

An Environmental Affair

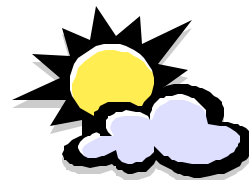
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The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department was established in 1990 to advise the city on environmental issues and provide a centralized source of environmental information. The Environmental Affairs Department seeks to protect and enhance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

Planning for Cleaner Air: AQMP and YOU

Keeping the air clean in our region requires the work, coordination, and planning of government agencies, businesses and you. Many of the decisions made by individual consumers on a day-to-day basis have cumulatively profound impacts on the region's air quality. Being aware of how the choices we make affect the environment and being aware and involved in the air quality planning process are two important first steps toward cleaner air. A key issue for achieving clean air is the need for more reductions of volatile organic compounds (VOC), large portions of which come from consumer products. Being a conscientious buyer is an important aspect of helping to improve air quality. Products such as hairspray, spray-on deodorant, cleaning products, and insecticides individually emit only small amounts of smog-forming gases, but these minute amounts are released several million times per day due to their widespread use. Mobile air pollution sources such as boats, cars, trucks, and motorcycles remain a primary contributor to air quality problems, which is why it is also important to reduce excessive use/reliance on our vehicles. Carpooling and utilizing public or alternative forms of transportation are two important ways to help out with air quality. For additional ideas see our "Air Quality Tips" on page 3 and stay tuned each month for more tips.



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Regions with unhealthy levels of ozone, carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, inhalable particulate matter or lead are required to develop plans describing how they will reduce air pollution. Known as State Implementation Plans (SIPs) and Air Quality Management Plans (AQMPs), the documents compile strategies to reduce these pollutants, and include controls on stationary sources, such as refineries and factories, and emissions standards for cars and heavy trucks, fuel regulations and limits on emissions from consumer products. Air quality plans for our region are currently being prepared by the Air Quality Resources Board (CARB) and the local South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). (The South Coast Air Basin consists of Orange County, the urban portion of Los Angeles County, and the western portions of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.)

CARB's *Draft State and Federal Element of the South Coast SIP* and the AQMD's *Preview of the 2003 AQMP Plan*—are currently available for public review. (ARB's document is available for viewing and download at http://www.arb.ca.gov/sip/scsip03/scsip_03.htm and AQMD's document is available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/aqmp/03aqmp.htm>.) The Draft plan is expected to

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An Environmental Affair is produced monthly by the EAD to inform residents about environmental issues and activities in Los Angeles. For questions, or to update or cancel your free subscription, call the Environmental Information Center Hotline at (213) 978-0888, send an e-mail to: eadinfo@mailbox.lacity.org, or visit our website at <http://www.lacity.org/ead>. TDD (213) 978-0899. You can also reach us by fax at (213) 978-0893. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.

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PLEASE POST

Tierra Miguel Farm Begins Delivery of Organic Produce to Supplement LAUSD Nutrition Education

Situated near San Diego in one of Fallbrook's quiet green valleys, the 87-acre Tierra Miguel Foundation farm has grown and transported organic vegetables and fruits to Los Angeles and San Diego county residents for three years. In the next few months, as the Tierra Miguel staff ready the farm's van for its weekly deliveries to Los Angeles, sixty boxes containing their fresh produce will be added for LAUSD classrooms in a partnership effort that is targeting K-12th graders learning about nutrition, food sources, and healthy environments.



Tierra Miguel boxes arrive at Broadeus Elementary School

In a combined endeavor with the Nutrition Network and Occidental College's Center for Food and Justice, Tierra Miguel will provide the boxes to over 1,000 classrooms from February through June. Each box will contain seasonal produce and a monthly newsletter listing farm news and recipes.

According to Jennifer Martin, Program Associate at the Center for Food and Justice, the sample boxes are intended to support nutrition activities under the "Farm-to-School" program that links schools to small farms. Last year Tierra Miguel participated in a Nutrition Network fair that featured different activities for nutrition curriculum. According to Ms. Martin, the teachers were excited about the proposal of receiving boxes to supplement their cooking activities and to encourage their students' consumption of raw vegetables. Charlene Orszag, President of Tierra Miguel, is pleased that the program is expanding nutrition education in order to teach a sense of geography, the importance of fresh food access, and the type of environment needed to grow food.

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Students create different salads to meet "5-A-Day" requirements

Spring is Here, Time for Gardening

It's Spring and EAD's Gardens for Kids L.A. program is busy building gardens in elementary, middle, and high schools throughout the City. This program provides schools with above-ground garden beds made of recycled plastic lumber, soil, compost, tools, hoses, seeds, seedlings, gardening books, and curriculum assistance to start and maintain a successful gardening program. This month participating schools will be picking up the Spring seedlings that they ordered in January.

Schools participating in the Gardens for Kids L.A. program also have the opportunity to join the recycling program, which is funded by a grant from the LA Resource Program, City of Los Angeles and State Department of Conservation. Schools involved in this aspect of the program receive big blue bins to collect their recyclables, giveaways for their students and teachers, and curriculum assistance. Because the garden beds that are constructed by the Gardens for Kids L.A. program are made of recycled materials, the program highlights the linkages between waste reduction and re-use, and the school's gardening program. Recycling is also a great way to fund a gardening program.



EAD's partners in the Gardens for Kids L.A. program are LAUSD Nutrition Network, Los Angeles Conservation Corps, UC Cooperative Extension Common Ground Garden Program and the CA Integrated Waste Management Board. In the first three years of the program, ninety schools received above-

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be released for public review in March with public workshops also starting in March. The final plan is due out for public review and adoption this summer. When the AQMP and the elements of the South Coast SIP are completed they will then be forwarded to the U.S. EPA for approval and publication in the Federal Register for public review.

For a glossary of air pollution terms please visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/gloss.htm>.

Air Pollution Prevention Tips

- ◆ When you drive, keep your tires fully inflated to run more efficiently, this will keep pollution out of the air and save you gas.
- ◆ Report smoking vehicles by calling your local air pollution control district. Call the Air Resources Board at 1-800-END-SMOG or the South Coast Air Quality Management District at 1-800-CUT-SMOG.
- ◆ To limit your car's pollution, keep your car tuned and participate in the Smog Check Program.

Save Energy and the Environment with Free Trees from DWP

Los Angeles residents are encouraged to tap into nature to save energy and protect the environment through the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) *Trees for a Green LA* program.

In this FREE program, LADWP residential customers learn how to plan a tree landscape, plant, and protect trees on their property to create shade that helps reduce home electricity use and costs by up to 20 percent.

By reducing energy use, trees also directly lessen the air pollution that comes from electricity generation, helping to make the air cleaner to breathe. Trees also lower the rate of global warming by reducing carbon dioxide emissions, decrease stormwater runoff causing flooding and pollution during heavy rains, and increase property values.

Attend one of the following program workshops to receive up to seven free shade trees per property. Visit www.GreenLA.com for more details and a list of other upcoming workshops in your area. Please call 1-800-GreenLA (1-800-473-3652) or e-mail tree@GreenLA.com to sign up in advance.

- Tuesday, March 4, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Griffith Park Ranger Station, Los Angeles
- Wednesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Valley Plaza Recreation Center, North Hollywood
- Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., San Pedro Library, San Pedro
- Saturday, March 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Angeles Mesa Library, Los Angeles
- Monday, March 10, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Granada Elementary School, Granada Hills
- Saturday, March 15, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Venice Library, Venice
- Wednesday, March 19, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., LA River Center and Gardens, Los Angeles
- Saturday, March 29, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Platt Library, Woodland Hills
- Saturday, March 29, 10 a.m. to noon, Baldwin Hills Recreation Center, Los Angeles

WELCOME TO NEW EAD EMPLOYEES

The Material & Waste Resources Division is proud to welcome Ron Roque as Environmental Specialist II in the Local Enforcement Agency. Ron is proficient in computer languages and holds a Master's Degree in Molecular Biology that was obtained with a fellowship from the National Institutes of Health. Ron has worked for the City in Watershed Protection and the Microbiology Laboratory at Hyperion. He comes to us from the Department of Airports where he was co-creator on the noise complaint database that can be found on the Department of Airports website. Welcome Ron!

\$ \$ \$ 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 is 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.

Igniting Creative Energy Challenge is a contest for K-12 students. The National Energy Foundation is pleased to announce the launch of its second annual "Igniting Creative Energy" Challenge. This contest is an educational competition designed to encourage K-12 students to learn more about energy and the environment. Grand prize winners will receive an "Insider's Tour" of Washington D.C. in June 2003. The deadline to enter is **March 15, 2003**. For registration and additional information, please visit <http://www.ignitingcreativeenergy.org/guidelines.html>.

FMC Corporation Bird and Habitat Conservation Fund

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and FMC Corporation have formed a multi-year partnership to fund habitat conservation program benefiting birds, with a particular focus on prairie species and waterfowl. The pre-proposal due date is **June 1, 2003** and the final proposal deadline is **July 15, 2003**. Open to governmental and non-profit organizations. For more information, contact Peter Stangel at (404) 679-7099.

Forest Service Open House

The forest service is currently updating its management plan for the Angeles National Forest and has several public open-house sessions planned to gain feedback on their proposals. For more information contact Kathy Peterson at 626.574.5206.

Thursday March 6th, 3:00—8:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn, Palmdale
38630 Fifth Street West

Friday March 7th, 3:00-8:00 p.m.

Santa Clarita Activities Center
20880 Centre Pointe Parkway

Wednesday March 12th, 3:00-8:00 p.m.

Pasadena Conference Center
300 East Green Street

Saturday March 15th, 11 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Lake View Terrace Recreation Center
11075 Foothill Boulevard

MARCH 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.

Habitat Restoration Days



Help restore wildflowers, trees and shrubs that were once here 200 years ago at the Madrona Marsh Preserve. You are invited to help in planting, weeding and collecting and growing seeds every second Saturday of the month. Morning maintenance is done from 9 am-noon every Tuesday and Wednesday. For more information on this event or events for youth, please 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 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 Saturdays

From 10 am to 4pm 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. 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.

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.

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

Join the Friends of Madrona Marsh for a day of **Habitat Restoration and Enhancement** at the Madrona Marsh Preserve located at 3201 Plaza Del Amo in the city of Torrance from 8 am to noon on the first Sunday and second Saturday of the month. Learn about the native plants and other eco information. If you enjoy being outdoors, then this is an event you won't want to miss! For more information, call (310) 326-3840.

THIS MONTH:

(EAD recommends contacting event sponsor prior to event)

Sun, Mar 2 thru Fri, Mar 7
CNPS Borderlands Field Trip

California Native Plant Society will host a tour exploring the southwestern-most part of the U.S. Sites will include the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Otay Mountain, and Border Field State Park. Reservations and details can be obtained from Steve Hartman at naturebase@aol.com. Detailed instructions will be provided by e-mail.



Tues, March 4
Children's Nature Institute Spring Training

Share your love of nature with young children. The Children's Nature Institute will begin their 6-week training period. Walks are scheduled for more than 40 sites in the Santa Monica and San Gabriel Mountains, including the South Bay and Ventura County. For more information, contact the Institute at (310) 998-1151 or visit their website at www.childrensnatureinstitute.org.

Sat, March 8
Malaga Dunes Walk

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy and the City of Palos Verdes Estates will sponsor this walk that will explore the ancient sand dune inland from Malaga Cove Plaza. The walk will feature rare wildflowers and a unique habitat. For more information call (310) 541-7613 or visit www.pvplc.org. 8767.



Sat, March 8
Environmental Education Fair

at the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Arcadia from 9 am to 4 pm. Enjoy hands-on activities for students of all ages, exhibits, games and tours. For more information contact Debbie Fox at (818)623-4876.

Sat, March 8
Nature Journaling

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden will host a workshop on California native plants. Cost is \$62 for the general public. Class begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. For more information and reservations, call (909) 625-8767.



Thurs, March 13
Astronomy Lecture

The Huntington Museum and Botanical Gardens presents astronomer Wendy L. Freedman who will discuss "The Runaway Universe." Free lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information call (626)

405-2100.

Sat, March 15
Reforest Elysian Park North East Trees is holding a tree planting at Angels Point from 9 am to noon. For more information call (323)441-8634.

Sat, March 15
Explore Birding for Beginners

within Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. Audubon Los Angeles will meet at 8:00 am. In the parking lot off La Cienega Blvd. Between Rodeo Rd. and Stocker St. \$3 park entrance fee, call (323) 876-0202.



Fri, March 22, 2002
A photo exhibit celebrating the life and times of Cesar Chavez. Until March 31. Free admission on March 30. Natural History Museum at Exposition Park, Los Angeles For more information call: (213) 763-3466 or <http://www.colapublib.org>.

Public Advisory Groups Meetings
Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) Phase II



The City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation would like to invite you to attend one of its March IRP Advisory Group meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to develop and implement a comprehensive plan for the processing and disposal of the City's water and wastewater resources through the year 2020.

Tuesday March 4, 2003, 7:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

El Segundo Public Library
 111 West Mariposa Avenue
 El Segundo, CA 90245

Wednesday, March 5, 2003, 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Crenshaw Office
 4030 Crenshaw Boulevard
 Los Angeles, CA 90008

For more information contact Amy Jones at the Bureau of Sanitation, (323) 342-6233 or aljones@san.lacity.org

(Spring Gardening Continued from page 2)

ground garden beds and all the materials necessary to start a gardening program. So far this year, nineteen schools have been accepted into the program. Those schools are Banning High School, Carver Middle School, Clifford Elementary School, Dorris Place Elementary School, Earhart Continuation High School, Euclid Avenue Magnet School, Fernangeles Elementary, Franklin Avenue Elementary School, Fulton Middle School, Haskell Elementary School/Haskell Magnet, Hazeltine Avenue Elementary School, Mountain View Elementary School, Noble Elementary School, Saticoy Elementary School, Toland Way Elementary School, Twenty-fourth Street School, Van Nuys Middle School - Math/Science Magnet, Virginia Road Elementary School, and Western Avenue Charter Elementary School. At least ten more schools will also join the Gardens for Kids L.A. program this year.



For more information about EAD's Gardens for Kids L.A. program, please call Julie Van Wagner at 213/978-0860.

(Tierra Miguel...continued from page 2)

The Tierra Miguel Farm Foundation hopes for the deliveries to continue as a part of its ongoing outreach. In addition to the weekly deliveries to its subscribers, the farm hosts an internship program for international scholars interested in sustainable farming practices, and manages its Farmer-for-a-Day Program in which visiting school groups can learn about agriculture methods. Tierra Miguel also has gardening classes with a local health clinic and conducts research into herbs and native plants. The farm is also a resource for community-building for Southern California. On the first Saturday of every month, Tierra Miguel hosts an open house for its members and the general public. In April, Los Angeles residents will be able to tour the farm on a bus that will have several pick-up locations throughout the city. Information about this tour can be obtained by calling Tierra Miguel at (760) 742-1199, or for more information about the farm, visit their website at www.tierramiguel.org.

Cool Communities Streetscape Workshop at Ted Watkins Park

Continuing in a series of citywide tree care workshops, the Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) in partnership with the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), conducted its third forum on caring for newly planted city trees in February. Residents on streets where new trees were placed as part of the grant-funded Cool Communities Streetscape project were invited to Ted Watkins Park to learn tips for helping their new trees survive in our challenging climate and urban environment. Angela Liu, arborist with the LACC, demonstrated basic tree care techniques, with an emphasis on how often and how much to water. Participants also learned how to apply mulch, how to replace or remove stakes and ties, and how to prune damaged limbs and "sucker growth." Participants were provided with a free bucket of tree care supplies and greening information from the EAD. Nearing completion after a year, the Cool Community Streetscape project will have planted a total of over 2,000 trees along heavily traveled transportation routes throughout the City of Los Angeles. Along with several other grant-based greening projects spearheaded by the EAD, the expected benefits to the environment besides beautification include savings on energy costs by shading, and reducing carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere.



Workshops and other forums are regarded as an excellent opportunity to share environmental education with the public and express the department's appreciation for each resident's part in our urban forestry efforts. Interactive forums and demonstrations are planned to be included as part of the upcoming Earth Day festivities in April. For more information about the EAD's street-tree planting programs, please call Amy Schulenburg at (213) 978-0862. Residents interested in receiving trees to shade structures on their property may call the Green LA Program offered through the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power at 800-GREEN LA (800-473-3652). (See article on page 3).



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 moh o
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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