



LAUSD Sustainability Initiatives
Facilities Maintenance & Operations Division

Sustainable Schools Liaison Newsletter

Spring 2016

**Each and every one of us can make changes in the way we live our lives
and become part of the solution.**

- Al Gore -



Aquaponics Greenhouse at Westchester Enriched Sciences Magnet (WESM)

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 'Stars' information about your school, please contact us at learninggreen@lausd.net

We look forward to hearing from you!



CA Green Ribbon Schools News

Congratulations to **Porter MS** and **Westchester Enriched Sciences Magnet** for earning Gold recognition from the California Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools program! Green Ribbon Schools demonstrate exemplary achievement in three "pillars": Pillar I: reduce environmental impact and costs; Pillar II: improve the health and wellness of schools, students, and staff; and Pillar III: provide effective environmental education that teaches many disciplines and is especially good at effectively incorporating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, civic skills, and green career pathways. Special kudos to Teachers Curtis Ward from Porter MS and Kazumi Igus and Joseph Starks from WESM!

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NEWS



LA Unified Highlights Sustainability in a New Website

LA Unified's Sustainability Initiatives Unit (SIU) is excited to announce the launch of our new website at learninggreen.laschools.org. The site is devoted to engaging schools and the community in sustainability by presenting information on our latest programs and initiatives. The site provides a number of resources for increasing eco-literacy and 'greening' our schools, including opportunities for funding and recognition, and partner programs for experiential learning.

Our goal is for the site to be a tool and resource but also an interactive place to highlight what schools are doing about sustainability. We will be celebrating 'Sustainability Stars' - students, teachers, and administrators who are finding innovative ways to make their schools and communities more sustainable - and we will be highlighting school garden transformations as well.

Links to our social media pages are there, and teachers and sustainability mentors can also sign up for our Liaison Newsletter at the site. We look forward to sharing your Stars stories, and using images from your campus greening projects and campaigns throughout the site as well.

"We are pleased to be able to share the great work the District is doing and to work with stakeholders to build a really fun, interactive, informative site," said Christos Chrysiliou, Director of Architecture and Engineering Services.

EVENTS

Heal the Bay 'Nothin' But Sand' Beach Cleanup

Playa del Rey, March 19, 2016

Santa Monica, April 16, 2016

Will Rogers, May 21, 2016

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 clean and beautiful!

[Register here](#)



2nd Annual Climate Education Week Earth Day Network

April 18 - 22, 2016

Starting on April 18th and leading up to Earth Day, April 22nd, educators across the country observe Earth Day Network's Climate Education week by focusing their classrooms and programs on teaching students about the growing environmental concerns facing our world. Earth Day Network provides tools and lesson plans to support your efforts to teach your students climate science, including:

[The Story of Climate Change](#) - Interactive digital textbook for middle school students

[Climate Education Week Toolkit](#) - offers great classroom-ready, free lesson plans for grades K-4, 6-8, and 9-12 focusing on water issues, climate change, and this year's Earth Day theme - trees!



La Gran Limpieza - 27th Annual LA River Cleanup

April 16, 23, and 30, 2016

This year there is an urgent need for the 27th Annual Great Los Angeles River CleanUp. The dramatic El Niño swept through the watershed washing trash from surrounding areas into the channel which needs to be removed. [Sign up today!](#)



Generation Earth Summer Institute

August 3 & 4, 2016

Free 2-day Summer Institute for teachers, administrators, and coordinators (grades 7 - 12) interested in creating an environmental service learning project with their students.

[Click for Flyer](#)

OPPORTUNITIES



Land Life Tree Cocoons

[Land Life Cocoons](#) 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.

BuildSmart Sustainable Materials and Resources Trailer



The [BuildSmart Trailer](#) is a mobile learning resource that demonstrates sustainable living/working environments, illustrating superior green building methods. BuildSMART is outfitted with a variety of durable material displays, installations and energy efficient systems including: sustainable flooring, recycled countertops, solar PV, tankless water heating and a variety of highly efficient energy and water conservation methods. For information on hosting

BuildSMART contact: [Fernanda Zuin](#) at USGBC-LA.



COOL the earth

Cool the Earth

K-8 Climate Change Awareness

This K-8 enrichment program teaches students about climate change solutions and is ready to run at schools and organizations that work with kids. Cool the Earth provides all necessary materials and support to each school that runs the program.



ALLIANCE FOR CLIMATE EDUCATION

Alliance for Climate Change

Multi-Media High School Assembly

The ACE Assembly combines climate science with pop culture entertainment to create an unforgettable, award winning multimedia experience, along with related lesson plans and teacher resources. [Book live or access online](#). ACE also offers the [Get Loud Challenge](#), a national competition encouraging young people to take action on climate change for a chance

to win big prizes, and other opportunities for student engagement including their Action Fellowship.

COMPETITIONS & CONTESTS

[Carton to Garden Spring Contest](#) - Win up to \$5,000 by re-purposing milk and juice cartons from your school cafeteria to build or enhance your school garden. Entries due April 13, 2016.

[Stockholm Junior Water Prize](#) - \$10,000 scholarship, trophy and all-expense paid trip to Stockholm, Sweden to compete for the international title. Open to High School students age 15 or older by 8/1/16 who have conducted water-related science projects aimed at enhancing the quality of life by improving water quality, water resource management, or water and waste water treatment. Deadline is April 15, 2016.

[Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes](#) - Celebrates inspiring, public-spirited young leaders ages 8 - 18 who have made a significant positive impact on people, their communities, and the environment through a service project. Awards \$5,000 and gifts/materials to 15 winners per year to support their service work or higher education. Deadline April 16, 2016.

[Voya Unsung Heroes Awards](#) - Selects 100 educators to receive \$2,000 to help fund innovative class projects. Three projects are chosen to receive top awards of \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000. Deadline is April 30, 2016.

[Brower Youth Awards](#) - Recognizes the excellent leadership and commitment to community of young leaders who are making strides in the environmental movement. Winners receive cash prize of \$3,000, a short film about their work, and a trip and week of activities in the San Francisco Bay Area. Deadline is May 16, 2016.

[Ocean Awareness Student Contest](#) - MS and HS students win up to \$1,000 (MS) or \$1,500 (HS) art, poetry, prose, or film related to the theme "Making Meaning out of Ocean Pollution". Deadline is June 13, 2016

RESOURCES

Grants & Funding Resources

[NEEF/Mitsubishi Greening STEM Integration Grant](#) - offers \$500 - \$1,000 for projects that support the integration of Greening STEM into curriculum. Grants can be used for curriculum/materials development, field trips, supplies, transportation, and professional development. Deadline April 5, 2016.

[Dorothy Stout Professional Development Award](#) - For K-12 Educators who teach one or more earth science courses. Provides \$750 for classes, workshops, field trips, and materials. Application deadline April 15, 2016.

[Entomological Society of America](#) - Funds from ESA recognizing educators who have gone beyond traditional teaching methods by using insects as educational tools. Deadline May 1.

[Mazda Foundation Grants](#) - Awards grants to programs promoting education and literacy, environmental conservation, cross-cultural understanding, social welfare, and scientific research. Applications accepted from May 1 - July 1.

[National Weather Association Sol Hirsch Education Grant](#) - Up to \$750 for K-12 teachers to improve education in the science of meteorology. Deadline June 1, 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.

[National Conservation Training Center Broadcasts](#) - US Fish & Wildlife Service Webinars



LAUSD Sustainability Initiatives Unit

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

[Forward this email](#)

STAY CONNECTED



LAUSD Sustainability Initiatives
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 22nd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
learninggreen@lausd.net
