animal tracks, listening for singing birds, observing habitat changes and wildflower cycles. A \$5 donation per family is requested for the Natural History Center Education Programs; reservations appreciated. Call Friends of Madrona Marsh: (310) 32-MARSH.



Baldwin Hills Hikes

These are held by the LA Audubon Society on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. For details, see the LA Audubon Society website: www.LAAudubon.org or call: (323) 876-0202.

THIS MONTH:**August 3****Rocky Oaks Nature Walk**

The Children's Nature Institute will conduct a walk through the Rocky Oaks Park in Malibu. The cost is \$7 per family or \$5 for member families. Walk times and other information can be found at <http://www.childrensnatureinstitute.org> or by calling (310) 364-3591. Registration is required ahead of time and online registration is available.

August 4**Science at the Seashore**

A Native Garden Workday from 8-10 am and a Discovery Lab from 11 am to 1:30 pm at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Both activities are free.

For more information, visit <http://www.cabrilloaq.org> or call (310) 548-7562.

**August 5****Topanga Park Field Trip**

Hosted by the Los Angeles Audubon Society, the group will take a guided field trip through the Topanga State Park looking at the wildlife and ecology of the area. Starting at 8 am, the trip costs \$6 and more information can be found at <http://www.laaudubon.org> or by calling (323) 874-1318.

August 10-11**Sleep With the Fishes**

From 6:30 pm Friday through 8 am Saturday kids from grades 3-6 can sleep over at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Reservations are required and the program

costs \$28 per child. Contact information is under the August 4 Science at the Seashore listing.

August 9**30th Congressional District Grants Workshop**

Congressman Xavier Becerra is hosting a workshop on identifying grant sources, writing grant proposals, and filling out government grant applications. The seminar will be held at Occidental College from 8:30 am-4:00 pm. The event is free but registration is required. For registration information, contact the office of Congressman Becerra at 213-483-1429.

August 12**William Mulholland and the Rise of Los Angeles**

Catherine Mulholland, granddaughter of Los Angeles Aqueduct architect William Mulholland, discusses her new biography of her grandfather and his impact on the region's relationship with water. Call the TreePeople at 1-888-922-3846 for details.

Whittier Narrows Walk

The Audubon Society will take a group through the Whittier Narrows and discuss the natural environment there. The fee for this event is \$2 and it starts at 8 am. Contact information can be found under the August 5 Topanga State Park Field Trip listing.

August 15**Eaton Canyon Walk**

The Children's Nature Institute will host a nature walk through Pasadena's Eaton Canyon. Cost and contact information can be found under the August 3 Rocky

Oaks Nature Walk listing.

August 17**Science at the Seashore**

Join in for a free Discovery Lab at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium from 1-3 pm. Aquarium contact information is under the Science at the Seashore activities for August 4.

August 18**Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area Field Trip**

The Audubon Society explores one of the LA Basin's largest remaining undeveloped areas.

Starting at 8 am, the trip will cost \$3 in parking. Contact information is under the August 5 Topanga Park listing.

Breakfast Safari

Parents and kids can meet at the Zoo for some breakfast and a morning excursion. Registration is required and costs \$35 for each non-member parent-child pair and \$30 for members. Online registration over the internet is now available. More information is at <http://www.lazoo.org> and (323) 644-4211.

August 19**Science at the Seashore**

The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium hosts a Discovery Lab from 11 am - 1:30 pm and a Weekend Tide pool Walk from 2:30-4:00 pm. Discovery Lab is free and the Tide pool Walk costs \$1. See the August 4 Science at the Seashore listing for detailed contact information.



August 22 Griffith Park Bird Walk



Take a walk with the Children's Nature Institute through the bird sanctuary at Griffith Park. For information on cost and contacting the Institute, look under the August 3 Rocky Oaks calendar entry.

August 31 Science at the Seashore

The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium closes the month with another free Discovery Lab from 1-3 pm. Check out the August 4 Science at the Seashore for contact information.

Coming Soon!

September 15-16 Radical Rain Forests

The LA Zoo presents an educational and entertaining look at the world's precious rainforests. Programs run at 11 am and 1 pm on both days. There is a \$2 fee and contact information for the zoo can be found under the August 18 listing.

October 12-13 Rooted in Community National Day of Action

Rooted in Community is organizing a national day of awareness to show how youth can impact their communities through various uses of

agriculture. For an organizing toolkit or more information, contact Jess Liborio at jessliborio@aol.com or call (781) 259-8621.

October 13-14 The Los Angeles Latino Book and Family Festival

Noted actor Edward James Olmos presents the 5th of his Los Angeles festivals meant for the whole family. Book readings, ethnic cuisine, and science discovery areas highlight this event celebrating Latino culture. Admission is free. For booth registration and information, call 1-888-700-8622.



The EAD Has a New Home at City Hall

The EAD is settling into its new home back at City Hall after a several year absence during the building's seismic retrofit. Our new address at City Hall is:



**City of Los Angeles
Environmental Affairs Department
200 N. Spring St. Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012**

Environmental Information Center:	213-978-0888
Toll-Free Line:	800-439-4666
EAD Main Line:	213-978-0880
EAD Main Fax Line:	213-978-0893
Local Enforcement Agency:	213-978-0892

Thank you for your patience during our transition process. Remember that information on the EAD, EAD publications, job announcements, information on environmental programs, and even this newsletter are available on our website at <http://www.lacity.org/ead>.





HOTLINE CONNECTION

The Environmental Information Center (EIC) serves as a referral source to the community. Our hotline connection offers a list of the most frequently requested numbers. If the number you need is not listed, please contact the EIC at (213) 978-0888, or toll-free in Los Angeles only at (800) 439-4666. You can also visit our website at www.lacity.org/ead and click on the Environmental Information Center Link.

Air Quality

Calidad del aire

South Coast Air Quality Management District

(800) 288-7664

Asbestos

Asbestos

Environmental Hygiene

(213) 738-4078

Bee Infestations

Infestaciones de abejas

Vector Control

(800) 233-9279

Bulky Item Pick-up

Recogida de artículos grandes

L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation

(800) 773-2489

Hazardous Waste Disposal

Desembolso de materiales peligrosos

L.A. County Dept. of Public Works

(888) 253-2652

L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation

(800) 988-6942

Illegal Storm Drain Dumping

Depositos en los drenajes de desagües

Stormwater Management

(800) 974-9794

Lead Poisoning

Veneno de plomo

National Lead Information Center

(800) 424-5323

Leaf Blowers

Sopladores de hojas

Leaf Blower Complaint Line

(800) 996-2489

Mosquitoes

Infestaciones de mosquitos

L.A. West Mosquito Abatement

(310) 915-7370

Recycling

Reciclaje

City of L.A. Public Works Dept.

(800) 773-2489

Smoking Violations

Infracciones de fumar

Office of the City Attorney

(888) 333-0730

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Environmental Affairs Department
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