

An Environmental Affair

Volume 21, Issue 1

January 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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Happy New Year from EAD's New General Manager!



On behalf of EAD, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you, our friends in the environmental affairs community, and to thank you for your supportive involvement in helping EAD to successfully reach its ten year anniversary in 2000. Having served at EAD since its creation, I feel honored and privileged to assume its leadership at this momentous point in time.

On December 15th, the Los Angeles City Council passed a resolution commending and congratulating EAD on its anniversary—for its outstanding service to the Los Angeles community in “restoring habitats, creating innovative environmental alternatives, assisting businesses and revitalizing communities—all in the interest of protecting and enhancing the environment in order to make Los Angeles a better place for all of us to live, work and play.”

EAD celebrated its anniversary with an Open House held at our office in downtown Los Angeles on December 13. I was pleased to see many of our friends, neighbors, and colleagues there to help us celebrate. The event was a great way to end the year, commemorate a decade of service, and mark the beginning of a new era for the department. I look forward to continuing to work with you in the new year!



With best wishes for the holidays,

Derrick B. Allen

General Manager
Environmental Affairs Department

Congratulations!

The staff at EAD would like to congratulate Dee on her appointment by the Mayor and confirmation by the City Council as General Manager of EAD!

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) 580-1052. TDD (213) 977-7062. You can also reach us by fax: (213) 580-1084, e-mail: info@ead.ci.la.ca.us, or visit our Web site at www.lacity.org/ead. 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

Make Some Environmental New Year's Resolutions!

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1. *Conserve Energy! (Don't leave every light and appliance on simultaneously!)*
2. *Conserve Water! (Shorter showers! Fix leaky faucets! Water lawns conservatively!)*
3. *Try those fluorescent light bulbs!*
4. *Plant trees, shrubs, flowers, gardens!*
5. *Donate things, don't throw them away!*
6. *Pick up trash when you see it and dispose of it properly (every little bit helps and you set a great example!)*
7. *Recycle your Christmas tree (See p. 4 for details.)!*
8. *Visit our beaches, parks, trails, rivers... Great Outdoors!*

LA City Council Resolution on EAD

Adopted Friday December 15, 2000

WHEREAS, in 1990 the Los Angeles City Council established the City's Environmental Affairs Department, created the Environmental Affairs Commission to advise the new department, and confirmed appointment of the department's first-ever General Manager;

WHEREAS, by creating the Environmental Affairs Department, the City Council formed a department that provides expertise to the Council, Mayor, other City departments, and the public on a wide range of environmental matters to help ensure a sustainable, clean and healthful environment for all people of Los Angeles;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Affairs Department has worked to make Los Angeles a leader in the protection and enhancement of the urban environment by integrating and linking a clean and healthful environment with the need to promote equity among all people and to ensure a strong economy;

WHEREAS, in its 10-year existence, the Environmental Affairs Department has brought more than \$15 million in grant funds to the City for environmental programs such as the El Segundo Dunes Restoration project, the Quick Charge LA electric vehicle charging infrastructure program, and the Brownfields Showcase Community program;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Affairs Department has provided invaluable assistance to the City on environmental issues that resulted from events like the civil disturbance of 1992 and the Northridge earthquake of 1994; has supported the City's efforts to revitalize economically and



The EAD resolution presented at City Council. From left to right, former EAD General Manager Lillian Kawasaki, Environmental Affairs Commission President David Michaelson, EAD General Manager Detrich B. Allen, Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas.

Resolution (continued from previous page)—

planting of more than 10,000 shade-producing and energy-saving trees in the City, the purchase and operation of more than 600 clean, pollution-reducing alternative-fuel and electric vehicles within the City's fleet, and in the Local Enforcement Agency conducting 6,000 inspections of landfills, transfer stations, waste vehicle collection yards, and other permitted facilities since 1992;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Affairs Department has effectively represented the City's interests on a wide range of policy issues at the local, regional, state and federal levels, including participating in the National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, the Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee, the Clean Cities Program, the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, the Los Angeles Urban Resources Partnership, and the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable;

WHEREAS, the Environmental Affairs Department has won numerous awards for its outstanding programs, including the Governor's Award for Environmental and Economic Leadership, the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Clean Air Award, Renew America's National Environmental Achievement Award, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Outstanding Achievement Award for Environmental Protection Through Pollution Prevention.

Businesses Can Learn the ABC's of Environmental Compliance

Is your business overwhelmed with environmental requirements? With the help of the Environmental Business Assistance website, published by the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department, business owners can easily learn the ABC's of environmental compliance: <http://www.lacity.org/EAD/eba/chartfrm.htm>, by following steps A, B, and C:

Step A includes use of a chart listing 13 basic and important questions business owners should ask themselves if they keep hazardous substances on-site. Answers, permit information and agency links are provided.

Step B goes further. It includes use of a comprehensive listing of potential hazardous waste management permits. A business can use the table provided as a checklist to identify permits or requirements that might apply to them. Then, at their own pace or as the need arises, access an easy-to-read companion guidance manual for further explanation.

Step C includes use of an on-line State directory. The directory narrows down permit requirements and resources for a particular business type, located anywhere in California. In the winter of 2000/2001, an updated and similar directory, written specifically for businesses in the City of Los Angeles, will come on-line. "The growing Environmental Business Assistance website reinforces the City's commitment to provide important information to the business community on environmental issues, and to make information more accessible," said EAD General Manager, Detrich B. Allen.

EAD RANKS AMONG TOP CITY AIDS WALK TEAMS

Congratulations are definitely in order for the Environmental Affairs Department's 2000 AIDS Walk Team, which ranked among the top City departmental teams. EAD's team had 21 registered walkers that raised \$2,067.50 for AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) and 16 other benefiting AIDS service organizations as part of the City of Los Angeles' annual campaign for AIDS Walk Los Angeles. Among the 38 City departments that participated in this year's campaign, Environmental Affairs was the third largest team in regard to number of walkers, and eighth in the amount of money raised.

(Continued on p. 7)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

GRANTS WITHOUT A DEADLINE

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



Recycle Your Christmas Trees!

After the holiday festivities are over, remember to recycle your holiday greenery and in particular, your Christmas tree! It is illegal to leave Christmas trees on the street because they are a fire hazard, but you can place them in your green recycle bins. Before placing trees in the bins, remove all

decorations, tinsel, and stands. Please note, flocked trees cannot be recycled. Trees may protrude up to one foot above the bin top; however, you may need to break them into smaller pieces in order to make them fit. The City will also be hosting tree drop-offs on December 30-31, 2000 and January 6-7, 2001. For drop-off locations nearest you and/or for more information about tree recycling, call:

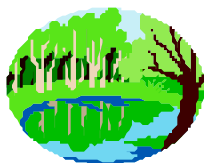
1-800-5-TREE-56 !



JANUARY 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 4:30pm. on the third Sunday of each month** for an informal, leisurely, hour-long walk. Location varies each month—some walks feature brief talks highlighting natural, historical, artistic, or political aspects of the River. The walk is canceled if it rains. For more info., visit the FoLAR website: www.folar.org, or call Joe Linton: (213) 381-3570.

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 9am-noon **every Tuesday and Wednesday**. Call (310) 32-MARSH.



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.

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.



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. The lab, located at 3720 Stephen White Drive in San Pedro, opens with a different theme each week and activities include: using microscopes, examining specimens, creating art, playing games, exploring coastal habitat, and much more! The science education afternoon is free. Groups should make reservations. For more info., call: (310) 548-7562.

Satwiwa Sundays

From 10am to 5pm 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 from March through November at Griffith Park. Call the Bureau of Sanitation: (213) 473-8228 for more information.

Nature-Bird Walk (Regular Fourth Weekend monthly event)

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) 32MARSH.



The EAD Web site, 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 Web site 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 and Seminars

Many workshops and seminars are regularly provided throughout the year on source reduction, recycling and composting. They have included topics such as Buying Recycled, Organics, Certified Buy Recycled Training Seminars, and Sustainable Construction. Please call the Bureau of Sanitation: (213) 473-8228 for information on upcoming events.

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, looking for ducks and their babies, observing habitat changes and wildflowers blooming. A \$5 donation per family is requested for the Natural History Center Education Programs; reservations are appreciated. For more info., call the Friends of Madrona Marsh: (310) 32MARSH.



THIS MONTH:

January 1
Happy New Year's
Day 2001!!

January 3
Discovery Lab

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3-5 pm. A free session for all ages covering issues of the local coastal environment. Call (310) 548-7562, ext. 5007 for more information. This event will also take place on January 10, 17, 24, and 31.

January 6

Native Garden Workday

Science at the Seashore presented by the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium from 9 am until 12 noon. See contact information under 1/3 listing.

January 6

Zookapers: Bearly There

Bears in the wild might be taking a long winter's nap, but we can still learn about Zoo bears. Don't miss this morning filled with "beary" fun

January 7

Weekend Tidepool Walk

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 12:30 until 2 pm. See listing on 1/3, will also be held on 1/20.

January 8

SEA Club (for grades K-2)

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3:30 until 5:30 pm. See listing on 1/3. This event will also take place on January 15, 22, and 29.

January 9

What We Learn from the
Garbage of Ancient People

7:30-10:30 pm at the Sepulveda Garden Center in Encino. Hosted by the California Native Plant Society. Call: (818) 881-3706

January 13

Plant Oak Trees in Ea-
gle Rock

Northeast Trees will be hosting this event at Occidental College from 9 am until noon. Meet on Fiji Hill behind Keck Auditorium. Call (323) 221-1778, e-mail



info@northeasttrees.org or visit www.northeasttrees.org.

January 18

Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study Stakeholders
 Meeting to be held from 10 am until 12 noon at the River Center (570 W. Avenue 26, LA). For more information, call Northeast Trees at (323) 441-8634.

January 20-21

Lunar New Year Celebration

Ring in the New Year of the Snake at the LA Zoo with a weekend celebration complete with kung-fu demonstrations, lion dances, Asian folk dancers and artisans, taste treats, and fun for the whole family. Kids can also make a snake craft to take home. 10 am until 4 pm. Free with zoo admission. Call (323) 644-4211 to pre-register.

January 31

Family Nature Walk

The Children's Nature Institute will be hosting a walk at the Griffith Park Bird Sanctuary at 10 am. Please call (310) 364-3591 for reservations and

—Continued from p. 3—

The largest City team was the Library Department, which had 30 registered walkers. The City team that raised the most money was the Fire Department, which raised \$4,374.25. Considering the relatively small size of EAD in comparison to most other departments, EAD's consistent effort on behalf of APLA and others was remarkable and to be commended.

On a larger scale, the City of Los Angeles' combined team effort was outstanding again this year. The City's combined grand total was \$47,116, making the City of Los Angeles the third largest group fundraiser among the more than 800 corporate and community teams who participated this year, exceeded only by the teams from media industry giants Time Warner and Dreamworks Pictures (in that order). The City is particularly pleased that it beat out the County of Los Angeles for third place and once again regained its title as the "Number One Governmental Team."

The City of Los Angeles' laudable effort helped to make the 16th Annual AIDS Walk Los Angeles consistently one of the largest AIDS fundraising events held in Southern California. This year, nearly 27,000 walkers joined the City on October 15 to raise \$3.1 million for APLA and the 16 other beneficiaries. The money raised will help to provide life-sustaining services for over 10,000 men, women, and children living with HIV and AIDS, and strengthens their important education and advocacy programs. EAD would like to thank everyone who gave so generously to our campaign effort this year. We couldn't consistently do so well without your continued support. We certainly hope we can count on you again in next year's campaign, because as long as there's a need, we're going to do our best.

TEACHER'S CORNER

Coastal and Marine Resources for Educators



Save Our Seas is a marine curriculum of hands-on activities to help students understand the effects of marine debris on coastal wildlife and habitats offered by the California Coastal Commission and the Center for Marine Conservation. It is designed for K-12th grades, and can be used in conjunction with a beach cleanup. Teacher trainings, school assemblies and classroom speakers are also available in some areas. Call (800) COAST-4 U or send an e-mail to: coast4u@coastal.ca.gov for more information. Request Item - SOS. Save Our Seas and other ideas are also available on the website: <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/aab/educate.html>.

The **Marine Mammal Care Center** at **Fort McArthur** hosts classroom groups for educational tours, which may include standard lessons on seal and sea lion rehabilitation, or a variety of customized programs offered by the Center for Marine Studies: student laboratory science lessons, high school courses in Advanced Laboratory Science (11th and 12th grade), field study activities, Globe or Ocean Globe training protocols, overnight residence programs in conjunction with Hostelling International, South Bay Faculty or teacher-training in-service programs, and curricular support or mentoring. For educational group tours, contact Jeanine Mauch: (310) 547-9000 or via e-mail: jmauch@lausd.k12.ca.us. For more information about the Center, call: (310) 548-5677. The **Marine Animal Rescue, Rehabilitation & Release Into the Natural Environment (MAR3INE)** also provides information about the Centers' work: (310) 823-4352 and <http://www.mar3ine.org>.

The **Cabrillo Marine Aquarium** in San Pedro hosts programs for educators at weekend workshops. Call: (310) 548-2052 or visit the website: <http://www.cabrilloaq.org>.

Anniversary Open House

On Wednesday, December 13, EAD hosted over 70 guests at an open house to celebrate the department's ten year anniversary. We welcomed the show of support from colleagues from other city departments, former staff, contractors, individuals from the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, special interest groups, private citizens and even some of our office building neighbors!

The event culminated in the presentation of an award to former General Manager Lillian Kawasaki, the welcoming of EAD's new General Manager Dee Allen, and a special preview of the City Council resolution.



Celebrating EAD's ten years are (from left to right) former EAD General Manager Lillian Kawasaki, Water and Natural Resources Division Director Melinda Bartlett, Materials and Waste Resources Division Director, Wayne Tsuda, EAD General Manager Detrich B. Allen, and Air Quality Division Director Gary Gero.

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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) 580-1052**, or toll-free in Los Angeles only at **(800) 439-4666**. You can also visit our Web site at www.cityofla.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 DUMPING INTO STORM DRAINS

Depositos ilegales en los drenajes de desagües
Stormwater Management
(800) 974-9794

LEAD POISONING – *Veneno del 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