

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
**BUREAU OF SANITATION**  
**love LA keep it clean****DISCOVER RECYCLING AT THE 2011 SANITATION OPEN HOUSES**  
**City Residents Invited to Learn about Reducing, Reusing and Recycling!**

**LOS ANGELES (May 4, 2011)**—Hosting the Ninth Annual 2011 Bureau of Sanitation Open Houses, the City of Los Angeles will open its doors at each of its six district yards in Sun Valley, Northridge, Lincoln Heights, South Los Angeles, San Pedro, and West Los Angeles in a series of weekend events starting Saturday, May 14, 2011.

“The Open Houses showcase Sanitation’s residential collection programs and raise awareness of reducing, reusing and recycling by making real the connections to the economic, environmental and social benefits of reducing waste,” said Cynthia M. Ruiz, president of the Board of Public Works. “Individual responsibility and volunteer actions coupled with ongoing collaborations between residents, businesses and government, continue to successfully sustain community environments and deliver a better quality of life through a cleaner and greener Los Angeles.”

The 2011 Sanitation Open House dates, times and locations are:

- **Saturday, May 14, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
East Valley District Yard, 11050 Pendleton Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352
- **Saturday, May 21, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
West Valley District Yard, 8840 Vanalden Avenue, Northridge, CA 91324
- **Saturday, June 4, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
North Central District Yard, 452 N. San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, CA 90031
- **Saturday, June 11, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
South Los Angeles District Yard at The Expo Center, 3990 Menlo Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90037 (NE corner of Martin Luther King Blvd & Vermont Ave.)
- **Saturday, June 25, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
Harbor District Yard, 1400 N. Gaffey Street, San Pedro, CA 90731
- **Saturday, July 16, 2011 - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
West Los Angeles District Yard, 2027 Stoner Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025

The Sanitation Open Houses will treat visitors to trash truck and equipment demonstrations in addition to guided facility tours, information booths, recycling games with prizes and refreshments. The city's recycling mascots, Mr. Recycle and Robo Blue will be on hand to engage the next generation of residents by bringing recycling to life through imagination and fun.

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Fruit and non-fruit trees will be available to City of Los Angeles residents through the Million Trees L.A. program on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last. In conjunction with the tree adoption opportunities, the Bureau of Sanitation will giveaway free mulch and compost recycled from its green waste program. Young visitors will also have the opportunity to learn how to plant small vegetable plants, take them home and transplant them in their gardens.

For the second time, the Open Houses will host used tire collections for City of Los Angeles residents. Made possible by a CalRecycle grant, the Open House used tire collections enhance the city's ongoing program that allows city residents to recycle four tires per year free at any of the six Sanitation district yards.

Last year, more than 6,300 residents visited the yards to learn about the city's recycling and Sanitation services, and more than 300 city employees volunteered their time to 'give back' to the public and conduct the 'free' events.

For more information on the 2011 Bureau of Sanitation Open Houses, visit <http://bureauofsanitationopenhouses.blogspot.com/>. For information about the Bureau of Sanitation services, please call (800) 773-2489 or visit [www.lacitySAN.org](http://www.lacitySAN.org). To learn more about the city's progress toward "Zero Waste" and the future of reducing, reusing and recycling, please visit [www.zerowaste.lacity.org](http://www.zerowaste.lacity.org).

#### Background on Bureau of Sanitation Open Houses

In 2003, the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation launched the first recycling open house to the public at its West Los Angeles district yard, one of six wastesheds across the city. The goal of the program was to target children and their families to influence household members and parents, as well as to encourage and teach the next generation of adults about the importance of recycling, recycling techniques, and the city's solid waste collection operations.

The growing popularity of the open house program can be traced to the sanitation leaders and volunteers from the yards that have worked to transform each of the sanitation yards into fun learning centers on recycling. By combining food, music and games with information and education, the bureau has succeeded in capturing the attention and curiosity of children, families and residents on how to recycle while providing an opportunity for city employees to give back to the community through their volunteer efforts.

Since the first open house in West Los Angeles, the program expanded in 2005 with the addition of the East Valley, West Valley, North Central and South Los Angeles district yards. In 2006, the Harbor district yard was added to provide citywide coverage for Sanitation's open houses. Residents visiting the yards have grown with each passing year starting with 200 in 2003 to more than 6,300 in 2010, eight years later.

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