An Environmental Affair

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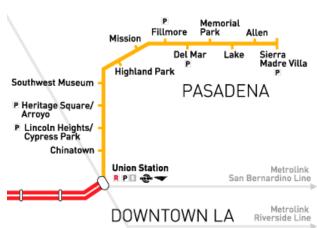
The City of Los Angeles **Environmental Affairs** Department was established in 1990 to advise the city on environmental issues and provide a centralized source of environmental information. The **Environmental Affairs** Department seeks to protect and enhance the environmental quality of life for residents,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

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Ride the New Gold Line

An exciting new public transportation option is now available for the Los Angeles

area! On July 26, 2003 the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) began operating its newest light-rail line, the Gold Line, traveling between downtown Union Station and Sierra Madre Villa with eleven stops in-between. MTA introduced this new service by offering free rides on July 26th and 27th. The 13.7-mile service complements the overall MTA bus and rail system and accepts all fare cards, MTA passes and All-System passes. The line services the communities of Chinatown,



Highland Park, South Pasadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre Villa. MTA CEO

(Gold Line Opens...continued on page 3)

Help for Businesses in Meeting Requirements for Clean Air

If you are a small business owner who is concerned with minimizing your business' impact on the environment and being in compliance with air quality requirements, the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) Small Business Assistance Team can help you. This team of engineers and inspectors can provide FREE help to:

- Understand the rules that apply to your business
- Identify equipment that requires a permit
- Apply for air quality permits
- Properly keep required records
- Make sure the coatings, inks, solvents, and other materials you are using meet SCAQMD rules
- Seek a temporary variance from rules, if needed
- Find financial assistance for pollution control equipment

When you utilize the Small Business Assistance Team you can receive free on-site technical consultations. Also, if you agree in advance to correct any

(Business Help...continued on page 7)

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.

Printed on recycled paper. PLEASE POST

New Video Available on Children and Air Pollution

A new documentary video entitled "A Breath of Air: What Pollution is Doing to Our Children" is now available for purchase from the University of Southern California (USC).

The video describes the results of the Children's Health Study, a 10-year, 12-community study of the impacts of air pollution on the health of children in southern California. Featured in the video are several families whose children have asthma and are impacted by air pollution; Dr. John Peters, study director, as well as Dr. Jim Gauderman of USC; Dr. Barry Wallerstein and Dr. Alan Lloyd (government regulators of air pollution from the South Coast Air Quality Management District and the California Air Resources Board respectfully.)

Among other findings, the Children's Health Study shows that children in more polluted communities have slower lung function growth rates and more school absences than children in less polluted communities. And it shows that children who play three or more sports and who live in the more polluted communities have an increased risk of developing asthma compared to children playing sports in the less polluted communities.

The Southern California Environmental Health Sciences Center and the Children's Environmental Health Center, both based at Keck School of Lt was funded by the California Air Pescurces Board, with additional

Medicine, USC, produced the video. It was funded by the California Air Resources Board, with additional support from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Examples of groups that have already purchased the video and are using it in their educational programs include: school nurses, asthma coalitions, teachers, environmental groups, community-based organizations, environmental justice groups, schools of public health, nursing schools, health departments, and many more.

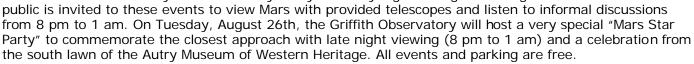
The cost is \$8 for VHS tape and \$13 for DVD. For information on ordering, please contact the Southern California Environmental Health Sciences Center at SCEHSC@usc.edu.

Mars Close Up

According to the Griffith Observatory, Mars will be at its closest point to the Earth in 60,000 years on August 26th and 27th. Although every 15 or so years Earth and Mars come into very close range, this year, due to gradual changes in the planets' orbits, Mars will be *exceptionally* close to the earth! The next extraordinary approach won't happen until 2287. On Aug. 27 this year, Mars will be 34.65 million miles; in

1995, the distance between the two worlds was nearly double what it will be later this year. Mars *will* appear strikingly brilliant — it will be about as bright as Jupiter ever gets. It will shine like a beacon in its characteristic red or orange, in stark contrast to most of the other planets and stars, which exhibit little color.

To celebrate this once-in-a-lifetime planetary encounter, the Los Angeles Astronomical Society and the Los Angeles Sidewalk Astronomers will host late-night "Mars Star Parties" at the Griffith Observatory Satellite Facility every Saturday night in August. The general



For more information about the Mars viewing events, contact the Griffith Observatory Satellite Facility, located at 4800 Western Heritage Way (in the northeast corner of Griffith Park by the Los Angeles Zoo and the Autry Museum of Western Heritage), at (323) 664-1181, or visit the Griffith Observatory's website at http://www.griffithobs.org/mars2003.html.

(Gold Line Open...Continued from page 1)

Roger Snoble explains that the new line "is a valuable new member of the Metro Rail family and will work hand-in-hand with the Metro Bus system in meeting the growing mobility needs of our communities."

MTA has upgraded bus service throughout the San Gabriel Valley and adjusted timetables to integrate bus service with the new rail line. According to the MTA the rail line is expected to carry at least 26,000 daily passengers leading to 2.6 million fewer annual automobile trips and 35.6 million fewer automobile miles driven on area streets and highways. This results in 173,000 pounds of air pollution that will no longer enter our air. The project was funded through a combination of local, state and federal monies.

Metro Gold line serves a host of attractions including Olvera Street and historic downtown at Union Station, Chinatown shopping and galleries, The Los Angeles River Center and Gardens at Lincoln Heights/ Cypress Park Station, Heritage Museum Square at the Arroyo Station, Old Pasadena at the Del Mar Station, and the Pasadena Playhouse District via the Lake Station. The line also serves several museums and libraries including: Chinatown Library Dynasty, the Southwest Museum, Arroyo Seco Regional Library, Carnegie Library, Meridian Ironworks Museum, Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena Museum of California Art, the Norton Simon Museum, Carnegie Observatories, and the Huntington Library and Gardens. Each station is uniquely decorated and has also been designed to provide optimum safety for travelers, motorists and pedestrians. The line runs from 3:35 am to 2 am, 7 days per week and is serviced by 26 new electric-powered rail cars controlled by 41 hard-working train operators. Traveling at speeds reaching 55 mph, the total trip from East Pasadena to Downtown Union Station takes 36 minutes.

Ridership is expected to come from commuters, visitors to station attractions, and students; the line serves Fuller Theological Seminary, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena City College, Pasadena Conservancy of Music, and California State University Los Angeles Extension. Additionally, transit oriented development is already underway at the Chinatown, Mission, Del Mar, and Sierra Madre Villa stations.

The opening of the Gold Line comes on the heels of the expansion of Metro Rapid Bus Service onto Vermont and Broadway. MTA's next major projects include Metro Rapid Bus service on Santa Monica Boulevard and an extension of the Gold Line into the Eastern San Gabriel Valley.

Announcing EAD Staff Promotions

The Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) would like to congratulate Julie Van Wagner on her promotion to Environmental Supervisor I in the Water & Natural Resources (WNR) Division. She graduated from California State University Northridge with a bachelor's degree in Geography, and has been with the department for six years.

EAD is also pleased to announce that David Thompson has been promoted to Environmental Supervisor II within EAD's Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) Program. David will continue to provide LEA oversight for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill as well as take on additional responsibilities. David has recently completed his MS Degree in Environmental/Occupational Health at California State University Northridge and has been an EAD employee for over 12 years.

Congratulations also to Craig Tranby, who has been promoted to Supervisor I in the Materials & Waste Resources Division, Policy and Program Analysis Section. Craig has been involved in EAD's Brownfields Program, and holds a Master's Degree in Planning from UCLA. He has been with EAD for five and a half years.

EAD Bids Fond Farewell to Lisa Wunder

In July, EAD bid farewell to Lisa Wunder, who was hired in 2000 as an Environmental Specialist in the Air Quality Division. She specialized in grant writing and project implementation for alternative fuel vehicles, and was the City's Coordinator for the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program. She left EAD this summer in order to move to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Best wishes, Lisa!

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES Visit http://www.lacity.org/ead for more grant opportunities.

Surdna Foundation seeks to prevent irreversible damage to the environment and to promote more efficient, economically sound, environmentally beneficial and equitable use of land and natural resources. Please visit www.surdna.org for application information or call (212) 557-0010.

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 www.ciwmb.ca.gov/grants.

Captain Planet Foundation funds and supports hands-on environmental projects for children and youths interested in solving environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. Please visit www.captainplanetfdn.org for details and an application, or write to Captain Planet Foundation, One CNN Center, Suite 1090, Atlanta, GA 30303.

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. For more information contact your local Home Depot store manager or visit www.homedepot.com and search for "community involvement" or call 1-800-430-3376.

Reuse Assistance Grants Program has been developed by the California Integrated Waste Management Board to help local public agencies promote reuse activities at the local public agency level. All local public agencies in California are eligible to apply. For more information, call Sarah Weimer at (916) 341-6613 or email sweimer@ciwmb.ca.gov.

The California Community Foundation accepts grants year-round for projects that seek to revitalize low-income neighborhoods. Funds will support the development, rehabilitation and beautification of affordable housing and living areas, and will support the establishment or maintenance of safe recreation areas and parks, including community gardens. Please visit www.calfund.org or call (213) 413-4130.

Leaf-It-To-Us Tree Planting Grant **Opportunity for Schools**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is introducing the tree-planting program Leaf-It-To-Us, designed to motivate kids to care for and improve their educational environment. The purpose of the program is to distribute funds for community school tree-planting projects initiated and undertaken by school kids in partnership with school volunteers. For more information, call (909)782-4140 x6123 or e-mail eric.oldar@fire.ca.gov. For online information and applications, visit http://www. ufei.calpoly.edu and click on "News and Announcements." Application deadline is September 1, 2003.



Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools 2003 National Symposium The National

Environmental Health Association (NEHA), in cooperation with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), is offering a significant training opportunity for environmental health professionals working in city, county or state health or environmental protection agencies, or individuals that have been active with community groups working on school health and safety issues. The USEPA will host their 4th Annual Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Tools for Schools National Symposium, October 26-28, 2003, in Washington, DC. IAQ Tools for Schools is a nationwide initiative to help school officials assess, resolve, and prevent indoor air quality problems and reduce exposure to asthma triggers in school facilities. An awards ceremony will be held to honor schools with exemplary IAQ programs. NEHA will select up to thirty people for training in Washington, DC, with all expenses paid. Letters of interest should be sent to:

> Larry Marcum, Manager Research and Development National Environmental Health Association 720 South Colorado Boulevard South Tower - Suite 970 Denver, Colorado 80246-1925

Letters of interest must be received by no later than the close of business on Friday, August 22, 2003. All applicants must include their e-mail address on the application. Any questions regarding this project should be addressed to Larry Marcum, who may be reached at (303) 756-9090 ext. 303.

AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EACH MONTH:

Down-by-the-River Walks



Friends of the Los Angeles River and the Sierra Club are s p o n s o r i n g 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 information, visit the FoLAR website, www.folar.org, or call Joe Linton at (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. For more information or to make reservations 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, please contact Felcie Kidd at (310) 648-5363 for details or to schedule a tour.

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 science education afternoon is free and opens with a different theme each week. Groups should make reservations. For more information, call (310) 548-7562 or visit www.cabrilloaq. org.

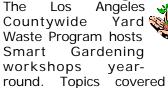
Satwiwa Sundays From 11



am to 3 pm at Rancho Sierra Vista/ Satwiwa. Meet guest hosts, watch demonstrations and share the

experiences of the Native American LA Community. Sponsored by the Friends of Satwiwa and the National Park Service. For more information call the National Park Service at (805) 370-2301.

Smart Gardening Workshops



round. 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. For more information call the Bureau of Sanitation at (213) 473-8228.

Amigos de Bolsa Chica offer free public tours of the wetlands



for <u>individuals</u> the first Saturday of each month. Visitors who arrive between 9 and 10:30 am will be led on

a 1 1/2 hour tour which makes 5 stops along the walkbridge and loop trail. Trained tour guides discuss bird identification, ecology, endangered species, early history and current status. For more information, visit http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org. or call (714) 840-1575.

Baldwin Hills Hikes are held by the LA Audubon Society on the

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.

3rd Saturday of each month at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. For more information call (323) 876-0202 or visit www.LAAudubon.org.

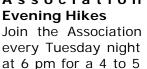
Augustus F. Hawkins Natural Park offers youth



activities including day-long trips to destinations like Point Mugu, Franklin Canyon and Malibu

Creek. These trips are held each Saturday and transportation is provided. For information, please call (323) 585-3205.

Temescal Canyon Association Evening Hikes





mile evening hike in the Santa Monica Mountains. Participants meet at Temescal Gateway Park located off of Sunset Boulevard. The walk lasts approximately 2-3 hours. For more information, contact the Temescal Canyon Association at (310) 459-5931 or (310) 454-4188.

THIS MONTH:

(EAD recommends contacting event sponsor prior to event)

All Month Long

Music by the Sea Free outdoor musical concerts with a variety of musical genres are set in Point Fermin Park that overlooks the

Pacific Ocean. Bring a picnic and a blanket, family and friends. Concerts take place every Sunday from 1 pm to 3 pm, and again from 4 pm to 6 pm. Point Fermin Park is located at 807 Paseo del Mar in San Pedro. For more information, call the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks at 888-LAPARKS.

Sat, Aug 9

Hike the Bluff Cove This moderate walk descends to one of the most beautiful coves on the Palos Verdes Peninsula.



There are tide pools, coastal bluff habitat, and a history that includes the story of local surfers, the Douglas Cut, and the ambitious plans of the early Palos Verdes Project. The walk begins in the 600 block of Paseo del Mar in Palos Verdes Estates at 4 pm. Drive approximately 1/2 mile beyond (south) Neighborhood Church, continue up the hill, and park on the road. Cosponsored by the City of Palos Verdes Estates and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. For more information, visit the Conservancy's website at www. pvplc.org or call (310) 541-7613.

Sat and Sun, Aug 9-10

18th Annual Block Party and Arts Festival This San Pedro tradition celebrates music, food, and interactive arts activities for the whole family. Free. Takes place Saturday from 11 am to midnight, and Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm. The event takes place at 1003 South Beacon Street in San Pedro. Sponsored by the Beacon House Association San Pedro. For more information, call (310) 514-4940 or visit their website at www. beaconhouseassociation.com.

Fri thru Sun, Aug 15-17

37th Annual Watts Summer

Festival One of the longest running African American cultural festivals promoting cultural awareness for children and families using arts, crafts, theater presentations, music, food and fashion. Takes place Friday through Sunday from noon to 8 pm at 10950 South Central Avenue. Free. **Sponsored** by the ₩atts Summer Festival, Inc. For more information, contact

the sponsor at www. wattsfestival.org or call (323) 789-7304.

Sat, Aug 16

The Great Sand Sculpture Contest Teams

of co-workers, families and friends compete against each other to build unique sand



creations in multiple prize categories. FREE to spectators.

Sponsored by the City of Long Beach. For more information, call (562) 570-8920 or visit their website at www.lbparks.org. Takes place from 9 am to 4 pm at Belmont Shore Beach in front of Belmont Pool at Granada in Long Beach. The contest is a part of the Long Beach 71st International Sea Festival. To sign on as a competitor, call Fred Khammar at (562) 434-1542.

Sat and Sun, Aug 23 and 24

Sunset Junction Street Faire One of the largest street fairs in Los Angeles will feature live music, ethnic food, and unique crafts to celebrate the spirit of Los Angeles. \$6 donation for Youth at Risk Program. The fair takes place both days from 10 am to 11 pm between 3600 and 4600 Sunset Boulevard in Los Sponsored by the Angeles. Sunset Junction Neighborhood Alliance. For more information. visit www.sunsetjunction.org or call (323) 661-7771.

Sun, Aug 24

Tiki Beach Festival From

sunrise to sundown participants can enjoy an old-fashioned beach party that will feature live entertainment.



classic car show, a BBQ cook-off, a kite surfing exhibition, catamaran rides and movies on the beach after dark. Admission is FREE. The Festival takes place at Belmont Shore Beach at Granada in Long Beach. For more information, contact the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation, and Marine at (562) 570-8920, or visit their website at www.lbparks.org.

Environmental Justice Meetings

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) will be hosting Environmental Justice Training Workshops on August 6, August 16, and September 3 to help local government officials, educators, businesses, health organizations, community groups, and faith-based organizations with air quality issues affecting their local communities. Locations will be announced. To register, obtain information on location and times, or to request to host a meeting, call Arlene Farol at (909) 396-2250.

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) Advisory Committee on Environmental Justice has released its Draft Recommendations to the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice for public comment. The Committee encourages public input during this comment period, which ends Friday, September 12. Copies of the Report can be found on the Cal/EPA website at www. calepa.ca.gov/envjustice. Members of the general public can provide oral comments at the Advisory Committee Meeting in Oakland on September 29-30. For a hard copy or CD-ROM of the Report, call Juan Aquino at (916) 445-1190 or e-mail at jaquino@calepa.ca.gov. If you have questions regarding the Report or the Oakland meeting, contact Romel Pascual at (916) 324-8425.

(Business Help...continued from page 1)

violations that they might find, you will not be ticketed or fined. The SCAQMD may help businesses qualify for a state loan guarantee program that helps small businesses obtain bank loans of up to \$250,000 for equipment that complies with SCAQMD requirements.

The SCAQMD's Green Carpet program rewards a project proponent with a speedier administrative review for implementing one or more measures from a specified list of low-emitting technologies. The Green Carpet program establishes a priority permitting service for permit applicants meeting any one of the following criteria:

- "Three Star" Project Construction of a new facility or modification of an existing one to meet or exceed air emission standards set for the year 2010;
- HELP Project Construction of a new High Employment, Low Pollution facility or modification of an existing one to expand business or create more than 500 jobs, and produce half the emissions per employee allowed under the year 2010 goal for its industry;
- Major Capital Project Implementation of a standard, single-phased design project that costs more than \$10 million. Both engineering and construction time must exceed one year each;
- Air Quality Technology Advancement Project With SCAQMD's prior written approval companies can apply for the "Green Carpet" service to investigate and research technology advancements designed to reduce emissions; or
- "Super clean air actions" such as the installation of fuel cells (e.g., phosphoric acid fuel cell) in any stationary or mobile application; the purchase of new clean fuel school buses with oxidation catalysts; the replacement of diesel engines with clean fuel engines with oxidation catalysts; the installation of particulate traps, oxidation catalysts, and use of low sulfur diesel or emulsified diesel additives on existing diesel engines; the replacement of perchloroethylene (perc) dry cleaning machines with a non-toxic, non-VOC cleaning alternative (e.g., wet cleaning technologies); the construction of anaerobic digesters; or the implementation of other "super clean air actions" that are not otherwise required by law or regulation for at least three years.

SCAQMD also has a \$2 million grant program to help dry cleaners switch to cleaner technologies. Applicants may receive up to \$10,000 for Professional Wet Cleaning Machines (water-based system) or CO_2 machines; or up to \$5,000 for Hydrocarbon Machines (such as those using DF 2000). Because of a recently completed two-year study on the health effects of silicon-based dry cleaning materials, grants for Green-Earth (silicon based cleaners) have been suspended. For information about these programs, call (800) CUT-SMOG or visit www.AQMD.gov.



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 http://www.lacity.org/ead and click on Environmental Information Center.

Air Quality

Calidad del aire South Coast Air Quality Management District (800) 288-7664

Asbestos

Asbestos Environmental Hygiene (626) 430-5440

Bulky Item Pick-up

Recogida de articulos 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

Housing and Building Complaints

Las quejas del construccion y albergar Housing Code Enforcement (213) 367-9411

Illegal Storm Drain Dumping

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

Indoor Air or Mold Concerns

Aire interior ó preocupaciones de moho Environmental Hygiene (626) 430-5440

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

Infestaciónes de mosquitos L.A. West Mosquito Abatement (310) 915-7370

Recycling

Reciclaje
City of L.A. Public Works Dept.
(800) 773-2489

Smoking Violations

Infracciónes de fumar Office of the City Attorney (888) 333-0730

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

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