

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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City Sprouts Gardens for Kids



Thursday, April 25 marked the 3rd Annual Gardens for Kids L.A. Spring Celebration. Gardens for Kids L.A. is a City-funded program that builds above-ground garden beds in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout Los Angeles. To date, Gardens for Kids L.A. has created gardens in almost 90 schools and 4 math, science, and technology centers. The 2002 Spring Celebration was held at Burbank Boulevard Elementary School in North Hollywood. City officials attending the event included Deputy Mayor Brian Williams, Environmental Affairs Commission President Jennifer Taggart, and Environmental Affairs Department General Manager Detrich Allen.



The Spring Celebration featured performances by the Burbank Boulevard Elementary School children, including music by the 5th grade class playing recorders. Other classes, dressed in flower costumes, recited poems and sang songs. After the performances, Deputy Mayor Brian Williams recognized approximately 30 schools and presented each with certificates acknowledging their school's participation in the Garden for Kids L.A. program.



After the administrators and teachers who helped bring the Gardens for Kids L.A. program to their local schools received certificates and recognition, the children had a chance to dig in newly built seed beds and plant vegetables. With the help of Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) crew, the children planted and watered green beans, radishes, sunflowers, and tomatoes. Each child also had a chance to take sunflower, tomato, radish, and green bean seeds home to start a garden of their own.

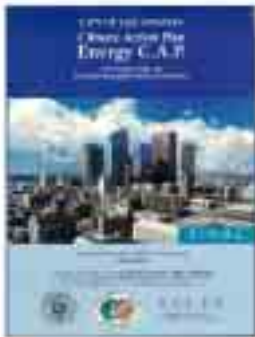
Many of the children also had a chance to learn about the wonders of recycling, an additional component of the Gardens for Kids L.A. program. A recycling display was set up for the children to touch products made from recycled plastics. These products included rulers, carpeting, tote bags, scrub

(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



The City of Los Angeles Energy Climate Action Plan (CAP) has received the Los Angeles Section American Planning Association 2002 Planning Implementation Award, Large Jurisdiction. The Plan, adopted by the Los Angeles City Council in March 2001, contains an array of innovative programs to lower energy use and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change. The Energy CAP was prepared by the Environmental Affairs Department, with assistance from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, other City agencies, and the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives. The project will be honored at the 2002 LA APA Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 6 in the Tom Bradley Hall of City Hall.

Bike For Clean Air Week Showcases Benefits of Bicycles



EAD General Manager, Detrich B. Allen, speaks on the benefits of bicycles.

On Monday May 13th, the City's Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) began Bike Commute Week and showcased the City's Bike Patrols for Clean Air Program on the steps of City Hall.

The Bike Patrols for Clean Air Program was established in March 1998 by EAD and, since its inception, over 300 bicycles have been deployed in City patrol operations with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), LADOT, Recreation and Parks Department, Zoo Department, Los Angeles World Airports, and Harbor Department. In 2001, EAD secured a \$74,750 grant from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC) to complement approximately \$86,000 in City funds to purchase an additional 115 bicycles and related equipment for the LAPD (80 bicycles), LADOT (20 bicycles), the Recreation and Parks Department (10 bicycles), and the Harbor Department (5 bicycles). According to Lisa Wunder, Project Manager for the Bike Patrols for Clean Air Program, "These bicycle patrols have directly improved air quality by shifting officers from motor vehicles to bicycles to conduct their daily business."

Detrich B. Allen, General Manager of EAD, pointed out that the 115 bicycles provided under the Bike Patrols for Clean Air Program in the last year were equivalent to removing 70 vehicles and their associated exhaust from the roads. She also acknowledged the MSRC and the role their grant played in funding the program. Rita Robinson, Acting General Manager of LADOT, spoke on the importance of community involvement in bicycling activities and pointed out City programs to promote bike use. She also thanked EAD for their Bike Patrols for Clean Air Program that has helped to provide bicycles to officers in LADOT as well as other patrol operations in the city.

Eric Garcetti, Councilmember for the Thirteenth District, stated that the program allows the residents of LA to "see our police officers, building our communities one bicycle at a time." City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo pointed out that the Bike Patrols for Clean Air Program "brings government back to the neighborhoods."



Councilmember Eric Garcetti addresses the media.

As representatives of two departments that received bicycles, Sergeant Vance Bjorklund of the LAPD and Marjorie Matthews, acting General Manager of the Recreation and Parks Department, spoke of the positive response people have towards patrol officers on bikes and how it improves community relations. According to Sergeant Bjorklund, "the community loves cops on bikes."

Brian Williams (Mayor's Office), Armen Ross (Councilman Nate Holden's Office), Ron Milan (Los Angeles County Bike Coalition), and Alex Baum (City Bicycle Advisory Committee chairman) also spoke about the advantages of bicycle use. Overall, the event was a success in showcasing the many benefits of bicycles in the City of L.A. and the importance of the Bike Patrols for Clean Air Program.

(See associated interview with Councilmember Eric Garcetti on page 7.)

City of Los Angeles Celebrates Take Our Daughter to Work Day



On Thursday, April 25th the City of Los Angeles celebrated *Take Our Daughter To Work Day*, a special day used to promote the numerous career opportunities within the City for young women. EAD's Josephine Palomino, Accounting Clerk II, said, "My daughter had a wonderful time coming to work with Mommy. She had experienced: taking the Metrolink train and DASH bus to get to work; we went to the treasurer's office to deposit checks; and took the stairs from the 2nd to 20th floor of City Hall. She also enjoyed working on the computer, adding machine, and the shredder." Her daughter said, "I would like to work in an office like Mommy." Josephine said, "At the end of a long day on the way home my daughter took a snooze in the train."



EAD's Julius Obembe, Management Analyst II, accompanied by his daughter visited the courts of Olvera Street for lunch. Mayor Jim Hahn was also present with his daughter. Many City employees and their daughters participated in face painting, gathered balloons, and visited many of the information booths.



City organizations including DWP, Department of Building and Safety, and the Department of Recreation and Parks were present displaying information relating to careers. The EAD had an activity booth for the event staffed by our very own Darlene Fields, Director of Administration. Participants took home bookmarks made from recycled paper, rulers made of recycled plastic bottles, and pencils made from recycled materials. Each child also had a chance to plant an oriental green bean seed in a small cup filled with a peat moss pellet. With smiles on many faces, *Take Our Daughter To Work Day* was a great success.

(City Sprouts Gardens for Kids...continued from page 1)



brushes, and more. Most of the children were amazed to learn that plastics could be recycled into so many different products including the lumber used to construct their garden beds.



Gardens for Kids L.A. is an interagency effort and the EAD is grateful to have partners who bring so much to the program and are adding to the program's growing success. EAD General Manager Detrich Allen said, "This program is an opportunity to partner with community groups and other agencies to green and beautify our schools across the city. At the same time these students have a hands-on learning experience which might not otherwise be available."



Our partners are LACC, whose corps members build the garden beds; Los Angeles Unified School District Nutrition Network, California Integrated Waste Management Board, and University of California Cooperative Extension Common Ground Gardening Angels, agencies that provide gardening training and information to the participants, and California Department of Education and California Department of Conservation—Division of Recycling, who have provided funding and assistance with the recycling aspects of the garden program.

The Environmental Affairs Department is very pleased that Mayor Hahn has included \$100,000 in his proposed budget to fund a fourth year of Gardens for Kids L.A. We look forward to creating more gardens throughout the City. Interested schools should contact Julie Van Wagner at (213) 978-0860 for an application.

\$ \$ \$ 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. Grants range from \$30,000 to \$170,000. For more information call (213) 413-4130 or visit <http://www.calfund.org>.

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 The EPA awards \$2-3 million annually, as small grants (<\$25,000, administered regionally) and large grants (up to \$250,000, administered in Washington, DC). Applications are due in the fall each year. For more information visit <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>.

Jobs Through Recycling Recycling business development program that seeks to foster recycling/reuse businesses that increase the use of recyclable or reusable materials that contribute to economic development and jobs creation. For more information call Julia Wolfe with the EPA Waste Management Division at (415) 744-2131.

Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Provides loans to ensure that drinking water remains safe and affordable. For more information call the EPA's Drinking Water Office (415) 744-1852.

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 of less than \$250,000). Small grants up to \$1,000 and Full grants up to \$15,000 are available. The deadline is July 1 and 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. They believe that children can achieve a better and appreciation for the world in which they live." For more information or to apply online visit <http://www.turner.com/cpf/>

Cottonwood Foundation 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: <http://www.nwf.org/schoolyardhabitats>.



JUNE 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. Contact Felice Kidd: (310) 648-5363 for details or to schedule a tour.

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 each month. Morning maintenance is done from 9 am to 12 pm 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 Sundays

From 10 am to 5 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.



4th Weekend Nature-Bird Walk

Two nature bird 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) 32-MARSH.

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.

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) 32-MARSH.



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.

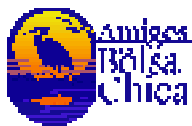
THIS MONTH:



Fri—Sun, May 31—June 2

City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Valley Region will hold its 20th Annual "Salute to Recreation" Family Festival. This year's theme is "Spirit of America". Features and attractions will include an international children's village and market, live music, carnival rides, plenty of food, and much more. This event will be held at Northridge Park, located on 10058 Reseda Blvd. and Devonshire Street. For more information call (818) 756-8060.

Sat, June 1



The Amigos offer free public tours for individuals the first Saturday of each month. Visitors arriving between 9 and 10:30 am will be led on a 90 minute tour which makes 5 stops along the walk bridge and loop trail. Trained tour guides discuss bird identification, ecology, endangered species, early history and current status. Warm clothing and binoculars are recommended. Amigos de Bolsa Chica is located at 16531 Bolsa Chica St., Ste. 312 in Huntington Beach. For more information call (714) 840-1575 or visit <http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org>

Wed, June 6, 13, 20

Friends of Madrona Marsh are conducting docent training classes from 3 to 5 pm. Docents are "volunteer teachers" who guide visitors on tours of the Marsh and the facilities of the new nature center. Qualifications

include an interest in nature and a love for teaching, learning, and a willingness to work at the Marsh. The classes will take place at 3201 Plaza Del Amo. For more information call (310) 782-3989 or visit <http://www.tprd.toronet.com/marsh.htm>

Sat, June 8



L.A. Works Day

Join thousands of community volunteers at the Staples Center at 8 am, and then fan out through greater Downtown L.A. to repaint fire stations, remove graffiti, paint murals, plant trees, and more. For more information, call (323) 224-6510 or visit <http://www.la-volunteer.org>

The Theodore Payne Foundation

will be conducting native plant garden design workshops from 10 am to 12 pm. Classes are limited to 7 participants, so sign up early. For more information call (818) 768-1802 or visit <http://www.theodorepayne.org/>



Children's Nature Institute will hold its 13th Annual Kids' Nature Festival. This event will include over 30 FREE activity and animal booths, live music, and food. Proceeds will help provide free nature education programs for underprivileged children. This event will be held from 10 am to 4 pm at the Temescal Gateway Park in Pacific Palisades located on 15601 Sunset Blvd. For more information call (310) 364-3561 or visit <http://www.childrensnatureinstitute.org>

Sun, June 16



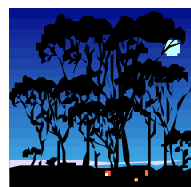
Down By The River walk at Rattlesnake Park. Meet at

Fletcher Drive and the LA River. Friends of the Los Angeles River and the Sierra Club are sponsoring this months walk along the banks of the LA River. Join them at 4:30 pm and be advised that the walk will be canceled if it rains. For more information call Joe Linton (213) 381-3570 or visit website <http://www.folar.org>.

Thu, June 20

The Whittier Area Audubon Society will hold its potluck dinner and meeting at 6 pm in the Whittier Community Center located on 7630 Washington Avenue in Whittier. After the dinner members will show slides of birds. For more information call (562) 869-6545 or visit <http://www.whittieraudubon.org>.

Fri, June 21



Friends of Madrona Marsh

will have a Full Moon Walk. This walk starts at 8 pm and it is for those of you wanting to watch the moon rise and see the stars come out. Look for pairs of eyes and hear the Pacific Tree Frogs and see them on the upper side of leaves in the cool evening and maybe feel the humidity. For more information call (310) 782-3989 or visit <http://www.tprd.toronet.com/marsh.htm>

Sun, June 23



Santa Monica Bay Audubon Society will be

conducting a series of family-oriented bird walks at one of the prime birding sites on the West Coast, Malibu Lagoon. The walk begins at 10 am and last approximately 1 hour. Experienced leaders are waiting to help you and your family appreciate birds both large and small in a way the entire family can enjoy. For more

information call Lu Plauzoles at (310) 395-6235 or visit <http://www.smbas.cjb.net>

Sat, June 29

The Southern California Town Meeting for U.N. Earth Summit II will take place from 9 am to 5 pm at Crossroads School, 1715 Olympic Blvd, in Santa Monica. Speakers from the U.N. and the U.S. State Department will discuss progress made on goals

set at the Earth Summit in 1992, local experts will speak on exemplary programs, and participants will have an opportunity to contribute to the report that will be sent with the U.S. Delegation to the Summit in Johannesburg. Cost: \$20 before June 20; \$25 late registration. For information, call Friends of the UN at (310) 453-8489 or visit www.sccd.org/worldsummitla.

Bike To Work Week Interview with Councilmember Eric Garcetti



Councilmembers Eric Garcetti and Tom LaBonge with City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo on Bike To Work Day.

On May 16th Councilmembers Tom LaBonge and Eric Garcetti, Deputy Mayor Brian Williams, and City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo (along with EAD staff members Christopher Patton, Environmental Specialist III, and Damian B. Pipkins, Student Professional Worker, and many others.) rode their bikes to work in honor of *Bike To Work Day*. Afterwards, EAD interviewed Councilmember Eric Garcetti about his personal bicycling experiences.

How long have you been a bicycle enthusiast? Growing up, as a kid, I remember stuffing envelopes and selling t-shirts with my uncle to promote an L.A. Veloway (bike freeway) that would safely transit bicyclists throughout our city. While I was an enthusiastic recreational bicyclist growing up, my relationship with the bicycle really changed when I was a student living in England. For four years, my bicycle was my primary

form of transportation. For four years, I benefited from a city infrastructure that promoted and celebrated bicycle use. It was practical, convenient, and safe. I look forward to the day that Los Angeles has a similar infrastructure. I've had the opportunity to bike to work in my previous job in Eagle Rock, and now to City Hall.

Personally, what benefits do you gain from cycling? First and foremost, I get to see this beautiful city from the street level. I get to enjoy the neighborhoods, I get to see the areas that I represent, and I get to visit other areas of the city as well. I bike to see people and the little things that you don't often see from a speeding car.

Why did you decide to participate in Bike to Work Week? I want to promote the use of bicycles as an additional transportation option to the gas car. We have electric cars, rail and bus, bikes, walking: all of which have a role to play in getting people around. We will be better off if a few more people choose bikes more often than they currently do.

What is your opinion of the Environmental Affairs Department's Bike Patrol for Clean Air Program? This is an excellent program that helps police officers to be more accessible to people and replaces the smog-producing car miles these patrols would create with non-polluting bike miles. It makes good use of outside grant funds.

What are your environmental goals for the City? How do the above-mentioned bicycle programs contribute to your goals? Our goal is to make Los Angeles a more sustainable city, that means taking actions that improve our lives without compromising the ability of future generations to improve their lives. I try to integrate livability and environmental perspectives in all policy formation throughout the city. We created the affordable housing trust fund, to increase the number of affordable apartments; and we passed the Sustainable Building Initiative which will insure that the buildings that the City of LA develops will be energy-efficient, produce less waste, and use less resources. We started two Farmers Markets. We are working on installing bike lanes on Fletcher Drive and on founding a Neighborhood Land Trust to help neighborhoods build and maintain their own parks and community gardens. The bicycle programs and facilities help us achieve our goals by improving people's recreation choices, transportation choices and health. Bicycles are particularly important to kids, and improve their ability to access our too-few parks.



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 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

Smoking Violations

Infracciones de fumar

Office of the City Attorney
(888) 333-0730

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