

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.

Printed on recycled paper.

PLEASE POST

Patricia Villaseñor
Editor

This Holiday Season...

1. Remember to recycle trees and greenery in your green waste bins (trees can be used to make wood chips, too!).
2. As you get new things as gifts, think about donating old things to charities and other local organizations.
3. Big holiday dinner leftovers can be composted!
4. Paper wrapping and boxes can be re-used and recycled.
5. Home decorations can be made from found, recycled, or reusable materials... pine cones, leaves, milk cartons, foil trays, fruit, dried flowers, etc.
6. Take thermos cups and reusable containers for snacks on your holiday travels to avoid creating lots of road-trip waste.
7. Minimize and/or combine holiday shopping & travel trips so that you stay off the road and enjoy more time relaxing at home!

Sixteen Ways to Stay Cool and Save Money

Why suffer when the weather gets hot? Why spend lots of money on using an air conditioner? Why not use the cooler months to install cost-saving strategies to make your home cooler while also helping to decrease the total temperature in the City? The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power offers 16 ways to stay comfortable without spending much money on air conditioning. These cooling methods work in one of three ways:

Shade Makers block the sun's heat before it reaches your home:

1. **Shade Trees:** Trees can shade nearby walls and windows. When they grow tall, they will shade parts of the roof and can shade driveways, sidewalks and patios, which often bounce heat to the building. Homes with large windows and walls without insulation will benefit most from shading. DWP offers a free booklet about shade trees, entitled, *Smart Planting for the New Urban Forest*. For a copy, call 1-800-U-ASK-DWP.

2. **Trellises:** Trellises can shade windows, walls and outdoor-living areas as well as air conditioners, heat pumps and evaporative coolers—so the equipment works better and uses less electricity.

3. **Awnings:** Awnings work like the visors on baseball caps by blocking high-angle sunlight. On buildings, awnings can cover individual windows or sections of outside walls. Although they block unwanted solar energy in summer, awnings allow low-angle sun to reach the building in winter.

4. **Shade Screens:** Outside shade screens prevent direct sunlight from entering a window. You should put these only on windows exposed to direct sunlight. These devices are often called "sun screens," "shade cloth" or "solar shields."

5. **Window Films:** These thin sheets of reflective film on the inside surface of window glass greatly reduce heat gain. Using window films is also called "window tinting."

6. **Window Shades:** Interior window shades, such as roller shades, blinds and drapes, can reduce heat gain. However, interior shades don't block sunlight as well as exterior shades.

Heat Blockers make changes to your building that stop heat from getting inside:

7. **Light-Colored Roofs:** Dark colors absorb heat. Light colors reflect heat. You can take advantage, of these facts by choosing the color of your roof.

8. **Radiant Barriers:** A radiant barrier is a thin sheet of shiny material that blocks heat that hits the attic before it reaches the ceiling below.

9. **Attic Ventilation:** On a hot day, air-trapped in your attic can reach more than 150 degrees Fahrenheit. To stay cool, you should allow that hot, trapped air to escape through attic vents.

10. **Ceiling Insulation:** Insulation can block the flow of heat from the attic into your living spaces and keeps heat in your home during cooler months. You should have at least 10 inches of insulation. *(continued on page 3)*



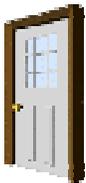
—“Cooling Strategies”—continued from page 2.

Air Movers work inside the home to remove unwanted hot air, to make you feel more comfortable:

11. **Open Windows:** To get good air flow through your home, open at least two windows. One allows cooler air in, the other allows warmer air out. Encourage air to flow through your home by opening windows on opposite walls. Also, open interior doors that would block the air movement between the windows. Warmer air rises, so the window for outgoing air should be higher than the window for incoming cooler air. Take advantage of breezes by opening two or more windows, one on the side of the building that faces the breeze and another on the side facing away from it.
12. **Window Fans:** By placing a fan in the window you can boost the flow of air through your home. Fans work best when blowing air out. Place the fan in a high window where you want the warmer air to go out.
13. **Whole-House Fans:** A large, powerful fan installed in the ceiling can replace all the air in your home with outside air every five minutes.
14. **Night Flushing:** When nights are a lot cooler than days, you can ventilate at night to clear the heat out of the building. This works best when your home is made of dense materials, such as plaster, concrete, brick or stone. These materials absorb and hold much heat.
15. **Room and Ceiling Fans:** You can operate a circulation fan while the air conditioner is running. This would allow you to turn up the thermostat to a warmer setting, which reduces the energy used by the air conditioner.
16. **Evaporative Coolers:** When a liquid changes to a vapor, it evaporates and absorbs heat. Evaporative coolers get their name from this process. These devices blow air over a water-soaked pad. As the water evaporates, it cools the air. Various models are available that mount on the roof, wall or window. Evaporative coolers reduce air temperature just as effectively as "air conditioners," but use only about 16 percent of the electricity. However, evaporative coolers use from 5 to 15 gallons of water per day.

For a booklet including more detail on the information provided here and/or to learn more about cooling strategies, call DWP: 1-800-U-ASK-DWP (1-800-827-5397.) The booklet is available on-line, including estimates of yearly costs and savings, at the DWP website: <http://www.ladwp.com/resserv/coninfo/coolsave/staycool.htm>.

Staff Changes at EAD



EAD bids a fond farewell to **Shari Kuroki** and **Jennifer Edge**. Shari has accepted a Management Analyst II position with the City's Department of General Services, Environmental Compliance Unit. Jennifer will be transferring to the Department of Water and Power and will be working as an Industrial Hygienist there. Jennifer has been with EAD's Local Enforcement Agency (the landfill regulation program) since shortly after its formation, over 8 years ago.

EAD welcomes **Darlene Fields** as the new Director of Administration. She has a broad administrative background gained by working in several other City departments: CAO, Airports, Human Relations, and General Services. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and the University of Southern California. EAD also welcomes a new Student Professional Worker, **Jill Sourial**. Jill will be working in the Materials and Waste Resources Division on research and GIS mapping for the Brownfields Program. Originally from Southern California, Jill completed her undergraduate degree in urban planning and environmental studies at UC San Diego and her master's in urban planning at UCLA.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council 2001 Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program: Request for Pre-Proposals

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council serves in an advisory capacity to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and seeks to establish sustainable urban and community forests by encouraging communities of all sizes to manage and protect their natural resources for this and future generations. The grant program works to support activities that are national or widespread in their impact or application. Previously funded projects are listed on-line: www.treelink.org/nucfac/. Approximately \$1 million in grant funds will be awarded. Any non-federal organization may apply for a grant; however, collaboration with federal agencies is encouraged. All grant funds must be matched at least equally with non-federal source funds. Pre-proposals must be received (not just postmarked) by December 12, 2000 and will be reviewed by February 9, 2001. For more information, contact Suzanne M. del Villar at (209) 536-9201 from 7:30 am until 5:00 pm (PST).

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.



DECEMBER 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 Waste-Water 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:



L.A. Zoo Photo Contest!
Deadline: March 31,
2001-The 16th annual L.
A. Zoo Photo Contest is
well under way. You

may submit photos of the plants and animals of the Los Angeles Zoo from now until March 31, 2001. Special new categories include "Black and White" and "Travel Memories," where any of your photos taken on the Zoo's domestic or international trips from April 2000 through March 2001 are eligible. Cash prizes total more than \$1,500. For more information call: (323) 644-6400.

Come See Santa's Reindeer! Every holiday season, some of Santa's reindeer fly into the Zoo to spend the holidays with the kids of Los Angeles, and this year's **Reindeer Romp** promises to be one of the best ever. Between November 23 and January 1, 2001, not only can you pay a visit to the newly renovated Treetops Terrace to find out what reindeer do when they're not pulling sleighs, but on weekends children can make crafts and reindeer ornaments, and even go on a train ride. Even better: on the weekends from November 25 to December 24, kids can get their pictures taken with Santa and enjoy holiday carolers near the Zoo's entrance. All activities are free with Zoo admission, except for train rides and pictures. For more information call: (323) 644-6400.

Light Festival—Every holiday season the Crystal Springs road in Griffith Park sparkles at night during the Dept. of Water and Power and Griffith Park Light Festival. This popular free attraction—enjoyed by 330,000 last year—features a mile of spectacular displays which can be enjoyed from

your car or during a walk. You may enjoy a drive through a tunnel of lights, lighted representations of downtown LA, the Staples Center, the Hollywood Sign, the Zoo, and much more. The Festival runs from Nov. 26 - Dec. 26 from 5:00-10:30 PM.

December 1



Harvest Festival. America's oldest and largest touring crafts marketplace.

The festival features the sights and smells of the harvest season, with early American décor, costumed exhibitors and strolling performers. L. A. County Fairgrounds, Dec. 1-3, cost \$7.50, parking \$5.00. For more information call: (707) 778-6300.

December 2

Griffith Park Winter Holiday Celebration. This celebration boasts the largest tree-lighting ceremony in any city park, and features a holiday village, music and an ornament making area for children. Dec. 2-3, noon-9pm. For more information call: (213) 485-8743.

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December 5

Arroyo Seco Watershed Restoration Feasibility Study. 7pm-9pm, Community meeting at Rose Bowl Aquatic Center, 360 N. Arroyo Blvd. For more information call North East Trees at (323) 441-8634.

December 9

Holiday Boutique. Arts and Crafts fair with Santa Claus and candy gifts. Angels Gate/Korean Bell - 3601 S. Gaffey, San Pedro. For more information call: Roger Williams at: (310) 548-7505.

December 16

LAS POSADAS - December 16- 24, 2000, evenings. This presentation of the nine-day journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem is depicted with singing, a candlelight procession, and the breaking of a pinata. For more information call (213) 625-5045.

December 17

Hanukkah Festival. Bring the whole family to enjoy this community celebration featuring live music, storytelling, gallery activities, art projects and more. Learn the story and share the joy of Hanukkah. Skirball Cultural Center, 11am-4pm. For more information call:(310) 440-4500.

December 31

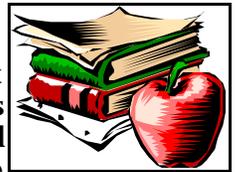
"2001: An Earth Odyssey" Party. The fun-filled New Year's Eve peace and environment benefit celebration will feature music, dancing and comedic entertainment. Sponsored by Los Angeles Alliance for Survival, for more info and RSVP call: (310) 399-1000.

**Joyous and Safe Holidays
from EAD!**

TEACHER'S CORNER

Getting to know our Golden State and all it has to offer:

It is time for a follow-up on our Environmental Affairs issue which highlighted the onset of the State's 150th—or Sesquicentennial—anniversary! In recognition of California's admission to Statehood on September 9, 1850, the California 150 Sesquicentennial Passport became available earlier this year at participating sites which symbolize the State's history and culture. The Passport, which is stamped for visitors at each site, includes maps, directions, and historical anecdotes and is an excellent resource for teachers in organizing state geography and history lessons. EAD's Karin Christie has already visited 32 sites listed in the passport. She reports that the experience has been a fun adventure—for both the travel experience and the learning process! Karin received the Angeles Crest stamp (pictured below) when she visited the national forest earlier this month.



The 100-page Passport was developed by California State Parks, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, the California State Parks Foundation, and other organizations throughout the state, and contains historical information for 150 places. Three sites from the City of Los Angeles are included: **112. Autry Museum of Western Heritage**...4700 Western Heritage Way in Griffith Park across from Los Angeles Zoo, Contact: (323) 667-2000 or <http://www.autry-museum.org/>; **122. El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument**...Contact: (213) 628-3562 or <http://www.cityofla.org/ELP/index.htm>; **135. Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**...Contact: (213) 763-DINO or <http://www.nhm.org/>. Passports are \$5.95 each available at many participating state parks, as well as from the California State Parks Store, by calling, 916-653-3286. The program will be in effect until December 31, 2002. For more information, contact Mary Helmich - (916) 653-3913.



“White Roof” (Continued from p. 1.)— The extra heat accelerates the chemical reactions in the atmosphere that create high ozone levels responsible for smog. In Los Angeles, every degree increase in temperature above 70 degrees creates 3 percent more smog, experts have previously determined. (See 03/22/99: http://explorezone.com/archives/99_03/22_heat_island.htm.)

To help reduce the heat and smog, the City has an aggressive tree planting and urban forestry program. EAD and the Housing Department, in partnership with community-based organizations, have planted almost 15,000 street and greenway trees. In addition, the Department of Water and Power, through its Public Benefits Program, has developed and funds the Cool Schools Program—to plant 8,200 trees to help beautify schools and adjacent neighborhoods. EAD and DWP will soon be teaming up to promote light-colored roofing materials, too.

The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Environmental Energy Technologies Division has formed a Heat Island Group to study, among other things, the relationship between heat island mitigation measures and ozone formation. (See <http://eetd.lbl.gov/HeatIsland/LEARN/LAIsland/>.) The group asks research questions such as, what would happen in Los Angeles if some roofs and pavements were resurfaced with light materials and the right kind of trees were planted in several communities? To help answer these questions, over the last 18 months EAD has been working closely with Haider Taha, the Group's staff scientist, to refine and update previous modeling work. A 2010 simulation was prepared showing the effect of implementing heat island reduction strategies in the South Coast Air Basin. The LA basin was first divided into hundreds of grid cells and about 15% of the cells were modified with lightened surfaces and increased trees. With this change, it was predicted that summer temperatures at 3 p.m. would drop, and that population-weighted ozone would be reduced by 2-3.5% in the central Los Angeles area—one of the most densely populated areas in the basin.

Such research shows that every little bit counts in making the City healthier for us all...so next time you are in need of roof repairs, consider going “lighter”—on the roof, your wallet, and our urban environment! *Potential net energy savings from changing roof reflectivity. Savings are measured in dollars. Note that the net savings are the savings of cooling energy use less the penalties*

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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 Mgt 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