

An Environmental Affair

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January 2005

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.

EAD Holds Workshops and Hazardous Waste Management Class for Local Businesses and City Staff

The Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) works not only to beautify Los Angeles and clean-up pollution, but also to prevent pollution from ever reaching our environment. The key to protecting the environment is through public outreach and education. Pollution prevention can lead to significant cost savings to businesses and City departments by reducing raw material usage, lowering the price of waste disposal, and decreasing environmental compliance costs. Recently, the Department's Environmental Business and Neighborhood Services (EBNS) Division, in cooperation with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), held a series of workshops with civic and industry associations to provide businesses the tools to handle and prevent hazardous waste. These workshops help businesses comply with California's environmental laws and also to learn innovative ways to cut costs, increase efficiency, and improve profits.



In October, EAD and DTSC provided an introductory hazardous waste management training class to City staff. The class covered the basics on hazardous waste identification, general requirements, permitting, and pollution prevention in California. For some of the participants, it was their first education on hazardous waste. For others, it was a useful brush-up and update on new laws and regulations.

In November, EAD and DTSC held two Mercury Waste Management Workshops for auto dismantling and recycling businesses. Mercury historically has been used in electrical switches of many vehicles, but because of mercury's toxic nature and associated health impacts, it is being phased out from new vehicles. Nevertheless, there are millions of vehicles on the road that still have mercury in them, primarily in electronic switches. The workshops provided regulatory updates to the participants on management requirements for discarded mercury-containing parts.

The Mercury Waste Management Workshops were held in Wilmington and North Hollywood where the majority of the dismantling businesses are located. Over eighty attendees, mainly from the auto dismantling and recycling industries, participated and gained a background on mercury regulation. During the workshops, demonstrations were given on how to properly locate, remove, and dispose of mercury switches. The participants also were given contact numbers and advice on overall pollution prevention. California's Mercury Reduction Act of 2001 requires the removal of mercury switches from the hood and trunk before crushing or shredding for recycling beginning January 1, 2005. The goal is to limit the amount of mercury released to the environment either through stormwater or industrial waste runoff.

The Environmental Affairs Department will be preparing additional workshops for the business community and City staff in 2005.

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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.

Printed on recycled paper.
PLEASE POST

Holiday Card Recycling

The City of Los Angeles City Facilities Recycling Program has been collecting holiday and other greeting cards for reuse for many years. The cards were sent to St. Jude's Ranch for Children for the children to use the card-fronts to make new cards, which were sold to raise funds for their programs. The program has been so successful that they have an abundance of cards and are no longer accepting them. The City will still collect the cards and now will send them to local non-profits for use in arts & crafts projects.

City residents who would like to donate cards may bring them to Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) customer services offices. For more information, check LADWP's website at www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp005219.jsp. City employees may send them to City Facilities Recycling Program Room 501, MS# 508, City Hall South.

If you are a nonprofit and would like to receive these greeting cards on a first-come first-serve basis, please call (213) 978-7606 to make a request.

To buy the recycled cards from the St. Jude's Ranch for Children, please visit their website at www.stjudesranch.org/Content/cardprogram.asp.

Reminder to Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

Please recycle your tree by cutting and placing it in your green yard trimmings container. If you are unable to use your green container, you also may recycle your tree by bringing it to one of the drop-off sites listed below. Before recycling your tree, please remove all ornaments, decorations, tinsel and stand. Trees left at curbs or in alleys and streets cannot be collected. Per Los Angeles Municipal Code 57.21.06, it is illegal to leave trees at the curb or on street due to extreme fire hazard. For more information call (800) 773-2489.



En Español - Por favor recicle su árbol de Navidad con cortándolo y poniéndolo en el bote verde. Si por alguna razón no puede ponerlo en su bote verde, también puede llevándolo alguno de los sitios de reciclamiento. Antes de reciclar su árbol, favor de quitarle todas las decoraciones y el estante. Los árboles dejados en las banquetas y callejones no serán recogidos. El Código Municipal 57.21.06 prohíbe que se tiren árboles en las calles debido o en las banquetas al peligro de incendio.

LOS ANGELES ZOO
At Griffith Park, Junction Of
Golden State (5), & Ventura (134) Frwys

ARLETA
Branford Park
13300 Branford Street

BOYLE HEIGHTS
Hollenbeck Recreation Center
415 South St. Louis Steet

CHATSWORTH
Chatsworth Park South
22360 Devonshire Street

CRENSHAW
Rancho Cienega Recreation Center—5001 Rodeo Road

ENCINO
Balboa Sports Center
17015 Burbank Boulevard

HARBOR CITY
Harbor Regional Park
25820 Vermont Avenue

HIGHLAND PARK
Highland Park Senior Citizen Center—6200 York
Boulevard

HOLLYWOOD
Hollywood Bowl
2301 North Highland Boulevard

RANCHO PARK
Cheviot Hills Recreation Center— 2551 Motor Avenue

SOUTH LOS ANGELES
South Park
345 East 51st Street

SOUTH LOS ANGELES
Algin Sutton Recreation Center—8800 South Hoover
Street

SUNLAND
Sunland Park
8651 Foothill Boulevard

SYLMAR
Sylmar Park
8651 Foothill Boulevard

VENICE
Oakwood Recreation Center
767 California Avenue

WESTCHESTER
Westchester Municipal Building
7166 West Manchester Avenue

Electronic Waste Increases after the Holidays

Around the holiday season, electronic devices such as televisions, computers, cell phones and entertainment systems are usually replaced by faster and improved technology. Because consumers are getting rid of their outdated equipment, the amount of electronics entering the solid waste stream soars, and only a small percentage of electronic waste, or e-waste, is actually being recycled.

When e-waste ends up in the landfills, the potential exists for lead and other hazardous chemicals such as mercury and dioxins contained in the products to leach out, contaminating groundwater and the soil. In addition, e-waste is an issue with solid waste management due to the sheer volume that can be generated. In 2000, the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response estimated in a solid waste report that 3.86 billion pounds of consumer electronics were discarded into the waste stream nationwide.



Due to hazardous materials contained in the products, e-waste cannot be thrown away with the regular trash. City of LA residents can take their e-waste to Department of Sanitation S.A.F.E. centers located throughout Los Angeles. S.A.F.E. centers will dispose of the e-waste properly. The best alternative, however, is to recycle.

Beginning January 1, 2005, state legislation will go into effect in which buyers of electronic equipment with televisions, computer monitors that contain a cathode ray tube (CRT), and laptop computers will be assessed point-of-sale fees. The fees will be distributed as recovery and recycling payments to qualified entities, such as electronic waste recycling companies, that cover the cost of electronic waste collection and recycling.

Many people choose not to recycle computers because of sensitive information that may have been stored on the hard disk. In that case, a certificate of destruction can be issued by the recycler, usually at no extra charge. Also, electronic equipment can be accepted by a recycling firm regardless if the device is in working order or not. Some companies work with non-profits such as homeless shelters and schools to provide usable items for a wish list. If the machine does not work, recyclers still can have good parts taken out for reuse, pieces with hazardous chemicals disposed of properly, and the leftover plastics and glass grinded up by another firm in order to be reused in the manufacturing process of new electronic equipment. Some firms even provide a pick-up service for a fee. For more information on recycling electronic devices, contact SoCal Recyclers at www.socalrecyclers.com or at (310) 626-8180. Information for finding additional recyclers can be found with eRecyclers at www.eRecyclers.org.

So, if you plan on gifting yourself a new television set or new computer in 2005, also plan on recycling the old stuff. It's better for you and for the environment.

University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Common Ground 2005 Master Gardener Program

The University of California Common Ground Master Gardener Program trains volunteers to help low-income and limited-resource Los Angeles County residents to grow and eat more nutritious vegetables. Growing food can be fun and is good for your health and the environment. Applicants will take a 12-class course in which they will learn how to garden successfully. Topics and garden activities will cover basic plant science, propagation, fertilization, irrigation, soil, compost, vegetable and fruit gardening, nutritious vegetable preparation and storage, and Integrated Pest Management. Instruction is in English and Spanish. Applicants must be residents of Los Angeles County. For more information and to request an application packet, contact Gloria Mitchell at (323) 260-3348 or by e-mail at gjmiche@ucdavis.edu. More information is available also on the UCCE's website at <http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/garden/index.html>. Applications are due by **January 31, 2005**.

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

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

The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) Community to Business Pollution Prevention Funding Program

EAD announces the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP), from \$5,000 to \$15,000, from local, non-profit community organizations and educational institutions in response to the new Community to Business Pollution Prevention Funding Program (CBP2). The CBP2 Funding Program is being initiated this year to support community-based projects that raise local businesses' awareness, understanding, and implementation of pollution prevention policies and practices. Any non-profit community/environmental organization or educational institution within the City of Los Angeles can apply. The CBP2 Program will fund proposals aimed at businesses within the City of Los Angeles and can include such projects as training workshops, roundtables, survey maps, pollutant profiles, videos, brochures, and collection programs. The CBP2 Program is designed to encourage the development of unique pollution prevention partnerships among many diverse groups and will give funding priority to collaborative efforts that best address pollution prevention and reduction of hazardous and toxic materials at local businesses. The CBP2 Program is particularly interested in projects that promote pollution prevention on a community-wide basis through team-based policy and planning. Deadline for proposals is **January 31, 2005**. Please visit our website more information at www.lacity.org/ead, or contact George Payba at (213) 978-0884 for the full RFP.

2005 National Network for Environmental Management Studies Fellowship Program

In recognition of the growing interest in environmental issues and careers, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established the National Network for Environmental Management Studies (NNEMS) Fellowship Program in 1986 to encourage students to pursue environmental careers. The NNEMS program is a comprehensive fellowship program that provides students an opportunity to participate in a fellowship project that is directly related to their field of study. To find out more, visit <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/NNEMS/pdf/solicitation2005.pdf>, or contact Sheri Jojokian, Project Officer with the EPA, by telephone at (202) 564-0452, or by e-mail at jojokian.sheri@epa.gov. The application deadline is **January 15, 2005**.

Fedco Classroom Enrichment Fund The FEDCO Charitable Foundation is providing grants for full-time public school teachers. Grants support hands-on, classroom, or "real-world" field trip projects that "bring learning to life" and increase student academic achievement. Grants are designed to encourage experiential learning, enhance student understanding and increase student achievement in relation to the curriculum standards in one of the core subject areas. K-12 public school teachers serving students in Cerritos, Culver City, Norwalk La Mirada, Pasadena and Los Angeles Unified School Districts are eligible to apply. For an application, visit <http://calfund.org/6/fedco.php>. The deadline to apply is **Monday, February 21, 2005**.

CAPCO Science Class Challenge Participants in the CAPCO Science Class Challenge can win \$500 to \$5,000 for their schools. The competition is meant to encourage students and teachers to learn about the Earth's protective upper ozone layer, CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons contained in some aerosol cans) and the environment by using provided activities or their own creative methods. Eligible applicants are students and teachers in grades 4th through 9th. Visit <http://www.nocfcs.org/scc/scchome.htm>. The application deadline is **Friday, May 13, 2005**.

The 2005 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program will provide an opportunity for the NIST laboratories and the National Science Foundation (NSF) to join in a partnership to encourage outstanding undergraduate students to pursue careers in science and engineering. The program will provide research opportunities for students to work with internationally known NIST scientists, to expose them to cutting-edge research and promote the pursuit of graduate degrees in science and engineering. The SURF Boulder program runs from May 23 through August 12, 2005; adjustments may be made to accommodate specific academic schedules. For more information, visit www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/DOC/NIST/GAMD/2005-SURF-B-01/listing.html, or contact Christopher Hunton at (301) 975-5718. Due **February 15, 2005**.

JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EACH MONTH:

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.

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.

Madrona Marsh Tyke Hike for Preschool Children and their favorite adult every first Thursday of the month. The hike takes place Thursdays at 10 am. Suggested donation of \$5. Hikers meet at the gate half-way between Sepulveda and Plaza del Amo on Madrona Avenue in

Torrance. For more information, call the Friends of Madrona Marsh at (310) 32MARSH or the Nature Center at (310) 782-3989.



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.

THIS MONTH:

(EAD recommends contacting event sponsor prior to event)

This Month

Downtown on Ice Ice Skating at Downtown Pershing Square through **January 17**, brought to you by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. For more information visit www.laparks.org/pershingsquare/doi_info.htm or call (213) 847-4970.



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.



Drawn to Yellowstone: Artists in America's First National Park Seemingly a place apart from civilization, Yellowstone's exotic appeal also has lured generations of artists. This exhibition at the Museum of the American West invites visitors to explore the park's visual history, beginning with its status as an icon of preservation to the contested land that it has become. The exhibition consists of more than 80 works of art, and runs through **January 23, 2005** at the Museum of the American West. The Museum is located at 4700 Western Heritage Way in Griffith Park. For more information call the Museum at (323) 667-2000 or visit the Museum's website located at www.museumoftheamericanwest.org.

THIS MONTH: (continued)



Arts and Crafts in Europe and America See how materials from the environment have been

used to decorate and entertain. The first of its kind to assess the truly international influence of the Arts and Crafts movement in Britain, Europe, and the United States, this groundbreaking exhibition presents 260 objects—furniture, ceramics, metalwork, textiles, and works on paper. Also see **Luxury Textiles East and West: Opulent Interiors**. Both are free with museum admission at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles. For more information visit www.lacma.org, or call (323) 857-6000. The museum is free after 5 pm on the second Tuesday of every month.

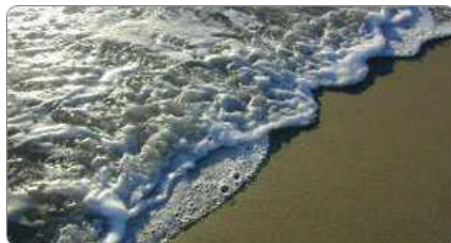
Sat, Jan 8



Switchback Beach Trail at Ocean Trails This strenuous 2.5-hour loop walk offers spectacular ocean views, a discussion of landslide damage to the 18th hole of the Ocean Trails

golf course and recent repairs, interesting geology (rocks with agate and crystals), tide pools, a stone surfer shelter, and some rare plants. A portion of the walk is on the rocky shoreline, so wear good hiking shoes with ankle support. The walk is cosponsored by Rancho Palos Verdes and Ocean Trails. Free. The walk begins at 2 pm. For more information, visit the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy at www.pvplc.com or call (310) 541-7613.

Thurs, Jan 13



State of the Bay Conference

In this one-day conference, speakers will address the issues affecting oceans and watersheds both locally and nationally. The morning plenary session is dedicated to discussions about the national, state and local need to protect California's coastal and ocean resources. The afternoon is dedicated to the State of Santa Monica Bay -- its resources and values, threats from pollution, the challenges faced in its restoration, and what is being done to better assess and protect it for future generations. Conference breakout sessions will address Storm Water Management, Coastal and Ocean Habitats, Wetlands and Watersheds, and Public Education. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Katsouleas at (213) 576-6804 or via email at skatsouleas@waterboards.ca. The conference takes place from 8 am to 7 pm at the Skirball Cul-

tural Center located at 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd in Los Angeles. Fee. For more information, visit the Santa Monica Bay's Restoration Commission website at www.santamonicaabay.org.

Sat, Jan 15

Storytime and Puppet Show

"Insect-o-mania" Celebrate all kinds of creepy crawlies with insect stories, poems, and a puppet show guaranteed not to bug you at the Los Angeles Central Library. The puppet show takes place in the KLOS Theater at 2 pm. Free. Central Library is located at 630 W. 5th Street in Los Angeles. Call the Library at (213) 228-7000 or visit their website at www.lapl.org.

Sun, Jan 16

Annual Whale Fiesta

Join the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (CMA) for tons of fun as they celebrate the migration of the Pacific Gray



Whale past the shores, the kickoff of the Whalewatch season and the return of the Cabrillo Whalewatchers at the annual Whale Fiesta on January 16, 2005. Sponsored by CMA and the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Cetacean Society, it's a family day filled with activities and exhibits for all. In addition to the famous Duct Tape Whale Sculpture Contest and the Great Cetacean Creation Sand Sculpture Contest, the Aquarium will have games, arts and crafts, puppet shows for children of all ages, talks by whale experts, food and gift vendors, marine awareness organizations and music! Admission is free and complimentary park and ride service is available at 22nd and

Miner Streets (at the end of Harbor Blvd.). The event takes place from 10 am to 4:30 pm. For more information, please call Larry Fukuhara at (310) 548-7562, ext. 223, or visit the Aquarium's website at www.cabrilloaq.org.

Sun, Jan 23

Sundays at Central Author



Series FOCAL (Friends of Children and Literature) presents author/illustrator Marianne Wallace. See

nature come alive as she shares her beautiful and fascinating children's field guides to American plants and animals. (KLOS Theater) Meet Marianne at 2 pm at Central Library's KLOS Theater. Central Library is located at 630 W. 5th Street in Los Angeles. Call the Library at (213) 228-7000 or visit their website at www.lapl.org.

Sat, Jan 29

National Park Service Lecture Series: Carnivores on the Fringe

Understand the secret lives of coyotes, bobcats and mountain lions with park wildlife ecologist, Dr. Seth Riley. Learn what it takes to survive on the



fringe of an urban landscape, and hear the latest news on the mountain lion cubs born in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Free. The talk begins at 2 pm at the National Park Visitor Center located at 401 West Hillcrest Drive in Thousand Oaks. Sponsored by the National Park Service (NPS). For more information, contact the NPS at (805) 370-2301.

Sat, Jan 29

Polish Amber and Discover Ancient Life—Children ages eight and over will be able to

polish and keep their own piece of amber. Learn about this fossilized tree sap and check it out under a microscope. This ancient amber may contain pre-historic insects, arachnids, plant life, and more-- you may be able to discover an entirely new species of amber! Crafts, scavenger hunts and activities for all ages will take place in the museum rotunda all day. For more information call the museum at (213) 763-DINO or visit www.nhm.org.

**Sat and Sun
Jan 30-31**

Celebrate—Lunar New Year at the Los Angeles

Zoo, this is the year of the rooster and the zoo will celebrate with dance and martial arts performances, foods from across Asia, crafts projects and more for all ages. Free with Zoo admission. Call (323) 644-6400 or visit www.lazoo.org.



Exciting Changes at the Environmental Affairs Department

The Water and Natural Resources (WNR) Division is proud to announce the promotion of David Porter to Environmental Specialist. David has an Environmental Science Master's Degree from California State University at Fullerton. He will be securing grants and managing greening programs for WNR Division. David has been using his GIS skills on brownfield and tree-planting programs at Environmental Affairs since May of 2002.

The Air Quality Division is proud to announce that Tonya Howard-Taylor has joined our staff as an Environmental Specialist II. Ms. Howard-Taylor has a background in Public Health and comes to us from the Los Angeles Unified School District.

Heloise Froelich joins the Air Quality Division as an Environmental Supervisor. Ms. Froelich comes to us from the Bureau of Sanitation and has expertise in a number of environmental issues, including air quality, water quality, and hazardous materials.

Christopher Patton, our new Environmental Supervisor II, has extensive experience in air quality issues. He comes to us from the City's Harbor Department and will coordinate our most challenging air quality projects and programs.

We would also like to bid a fond farewell to Karen Higgins, who has moved on to manage the Citywide Facilities Recycling Program in the City's General Services Department.

Congratulations to all!



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 and E-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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