

An Environmental Affair

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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.

Cool Communities Streetscape Takes Root



LACC staff teaching tree care techniques to workshop participants.

On June 23rd, the Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) conducted its first tree workshop of the year. With the completion of tree planting in the Hansen Dam Park area, this workshop gave residents an opportunity to learn how to care for their newly planted trees. Angela Liu and Noah Bleich from the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) taught residents basic tree care techniques. Participants learned how to properly prune, water, and maintain the growth of their new trees through hands-on activities. After the hour-long workshop, residents received a free bucket of tree care supplies provided by the EAD including pruning shears, a trowel, a water hose sprinkler, a sun visor, and greening information. Residents found the workshop very helpful and were glad they attended. The workshop was part of the Cool Communities Streetscape

(Streetscapes...continued on page 2)

Electronics, What a Waste!



A form of e-waste

Electronic waste, otherwise referred to as e-waste, has been a growing problem throughout much of the nation since the mid 20th century. Within the last decade, e-waste, specifically consisting of television sets and personal computers, has flooded our nation's landfills. The increased disposal of e-waste in recent years is a result of the constant updating of electronic equipment.

The State's Integrated Waste Management Board reports that each year in California hundreds of thousands of computers, televisions, and other electronics become "obsolete" in the eyes of consumers. Computers are replaced early and often as better technology becomes available. Televisions have become larger and more affordable to the public, providing consumers with the incentive to upgrade and resulting in piles upon piles of obsolete equipment. Not only found in landfills, e-waste is also collecting dust in homes. This trend has raised concerns as to how future disposal of these products should be handled.

With concerns mounting, the Department of Toxic Substances Control issued emergency regulations restricting landfills from accepting TV and computer monitors due to the lead content of the glass. As reported in the L.A. Times,

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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: eadinfo@mailbox.lacity.org, or visit our website at <http://www.lacity.org/ead>. TDD (213) 978-0899. 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

(Streetscapes...continued from page 1)



LACC's Angela Liu fielding questions from the audience

(CCS) project, a grant-funded project of EAD, awarded federal funding through the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The project will plant over 2,000 trees along heavily traveled transportation routes throughout the City of Los Angeles. The CCS project employs local at-risk youth through the Los Angeles Conservation Corps to carry out the tree planting. This tree-planting project will help buffer the many effects of congested streets, enhance the scenic quality of the routes, and improve the environment of Los Angeles with the many benefits of trees including saving on energy cost and reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions into the atmosphere.

The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department has a committed interest in urban greening and environmental education is an important component in this process. In order for the tree-planting to be successful, residents should understand the importance of the urban forest and how to promote healthy growth in their trees. Workshops are an excellent opportunity for the Environmental Affairs Department to discuss tree care with City residents and stress the department's appreciation for each resident's urban forestry efforts. For more information about the EAD's street-tree planting program, please call Amy Schulenberg at (213) 978-0862. Residents interested in receiving trees to shade structures on their property may call the Green LA Program offered through the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power at 800-GREEN LA (800- 473-3652).

Town Meeting Held to Discuss UN Summit on Sustainable Development



On Saturday, June 29th, leaders from the environmental community, government agencies, businesses, and concerned citizens gathered in Santa Monica for a day-long discussion of Southern California's role in the forthcoming United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development. The UN Summit will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa from August 26th through September 4th and is considered to be a ten-year review and follow up from the first Earth Summit that was held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

The town meeting, which was organized by the Southern California Council on Environment and Development and the Friends of the United Nations, featured Lowell Flanders from the United Nations who spoke on expectations for the Summit and Allan Hecht from the White House Council on Environmental Quality who represented the United States official delegation. This event was the only community-based preparatory conference organized in the United States in anticipation of the UN Summit. Representatives of the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Monica, many environmental and community-based organizations, and the academic community also spoke at and attended the event.

A broad range of topics were discussed, including global warming, energy, waste and resource conservation, oceans and water quality, land use, habitat and species preservation, environmental education, environmental justice, and environmental technologies. A report on the conference proceedings is expected to be published in July that will highlight many outstanding examples of progress from Southern California to be shared with the international community at the Summit, including City of Los Angeles programs such as the EAD's Los Angeles Energy Climate Action Plan and LADWP's Green LA efforts. For those interesting in obtaining more information about the conference visit <http://www.johannesburgsummit.org/>.

(Waste...continued from page 1)

a measure to assess a fee of as much as \$30 on the sale of every new computer and TV set sold to help cities and trash companies finance collection and recycling has been proposed as a possible solution. Beginning in 2004, the legislation also would require manufacturers to post a warning label on televisions, computers, etc. to disclose the hazardous materials contained within, and establish a public education campaign to persuade consumers to recycle them.

In California, experts estimate that approximately 10,000 televisions and computer monitors are either disposed of improperly, or placed in storage, and only an estimated 6% are recycled. Toxic materials such as lead are contained in the cathode ray tube (CRT) of TV sets and computer monitors. Many of these items can contain between 2.2 to 8 pounds of lead, exposing the soil and groundwater to high concentrations of contaminants. To help combat this problem, in November 2000 the City launched an e-waste collection and recycling program. By July 2002, sixteen events had been held and over half a million pounds of e-waste.

Present solutions for managing e-waste include consumers reducing, reusing, and recycling as many electronics as possible. To help educate consumers the CIWMB has created a section on its website at <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Electronics/> with answers to commonly asked questions and the contact information to companies throughout California that properly handle e-waste. Additionally, the City's Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation offers an e-waste collection service. An e-waste collection event will be held Saturday, August 24 at UCLA, 501 Westwood Plaza, from 9 am to 3 pm. For more information visit <http://www.lacitysan.org/ewaste.htm> or call (800) 98-TOXIC.

Port Adopts Vessel Emission Reduction Program



Port of L.A. photo courtesy of Debbie Stock

Port of Los Angeles officials, including Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioner President Nick Tonsich, Executive Director Larry Keller, and Business Development Director Albert Fierstine, recently returned from a Far East trade mission specifically aimed at gathering the participation of steamship companies in proactive environmental programs.

Shipping officials were asked to commit to a Vessel Emission Reduction Initiative as part of fulfilling Mayor Jim Hahn's goal of no-net increase in air emissions at the Port. The steamship lines were asked to sign letters of intent to use a less-polluting reformulated diesel or its equivalent to run vessel generators while at the berth in the Port of Los Angeles to significantly reduce particulate matter.

Current international agreements permit ships to use fuels with 4.5% sulfur by weight or 45,000 parts per million (ppm). The initiative will reduce those sulfur levels below 2,000 ppm and in some cases below 200 ppm. It is estimated that switching to cleaner fuels will decrease air emissions of harmful particulates (PM₁₀) by 25 to 50% and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) by 7%. Further testing will be conducted to confirm actual reduction levels. Studies have shown that when in port, ships idling alongside the docks generate 40% of NO_x emissions and 30% of PM₁₀ emissions.

Presently, the lines committing to the clean air initiative are China Shipping (Group) Company, Orient Overseas Container Line, Yang Ming Lin and Evergreen Marine Corporation (Taiwan), Ltd. "This is a tremendous step," commented Mayor Hahn. "The partnership of our steamship lines and terminal operators with the Port is critical to achieving our air quality goals. Our approach to improving harbor area air quality issues continues to be a multi-phased campaign to use new technologies and operational efficiencies to make large inroads into emission reductions for the benefit of the community."

The Port's current initiative signifies their ongoing commitment to initiate a Clean Air Program that includes a commitment to alternative fuel use, vessel speed reduction program, tugboat retrofits and other progressive programs. For more information on the Port of Los Angeles' environmental programs, visit them online at <http://www.portoflosangeles.org/environment.htm>.

\$ \$ \$ **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES** \$ \$ \$

(Visit <http://www.lacity.org/ead> for other current grant opportunities.)



California Community Foundation Grants

This grant supports the maintenance and beautification of parks and recreation areas, and is intended for nonprofit organizations located within and/or primarily serving residents of L.A. County. For more information call (213) 413-4130 or visit <http://www.calfund.org>.

California Integrated Waste Management Board

Recycling Market Development Zone Revolving Loan Program provides direct loans to eligible businesses that use post-consumer or secondary waste materials to manufacture new products or that reduce the waste resulting from the manufacture of a product. For more information call (916) 341-6530 or visit <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Grants/>.

California State Coastal Conservancy

Proposition 204 funding specifically allocated for LA River projects that focus on habitat restoration and construction of public access facilities. Projects must show relationship to the coast. For more information call (510) 286-4169.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund

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

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. For more information call the U.S. Department of Energy at (800) 683-0751.

EPA Environmental Education Grants Program

supports environmental education projects that enhance public awareness, knowledge, and skills to make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. For more information call (202) 564-0443 or visit them online at <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>.

Jobs Through Recycling

is a program that seeks to foster recycling/reuse businesses that increase the use of recyclable/reusable materials to increase economic development and job creation. For more information call Julia Wolfe with the EPA Waste Management Division at (415) 744-2131.

Ben & Jerry's Foundation supports projects that facilitate progressive social change by addressing the underlying conditions of societal and environmental problems. Non-profits only (usually with budgets below \$250,000). Small grants up to \$1,000 and full grants up to \$15,000 are available. The deadline is November 1. For more information call (802) 846-1500 or visit <http://www.benjerry.com/foundation/>.

Captain Planet Foundation

Their objective is to encourage innovative programs that empower children and youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. The foundation believes that children can achieve a better appreciation for the world in which they live. For more information or to apply online visit <http://www.turner.com/cpf/>

Cottonwood Foundation

is dedicated to promoting empowerment of people, protection of the environment, and respect for cultural diversity. The foundation focuses its funding on committed, grass roots organizations that rely strongly on volunteer efforts and where foundation support will make a significant difference. For more information or to apply online visit <http://www.cottonwoodfdn.org/>

Home Depot — Community Grant Program

provides assistance to non-profits that direct efforts toward forestry, ecology, green building design, clean-up, recycling, and lead poisoning prevention. This grant is for non-profits only. There are no specific award amounts. For more information contact your local Home Depot store manager or visit <http://www.homedepot.com>.

National Wildlife Federation Schoolyard Habitats

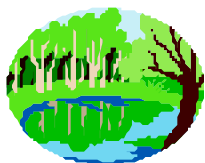
Wild Seed Fund Mini-grants to assist schools in the initial phases of a Schoolyard Habitats project. To be eligible, schools must be planning to create or restore wildlife habitat on their school grounds and certify their Schoolyard Habitats site with the National Wildlife Federation by **March 15, 2003**. For more information visit them online at <http://www.nwf.org/schoolyardhabitats>.



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 am. For more information contact Felcie Kidd at (310) 648-5363.

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 Saturdays

(Summer Schedule) From 6:30 pm to 8 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) 32MARSH.



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 submissions 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) 32MARSH.



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 1 - 31**

Pavilion of Wings Treat yourself to an experience of a lifetime throughout the month of August by taking the opportunity to view several thousand living butterflies and moths representing 30 species native to regions across the United States at the Natural History Museum. Tickets are \$3 for adults, \$1 for children and \$2 for students/seniors. For more information, call (213) 763-DINO (3466) or visit them online at <http://www.nhm.org>.

**Sat., August 3****Native Garden Workday**

Come help maintain the Cabrillo Coastal Native Plant Garden. While weeding and planting, discover the miracles that exist in the plants and animals that inhabit the garden. Participants should wear comfortable clothing that you don't mind getting dirty, closed-toe shoes, hat, sunscreen, water, and garden gloves if you have them. Registration is not required, but groups are asked to call Linda Chilton (310) 548-7562 ext. 5007. For more information, please call (310) 548-7562 or visit <http://www.cabrilloaq.org/>.

L.A. Zoo Career Day

Thinking of a career working with animals? Then the Zoo's Career Day might be for you. Come meet L.A. Zoo veterinarians, animal keepers, curators, educators, and

more during this informative afternoon. The event will be held from 1 to 5 pm. Participants will learn all about the ins and outs of jobs, and find out what career paths staff members took to get them to where they are today. There is a fee of \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$5 for parents and chaperones. For more information or to make reservations call (323) 644-4211 or visit <http://www.lazoo.org>.

August 3, 14, 24

(Sat., Wed., Sat.)

The California Environmental Project is seeking individuals or group volunteers to participate in day-long projects in the Angeles National Forest during the week or weekends. For more information call (818) 500-1025.

Sat., August 3, 17, 31**2002 Festival on the Green**

is the California Philharmonic's annual concert series at the Arboretum of Los Angeles County. Come enjoy music, food, and lovely scenery. Gates open at 5:30 pm and the concert begins at 7:30 pm. Ticket cost ranges from \$15 to \$63. For more information, call (626) 300-8200 or visit <http://www.calphil.org>.

Sun., August 11**Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

invites you to come listen to a story, sing a song, and use a puppet at their Second Sunday Seashore Studio. Adventures include making a project to

take home. This event will be held from 9 am to 11 am and all ages are welcome. There is a \$2 fee for non-members and a \$1 fee for members. For more information, call (310) 548-7562 or visit <http://www.cabrilloaq.org/>.

Sat., August 17 & 24**Theodore Payne Foundation is**

presenting a special two-day workshop, design class and garden tour featuring the work of four TPF members who are successfully including California native plants in their water-conserving landscapes. From 9 am to 11 am discover how it's done and at 3 pm see the work in progress. Participants are to return the following week with designs from their own garden with tips from Louise Gonzalez, TPF Sales Manager to help guide you along the way. Space is limited and there is a fee of \$32 for members (\$40 nonmembers). For more information, please call (818) 768-1802, email info@theodorepayne.org, or visit <http://www.theodorepayne.org>.

Thurs., August 22**Full Moon Hike**

offered by TreePeople will offer an opportunity to connect with nature after a hectic day in Los Angeles. The docent-led hikes give folks a chance to howl at the moon and explore Coldwater Canyon Park at night. A choice of energy levels and themes are geared for the young and not-as-young alike. This event will be held from 8 pm to 9 pm. Afterwards, hikers can enjoy entertainment in the



S. Mark Taper Foundation Amphitheatre. To make reservations or for more information call (818) 623-4866, ask for Chip English.

Sat., August 31

Fifth Avenue Tree Care is a learning experience offered by TreePeople. The *Cassia leptophylla* trees on Fifth Avenue are beginning to thrive. Help TreePeople maintain these 32 wonderful trees continue their excellent growth. This very family-friendly event will be followed by a neighborhood potluck and barbeque. Tree care begins at 10 am in Mid-City. For more information call (818) 623-4841 ask for Jennifer Scott-Lifland.



Banning's Landing Ocean Festival



celebrates oceanic cultures with hands-on projects for kids, an exhibit of children's ocean themed art and Polynesian dance and music. Stop by the arts and craft booths or sample the various ethnic cuisines. This event is sponsored by the City's Cultural Affairs Department and will be held from 11 am to 6 pm at the Banning's Landing Community Center located on 100 E. Water St., at the foot of Avalon Blvd. in Wilmington. For more information call, (213) 473-8483 or visit them online at <http://www.culturela.org>.

H₂O Conservation

Helpful conservation tips for the home:

- ♦ *Take shorter showers.*
- ♦ *Wash only full loads in your dish and laundry washers, and use them early in the morning or late in the evening.*
- ♦ *Plant drought resistant vegetation.*
- ♦ *Adjust sprinklers to water planted areas, not the pavement.*
- ♦ *Fix leaky faucets & pipes.*

More tips can be found at <http://www.ladwp.com/water>

EAD Funds Two New CNG Fueling Sites for City Fleet Vehicles



Row of 5 FuelMaker Single Compressor Units at the South Los Angeles Yard

In July 2002, the City opened FuelMaker compressed natural gas (CNG) pumps at two fueling yards where City of Los Angeles fleet vehicles are garaged. The Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) worked in partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (DOT) and the General Services Department (GSD) to implement this important project. DOT will be using the two sites - one located at 411 N. Vermont in Hollywood and the other at 7510 S. Figueroa in South Los Angeles - to fuel their 72 CNG Honda Civics that are used in parking enforcement and other departmental activities. Because these sites provide improved access to CNG for the City's fleet of CNG vehicles, they represent important additions to the City's CNG fueling infrastructure.

The EAD allocated \$400,000 in funding for the project and an additional \$80,000 came from a grant from the California Energy Commission's Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Program. EAD General Manager Detrich B. Allen observes, "I am glad we were able to work in collaboration with DOT and GSD to successfully complete this important project. Increasing the accessibility of alternative fueling options is a critical step toward improving air quality in the City of Los Angeles and increasing awareness and acceptance of alternative fuel vehicles."

The City of Los Angeles has adopted a policy in support of alternative fuels for the City's fleet to improve air quality. The establishment of on-site alternative fueling infrastructure not only benefits air quality, but also is convenient and cost effective. The use of CNG instead of gasoline or diesel helps reduce nitrogen oxide, particulates, and toxic air pollution and lessens our reliance on foreign oil.



3 Multi-Compressor Units and 1 Fast Fill Unit at the Hollywood Yard



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/lead and click on the Environmental Information Center

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 desagués

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

Smoking Violations

Infracciones de fumar

Office of the City Attorney
(888) 333-0730

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