America Recycles Day Celebrated in Los Angeles

LA Sanitation celebrated America Recycles Day on November 15, partnering with numerous private and nonprofit organizations to host a series of events throughout Los Angeles. The events showcased the “recycLA” program and ways Angelenos are doing their part to reduce waste in businesses, schools and restaurants. Among the activities were a school event where students learned about the importance of recycling and how to do it, demonstration of a local restaurant reducing food waste, and tours of recycling and sorting facilities.

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BPW Newsletter
This is a regular newsletter of the Los Angeles Board of Public Works to keep you informed about how we keep the City working for you.

2017 America Recycles Day (clockwise from top): LA Sanitation Director and General Manager Enrique C. Zaldivar speaking at a recycling service provider facility; a customer enjoys playing a recycling game at bakery in Highland Park; and Board of Public Works Vice President Heather Repenning talks recycling to students at Evergreen Elementary School.
Keep Los Angeles Beautiful joined Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez, the Board of Public Works and the Office of Community Beautification to distribute free rain barrels at Sylmar Charter High School. Repurposed barrels from Coca-Cola were given out to local residents, who also participated in a rain water harvesting workshop. Water captured in the barrels can be used for landscape irrigation and non-potable water uses. More than 1,000 barrels have been distributed over the past three years.

The recent wind event in Southern California during early December resulted in more than 750 tree emergency requests received by the Bureau of Street Services. To handle this large volume, Street Services utilized computer tablets that allowed for crews to efficiently respond to locations and reduce the time to assess, allocate resources and complete cleanup efforts. Within 8 days, more than 97% of the locations were completed.

Once again, LA Sanitation reminded people to properly and safely recycle their Christmas trees following the holiday season.

The City of Los Angeles makes it convenient for residents of single-family homes to recycle their Christmas trees by putting them in the green collection bin or leaving them at the curb on their regular collection day. Residents of multi-family complexes could also leave their trees out on the curb on the collection day in their neighborhood.

Collected Christmas trees will be recycled into compost and mulch that is available to residents for free.

For more information go to www.lacitysan.org.
Bureau of Engineering Program Manager Honored

Julie Allen (pictured at left), program manager from the Bureau of Engineering for the Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project, has been named the 2017 Los Angeles Woman of Distinction by the Women’s Transportation Seminar’s Los Angeles chapter. Allen was selected for this first-of-its-kind honor in recognition of her significant and sustained impact in the City of Los Angeles.

Food Waste Pilot Program Aims to Reduce Landfill Use

As part of the continuous effort to reduce the use of landfills, LA Sanitation is turning food waste into energy through a pilot program. In partnership with Los Angeles International Airport, Sanitation is collecting food waste from four eateries in the United Airlines terminal and in November, Sanitation added the Homeboy Cafe in Los Angeles City Hall. The food waste is taken to a facility where it is converted to energy.

LA Sanitation Named ‘Sanitation Department of the Year’ by Waste Dive

LA Sanitation was named Sanitation Department of the Year by Waste Dive, a leading industry news publisher, for its groundbreaking work on innovating programs including recycLA, the City’s Food Waste Diversion Pilot Program, and Clean Streets LA.

The 2017 Dive Awards recognizes the industry’s top disruptors and innovators that are transforming the industry and shaping the future.

Congratulations to the LA Sanitation team!

Soto Street Intersection and Improvement Project Celebrates Completion

City officials joined the Bureau of Engineering along with the Bureaus of Contract Administration, Street Lighting and Street Services in celebrating the completion of a major bridge project with new open green space in Northeast Los Angeles.

The Soto Street Bridge Removal and Intersection Improvement Project required the demolition of the existing bridge. The new and safer design improves traffic flow in the area, which is used as a main north-south artery for commuters. Added amenities include new trees, landscaped medians and public art.
The Bureau of Street Lighting continues to lead efforts on the next evolution of streetlights with the installation of its second Smart Node on Spring Street (photos below) across from LA City Hall. The multipurpose nodes are part of a pilot program for streetlight poles co-locating with telecommunication companies. These poles are multifunctional with compartments for energy-efficient LED lighting, smart cell communication equipment and antennas, cameras, electric vehicle charging, USB charging ports, power outlets and speakers.

Get Prepared for Wet Weather

The City of Los Angeles reminds residents and businesses to get prepared for the rainy season. Here are some helpful tips:

* Check your catch basins to make sure they are clear of debris
* Ensure your building drainage is clear of debris, including rain gutters.
* Secure any loose palm fronds, tarps, loose items that might be carried away or blown away by wind.
* Cover steep slopes on your property that are not vegetated, which could become unstable when saturated by rain.
* Use sand bags to protect properties in low lying areas.
* Have alternate evacuation routes out of your neighborhood.

Office of Community Beautification Participates in Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service

On January 15, the Office of Community Beautification took part in a day of service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Following his example, volunteers gathered to serve at several events throughout the day that included cleanup and beautification projects in our Los Angeles communities.

More than 200 students from North Hollywood High School’s Upward Bound Program and Sun Valley Magnet School joined Council District 2 and the North Hollywood North East Neighborhood Council for a cleanup event in the areas surrounding Fire Station 89 that resulted in over 100 bags of trash picked up. The Office of Community Beautification also worked with AltaMed for an event at Roosevelt High School in Boyle Heights and with the El Sereno Stallions football and cheer organization for an event in Eastside Los Angeles.

For more information on services and upcoming events, visit: dpw.lacity.org/office-community-beautification.
Leading the way since 1906, the Board of Public Works oversees all infrastructure challenges to maintain a high quality of life for the four million people of Los Angeles. Responsible for 468 square miles of infrastructure, the Board delivers projects and programs that enhance quality of life, economic growth, public health and the environment. For more information, please visit www.bpw.lacity.org.

Kevin James, President
Heather Marie Repenning, Vice President
Mike Davis, President Pro Tempore
Joel Jacinto, Commissioner
Vacant

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.