

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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EAD Participates in US-Japan Exchange and Research Program

In August, participants from four U.S. cities, including the City of Los Angeles and represented by Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) General Manager Detrich Allen, visited Japan to study diverse and innovative approaches to community climate protection. Sponsored by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), the tour was the second part of another visit that took place in May, when Japanese officials visited U.S. cities to survey efforts undertaken to prevent global warming.



A final report from ICLEI about the exchange will be issued later this year. In addition to the City of Los Angeles, other cities participating included Seattle, Washington; Portland, Oregon; and Santa Monica, California. ICLEI was founded in 1990 by local governments at the United Nations Headquarters in New York as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. ICLEI is a membership association of cities, towns, counties, metropolitan governments, and local government associations, with a focus on improving environmental conditions and global sustainability. For more information about ICLEI, visit their website at www.iclei.org.

Environmental Affairs Department General Manager Detrich Allen (left) and Susan Anderson (middle), Director of the Office of Sustainable Development in Portland, Oregon, tour a green roof with Tokyo Planner Yuko Nishida, to discuss the Tokyo Metropolitan Government's Eco-Roof Program.

Long-Term Study Finds Children Developing Lung Deficiencies Due to Air Pollution

An eight-year study, recently completed by the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California, tracked the pulmonary development of over 1,700 school children living among 12 southern California communities, some of which included the greater Los Angeles Basin. Published in the September issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, researchers from the Children's Health Study conducted lung examinations on a yearly basis between 1993 and 2001 to examine and test the children's lung functions.

Conducting the examinations as the study's subjects progressed from the

(Lung Deficiencies...Continued on page 3)

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

Rideshare to Work, Walk to School Week October 4-8, 2004

This year's annual statewide event that encourages commuters to try alternatives to driving alone will be held October 4-8, 2004 and coincides with International Walk to School Week. During California Rideshare Week, commuters are encouraged to explore and utilize some alternative form of transportation such as carpooling, vanpooling, biking, walking, telecommuting, or using mass transit.

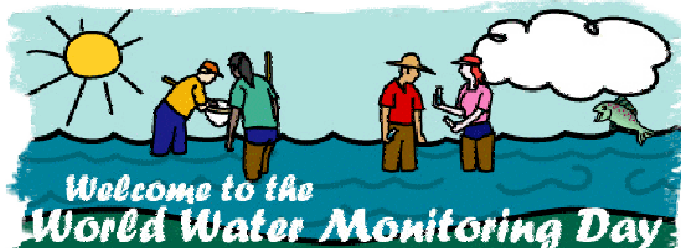
These are easy ways that individuals can reduce their impact on the environment by leaving their cars at home and reducing the amount of pollution that an activity such as driving can emit. In addition, options such as walking and biking can offer health benefits. More information on California Rideshare Week will be available soon, online at <http://www.rideshare.cc>. You also can check out Metro Commute Services, a part of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), at http://www.mta.net/riding_metro/commute_services/default.htm for help in finding

carpool partners, transit itineraries, and more.

October 4-8, 2003 also is International Walk to School Week, with October 6th being Walk Our Children to School Day. More information on this event, including designating safe routes to school, launching a creative walking promotion, and spreading information about the health benefits of walking can be found at <http://www.walktoschool.org>.

World Water Monitoring Day is October 18

On the anniversary of the Clean Water Act and the first National Water Monitoring Day (October 18, 2002), the Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), America's Clean Water Foundation, the International Water Association and many other agencies and non-profits are encouraging citizens around the world to volunteer to monitor the quality of their local streams, lakes, wetlands and coastal waters on October 18.



In 2002, 75,000 people in the United States participated in America's Clean Water Foundation's National Monitoring Day by collecting and analyzing water samples. By having a partnership between the International Water Association, US EPA and federal partners, as well as state and interstate agencies, watershed organizations and individuals, World Water Monitoring Day can promote personal stewardship and individual responsibility for the world's water at a global level.

World Water Monitoring Day is intended to become an annual event to involve people throughout the world to establish a baseline for evaluating water quality trends. Volunteers of World Water Monitoring Day will perform four tests to measure dissolved oxygen, pH levels, water clarity, and water temperature. They enter their findings on the World Wide Web. To become a monitor, order tests kits, and find out more information about World Water Monitoring Day, visit America's Clean Water Foundation at www.watermonitoringday.org.

New Environmental Affairs Commission Appointees

The Environmental Affairs Department is pleased to announce its new commissioners. In August, the Environmental Affairs Department received two new appointees, Noreen E. McClendon and Samuel Hill Jr.. Ms. McClendon currently is a Project Director for Concerned Citizens of South Central Los Angeles and has previously worked in management for Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches. Samuel J. Hill Jr. is a principal consultant with the Office of the State Senate President. He also has worked for the Assembly Education Committee and the State Assembly Office of Majority Services.

The new appointees join current Commission members Wayde A. Hunter, Justo Gonzalez, and Jennifer T. Taggart. Mr. Hunter is a senior industrial and manufacturing engineer with over 30 years experience in his field; Mr. Gonzalez is an attorney with Jones Day; and Ms. Taggart is an attorney specializing in environmental law.

(Lung Deficiencies...Continued from page 1)

fourth to twelfth grades, the scientists set out to find if a direct correlation existed between the students' lung health measurements and the levels of air pollution monitored in their communities during the same period.

The pollutants that were monitored in the study all derive from vehicle emissions and fossil fuel combustions. The investigation showed that children living in communities where they were exposed to nitrogen dioxide, acid vapor, particulate matter, and carbon emissions exhibited deficits in their lung development over the period of the study. The results indicated clinically low lung function appearing among the participants living in communities with more air pollution. Children with clinically low lung function have less than 80% of the lung function expected for their age. The research indicated that children living in these areas were five times more likely to have low lung function than children living in the communities with less air pollution.

The research team that conducted this study will continue to monitor participants as they mature into their twenties, when lungs reach the end of development. The questions that researchers will pose are if the study's participants will begin to experience respiratory symptoms, and if those who move away from their polluted environment show improvements.

To obtain a new air pollution policy brief by USC entitled "Road to an Unhealthy Future for Southern Californian Children," see the publications list at www.usc.edu/urban.

South Los Angeles Non-Point Source Water Pollution Awareness Day Event

California GreenWorks, in collaboration with the South Los Angeles Watts Weed and Seed program, is sponsoring a Non-Point Source Water Pollution Awareness Day event on October 9 at Ted Watkins Park located at 1335 East 103rd Street (on 103rd and Central) from 9 am to noon. The purpose of this event is to raise awareness for non-point source Water Pollution within the inner-city communities. This fun and educational event is geared toward adults and youth ages 6 thru 16. For more information, contact Ted Watkins Park at (323) 357-3032.

This project is sponsored in part by the California Regional Water Resources Control Board, the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Housing Authority, Los Angeles Unified School District, and the Los Angeles Police Department.

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

Visit <http://www.lacity.org/ead> for more grant opportunities.

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.

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.

California Coastal Commission Whale Tail Grants

The Whale Tail Grants Program distributes funds from sales of the Whale Tail License Plate. The grants support programs that teach California's children and the general public to value and take action to improve the health of the state's marine and coastal resources. Adopt-A-Beach programs, as well as other beach maintenance and coastal habitat restoration projects that have an educational component, are also eligible for these grants. This grants program focuses on reaching communities that are currently poorly served in terms of marine and coastal education. The Whale Tail Grants Program funds projects that fall into any one of the following three categories: 1) Adopt-A-Beach programs; 2) Youth programs; 3) Programs for the general public. Applicants must be either a non-profit organization or a governmental entity. For beach operation and maintenance projects, the applicant must be a non-profit organization or *local* governmental agency. Applications must be postmarked by **December 10, 2004**. For more information, visit the Coastal Commission's Whale Tail Grants webpage at www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/pendx.html; e-mail for information at COAST4U@coastal.ca.gov; call the Coastal Commission offices at (800) COAST 4U (800-262-7848); or write to:

Whale Tail Grants Program
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105.

Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) NMF is a competitive matching grant program that awards funding of up to \$10,000 for beautification projects to community-based organizations in the City of Los Angeles. For more information, visit the fund's website at www.lanmf.org, or contact the office by mail at:

City of Los Angeles
Board of Public Works
Operation Clean Sweep
Neighborhood Matching Fund
200 North Spring Street, Room 356
Los Angeles, CA 90012

or by telephone at (213) 978-0225; by fax at (213) 978-0241; or by e-mail at nmf@bpw.lacity.org. This fund is sponsored by the City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works. The application deadline is **October 26, 2004**.

Organic School Garden Contest K-12 teams of students and teachers nationwide are invited to submit an essay and poster that express how they use their organic school garden as a learning tool, and its impact on the community. Three winning schools will receive cash prizes of \$250, \$500 and \$1,000. For entry guidelines and information visit <http://www.kidsregen.org/gardens/index.shtml>. The application deadline is **October 31, 2004**. Sponsored by the Rodale Institute. For more information on the Institute, visit www.rodaleinstitute.org.

Ecological Indicators of Air Quality

Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Atmospheric Programs is announcing available funds for proposals to enhance scientific assessment capabilities to better understand how changes in air quality and atmospheric deposition impact entire ecosystems. The successfully funded proposal will present a methodology for developing: (1) ecological indicators of air quality (that measure air quality in relation to aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem conditions) and (2) a measurement system for using these indicators to evaluate progress in improving ecosystem condition. For more information on these available funds, to see who is eligible, and to download the application, visit www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html. Closing date for applications is **October 18, 2004**.

OCTOBER 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 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

The Los Angeles Countywide Yard Waste Program hosts Smart Gardening workshops year-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 individuals 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



Join the Association every Tuesday night at 6 pm for a 4 to 5 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)

Oct 4-8**CALIFORNIA RIDESHARE WEEK**

Participate in Rideshare Week and Walk to School Day!



See page 2 for more information.

Fri thru Sun, Oct 15-17**Fall Festival Open House and Plant Sale**

held by the Theodore Payne Foundation in Sun Valley. Fall is the time to plant California natives and wildflower seed. Visit the Foundation to view their special exhibits and garden demonstrations, and receive discounts on their large selection of plants and books. For more information contact the Foundation at info@theodorepayne.org, call them at (818) 768-1802, or visit their website at www.theodorepayne.org. The Foundation is located at 10459 Tuxford Street in Sun Valley.

**Sat and Sun, Oct 16 and 17**

Celebrate Chimpanzees at the Los Angeles Zoo. Come to Chimpanzees of Mahale Mountains plaza at the Zoo for fun and educational events that celebrate this animal species. From 10 am to 4 pm there will be something for everyone during this very special weekend, including:



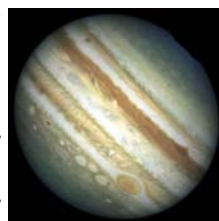
education Stations with fun facts about chimps and other apes; chimp-centric crafts will include hand print stations and Chimp masks; representatives from Jane Goodall's international organization Roots & Shoots will be on hand with information about conservation projects; research volunteers will answer your questions about chimp behavior; Chimp will be on hand to meet and greet you; student volunteers will be staffing Camp Gombe, a replica of a real field researcher's camp (much like those where Jane Goodall lived during her famous observations of chimps in the wild); informative handouts to read, frozen bananas to eat; opportunities to support zoo conservation and education programs. Free with zoo admission. For more information visit www.lazoo.org or call (323) 644-6400.

California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Annual Plant Sale

Thousands of native California plants and seeds (along with books, posters, and gifts) are sold by the California Native Plant Society to benefit their ongoing projects. The sale is held at the Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Boulevard in Encino. For more information or to volunteer, call CNPS at (818) 881-3706.

**Wed, Oct 20****Star Party at Griffith Park—**

The Los Angeles Astrological Society assists with finding Jupiter, far away moons and other



objects in a variety of telescopes. Learn about the sky, planets, and telescope equipment. Held 2pm to 10pm at northeast corner of Griffith Park (just south of the LA Zoo). For more information call (323) 664-1191 or visit www.GriffithObs.org.

Fri, Sat, Sun, Oct 22-24**Fall Festival in Sun Valley.**

The Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation presents rides, games and food at the Sun Valley Recreation Center. For more information call (818) 767-6151.

**Sun, Oct 24**

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium's Autumn Sea Fair Celebrate our local ocean and the Aquarium's Expansion Grand Opening from 10 am to 4:30 pm with games, contests, music, exhibits, demonstrations, arts & crafts, films, and videos. Enter the sand sculpture contest, hunt for buried pirate treasure, and help select the 2004 Queen of the Sea. Admission to the fair is free. Beach parking (\$7) is limited, so use the Aquarium's FREE park-and-ride provided at 22nd and Miner Streets. For further information or to enter the Queen of the Sea contest, contact Larry Fukuhara at (310) 548-7562 ext 5011. Autumn Sea Fair is sponsored by FRIENDS of CMA.

Wed, Oct 27

Full Lunar Eclipse visible throughout Los Angeles. Viewing party at northeast corner of Griffith Park (just south of the LA Zoo). For more information call (323) 664-1191 or visit www.GriffithObs.org. See article below.

Thu and Fri, Oct 28-29**Little Chamber of Botanical**

Horrors Pitcher plants that drown their dinner, carnivores that gobble up flies, flowers that smell like rotting garbage--- these are just a few of the weird denizens of the plant world that will be unveiled by Jim Folsom, Director of the Botanical Gardens at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, in an entertaining one-hour presentation suitable for the whole family. The presentations take place at 2 pm and at 4 pm. \$5 in addition to general

admission. Reservations required. Call (626) 405-2128 for more information or visit the Huntington's website at www.huntington.org.

Sat and Sun, Oct 30 & 31

Halloween at the Zoo! Have a wild, spooky, and safe Halloween at the Los Angeles Zoo. Trick-or-treat throughout the Zoo and watch animals Stomp-n-Chomp pumpkins, too! Discover eerie entertainment, tasty treats, spooky crafts, and ghoulish games on your journey through the Zoo. Children that wear a costume receive \$1 off admission! For more information, visit the Zoo's website at www.lazoo.org, or call (323) 644-4200.

Water Efficient Landscape Classes

Metropolitan Water District in conjunction with the City of Torrance offers a series of hands-on Residential Landscaping classes to help you create a pleasing water-efficient outdoor environment that will save money and water. Take one or all these classes. The fee for each class is \$5. Classes take place from 9 am to noon at the Madrona Marsh Nature Preserve located at 3201 Plaza Del Amo in Torrance. For reservations, call the Nature Center at (310) 782-3989.

- Oct. 2** Basic Landscape Design
- Oct. 9** Landscape Plants
- Oct. 16** Irrigation Systems and Sprinklers
- Oct. 23** Landscape Maintenance, Sprinkler Controllers, Watering/ Fertilizing

Don't Miss the Total Lunar Eclipse

Wednesday October 27th is a special day for astronomy enthusiasts. Beginning at 5:58 PM the moon will begin to rise into the sky and then into the earth's shadow. The middle and most dramatic point of the eclipse will come around 8:04 PM and should be visible from all of Southern California. The moon will take on a number of colors ranging from golden brown to bright reds and yellows during the eclipse event.



A full lunar eclipse occurs when the moon's orbit around the earth lines up exactly with the earth's orbit around the sun. This allows the earth's shadow to block the light from the sun that normally hits the moon, and in turn light is refracted through earth's atmosphere resulting in the bright colors during the eclipse. Cloud cover and volcanic activity may limit the ability to 'see' a lunar eclipse.

Astronomy experts will be on hand at the remote Griffith Observatory Satellite during the eclipse event. The group can be found at the northeast corner of Griffith Park near the southern border of the LA Zoo. For more information on the observatory and astronomy visit www.GriffithObs.org or call (323) 664-1191. For more information on the lunar eclipse visit www.mreclipse.com/Special/LEprimer.html.



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

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

The City of Los Angeles
Environmental Affairs Department
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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