



Sustainability Coordinator Newsletter

LAUSD Sustainability Initiatives
Facilities Maintenance & Operations Division

Fall 2015

Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.
- Albert Einstein -



San Pedro High School's 2015 Beach Cleanup

The goal of LAUSD's Sustainability Initiatives Newsletter is to provide resources for school-based sustainability advocates who want to help the District foster environmental stewardship and reduce our environmental footprint. [We'd love to hear your thoughts about the type of content you'd like to see.](#) If

you would like to share resources, ideas, or 'Spotlight' information about your school, please contact us

at learninggreen@lausd.net

We look forward to hearing from you!

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

Learning Green at San Pedro High

Thanks to dedicated Science Teacher Jennifer Cheng, San Pedro High School is a leader in Sustainability. Students participate in field trips, science fairs, community service opportunities and competitions, and are passionate about environmental stewardship.

SPHS biology students won first place for a video contest with a video showing them conducting wetlands experiments. The contest is co-sponsored by the Prince William Network and USDA Forest Service, which netted them a \$1,000 cash prize, which they used for a field trip.

Students from SPHS also participated in the Student Climate & Conservation Congress ("Sc3"), a week-long program presented by Green Schools Alliance which brings together student sustainability leaders from across the country. Held each year at the National Conservation Training Center, Sc3 empowers students with the skills, knowledge and tools to address environmental challenges and better serve their schools and communities.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Is your school a Green Ribbon School? Check out **last year's application** and *start now!* **Applications** are available now and are due at the end of December.

NEWS



Six LAUSD Campuses Selected for Drought Response Outreach Program

Six LAUSD campuses were selected by the State Water Resources Controls Board (SWRCB) to receive \$6 million in funding for Drought Response Outreach Program for Schools (DROPS) projects. The DROPS program aims to create Low Impact Development (LID) site features that serve to capture, treat, and infiltrate storm water into groundwater basins to mimic a natural watershed. These features, or Best Management Practices (BMPs), include bio swales, permeable pavement, infiltration galleries, rain-gardens, and cisterns. Through partnership with the Council for Watershed Health, TreePeople, and Los Angeles Audubon Society, the LID features will also serve as outdoor, experiential classrooms and learning laboratories that can be incorporated into the curriculum and activities at school. Programs include field trips, student leadership training, professional development, teacher trainings, and formation of eco-clubs in schools.

The six schools, Belvedere ES, Markham MS, Normandie ES, Northridge MS, Victory ES,

and Webster MS, were selected for consideration though the Maintenance & Operations Critical repair program. Projects will be implemented over the next three years.

EVENTS

Green California Schools Summit

Pasadena Convention Center, October 29-30, 2015



The Green California Schools and Community Colleges Summit and Exposition comes to the Pasadena Convention Center October 29-30. JPL climatologist and water expert Bill Patzert will keynote the opening session. Through an Expo with over 100 companies and dozens of educational sessions, the Summit offers insights into innovations in green policy, technology and practice. Keynotes and exhibit hall are free. For more information and to register, go to www.greentechnology.org or call 626-577-5700.



America Recycles Day

November 12, 2015

America Recycles Day is November 12th, and there are many events across the country to educate, engage, and celebrate. Check the [map](#) to find the event nearest you, or [register](#) your own event and find a toolkit of resources to guide you through the planning process.

Heal the Bay 'Nothin' But Sand' Beach Cleanup

Toes Beach, November 21, 2015, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Join Heal the Bay for one of their monthly beach cleanups. Bring your friends and family along while you spend 2 hours make the beach as clean and beautiful as possible.

[Register here](#)



LA + WATER:

Re-imagining the Los Angeles River

Otis College of Art and Design

November 23, 2015, 2:00PM - 4:00PM

Take part in a discussion about the revitalization of the Los Angeles River led by four leaders in the process. The afternoon will be filled with various poems, speeches, and interactive discussions. Free and open to the public, this event is a great chance to become part of the ongoing discussion about the revitalization of the river. No registration needed, find out more information about the speakers [here](#).

OPPORTUNITIES



Teach Earth USA Teacher Fellowship Program

Spend a week next summer on expeditions assisting world-class scientists by collecting data on climate change and sustainable resource management. The fellowship covers the full cost of the expedition, including meals, accommodations, and on-site transportation. Fill out an [interest form](#) to receive further information. Applications due December 2015.



Ignite LA Student Science Awards

The Ignite LA Student Science Awards is an innovative program that aims to stimulate curiosity and interest in science and technology through participation in a fully-funded, scientific research expedition during the summer.

Students conduct a variety of field and laboratory research activities, collecting data on some of the world's most pressing environmental and sustainability issues. [Sign up](#) by November 2015 to receive additional information.



Land Life Tree Boxes

Land Life boxes are a water-efficient, low cost, biodegradable tool to grow trees without irrigation and learn about water conservation as well! To find out more, and to obtain your free seedlings, please contact [Craig Tranby](#) at Los Angeles Department of Water & Power.



"A Drop in the Bucket" at Vista Hermosa Park

Wildwoods Foundation's free "A Drop in the Bucket" program uses fun and energetic NGSS-aligned, interactive learning and post-program activity guides to help students in grades 4-6 learn about the water cycle, SoCal water resources, and how their behavior impacts water quality and availability. You can also bring the program to your school via the "Dropmobile"! Reservations for this free program can be made via Wildwoods' [online reservation system](#) or via email at Drop@WildwoodsFoundation.org.



PowerSave Schools Program

Empowering Students, Generating Change

PowerSave Schools is a comprehensive, team-based program for K-12 schools that educates students about energy efficiency, demand response, renewable energy, water conservation, and green careers, empowering them to take action to reduce energy consumption at their schools. Space is limited. For more information contact [Vanessa Goh](#) at the Alliance to Save Energy.



PEAK Professional Development for Science Teachers

PEAK is an environmental education program designed to empower students with the knowledge to manage energy use in their homes, schools and communities. Through hands-

on learning, students are inspired to take action to create a more sustainable world and to explore green careers. Space is limited. For more information, contact [Melanie Peck](#) at The Energy Coalition.

COMPETITIONS & CONTESTS

[Think.Eat.Save Student Challenge](#) - Asks students to uncover how much food is being wasted at their school and develop a plan to reduce waste. Win up to \$5,000 by coming up with the best plan for your school. Deadline to submit is November 16, 2015.

[Made By Milk 2015 Carton Construction Contest](#) - Prizes given to best art pieces made from milk cartons gathered on school campus. Deadline to submit project is November 18, 2015

[World Water Monitoring Challenge](#) - See how your water compares globally by ordering a toolkit and measuring your water quality. Deadline to request a toolkit to participate in the challenge is November 30, 2015.

[Lexus Eco Challenge](#) - Choose between challenges related to Land and Water or Air and Climate and win up to \$10,000 for your school. Deadline is December 11, 2015.

[Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators](#) - Recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers with a dedication to using the environment as a context for learning. Deadline to apply is December 31, 2015.

RESOURCES

Grants

[Annie's Grants for School Gardens](#) - provides funding for school and community gardens. Application for 2016 grant becomes live in early October 2015.

[Lowe's Toolbox for Education](#) - provides between \$2,000 and \$5,000 for projects that enhance the schoolyard and encourage parent and community involvement. Spring 2016 grant cycle opens December 18, 2015.

[Sow It Forward Garden Grant](#) - Schools building and maintaining edible gardens can apply for up to \$500. Applications accepted until January 2016.

[Captain Planet Foundation EcoTech Grants](#) - up to \$2,500 to engage students in inquiry-based STEM projects that address environmental problems in their communities. Applications accepted January 1, 2016 through April 30, 2016.

[Captain Planet Foundation Small Grants](#) - between \$500 - \$2,500 for student projects that have real environmental outcomes. Deadline for fall/winter projects is January 31, 2016.

Curriculum

[ClimateChangeLive](#) - Climate-related educational webcasts, webinars, electronic field trips and online resources for students and teachers.

[EarthEcho International](#) - Online resources and youth and educator outreach and support using service learning to empower young people to become environmental leaders.

[Forest Service Conservation Education](#) - Educator website with extensive resources and links.

[NatureLIVE](#) - distance learning adventures through webcasts, webinars, and online education resources.

[EPA Climate Change](#) - Learn the science behind climate change. Also has an award winning [student](#) site.



LAUSD Sustainability Initiatives Unit

LAUSD's Sustainability Initiatives Unit is committed to developing and implementing programs that support the District's sustainability mission by educating and raising awareness of resource conservation and environmental stewardship and providing healthy, sustainable learning environment for all District students.

Forward this email

STAY CONNECTED



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