



**Special Holiday Green Edition**  
**December 9, 2011**



[www.CD12.org](http://www.CD12.org)

[CD 12 Contact Information](#)

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 Chatsworth, Encino,  
 Granada Hills, Lake Balboa, North Hills,  
 Northridge, Porter Ranch, Reseda, West Hills, West Van Nuys, Winnetka

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## Make It a Green Holiday Season!



This special Green Edition of our E-News newsletter has lots of useful environmental information. There are tips on how you can make this a green holiday season, information on environmental activities, and ways to make your home or business greener so you can save money while helping the planet all year round.



Councilmember Mitchell Englander with the solar power system he recently had installed on his home in Granada Hills.

It's important that we as individuals find ways in our daily lives to help protect the environment. I recently installed a photo-voltaic solar system in my home. This will benefit the environment, and it will also cut my bills, and increase the value of my home. I also hope it will inspire others to find ways to go green.

Only together can we ensure that future generations can have clean air and water, reduce our dependence on foreign oil and

conserve our scarce natural resources. By reducing our water and electricity use, increasing our recycling, and reducing waste, we can make a big difference.

*- Mitchell Englander, Councilmember, Twelfth District*

## A Day Without a Bag - Thursday, Dec. 15, 2011

Heal the Bay's annual "Day Without a Bag" is coming up on Dec. 15, so look for free giveaways of re-usable shopping bags just in time for holiday gift shopping. Day Without a Bag raises awareness about the important



environmental impact you can make with your personal consumer choices. Last year, over 25,000 fashionable, functional re-usable shopping tote bags were given away in L.A. County at 171 giveaway locations. This year for the first time, the L.A. County Public Library is giving out 8,000 bags at 85 library branches.

A Day Without a Bag focuses on educating Southland shoppers to adopt more sustainable practices during the holidays and coming year. Holiday shopping generates a tremendous amount of waste, including one-time use shopping bags, so it's a perfect time to make a big difference. The event also aims to reduce the use of single-use plastic bags.

More than 6 billion plastic bags are used in LA County each year, and only about 5% of them are recycled. Disposable bags cost our fiscally strained cities up to 17 cents per bag for disposal. Millions of them end up in our oceans, where they kill marine life and harm fisheries, and damage the natural beauty that is at the heart of coastal tourism.

Plastic bags are made from non-renewable fossil fuels. Their production requires petroleum and natural gas, both non-renewable resources that are environmentally destructive, create more greenhouse gases, and increase our dependency on foreign oil. More than 4,000 barrels of oil are used every day to make plastic bags.

A single reusable bag has the potential to eliminate hundreds of plastic bags over its lifetime.

Day Without a Bag is organized by Heal the Bay, and sponsored by partners City of L.A., Department of Public Works, Union Bank, and 99 Cents Only Stores.

Locate the free bag giveaway site nearest you at [www.healthebay.org/DWAB](http://www.healthebay.org/DWAB). Check out these special bag deals only available on Day Without a Bag: 99¢ Only Stores gives you a FREE reusable bag with a \$29.99 purchase. Union Bank branches are giving away reusable bags to customers. Ralph's will give TRIPLE Reward Points for shoppers who have reusable bags in Los Angeles County.

*To learn how your business, school, faith group or neighborhood can take part in A Day Without a Bag, contact Meredith McCarthy at Heal the Bay at (310) 451-1500, x116 or email [mmccarthy@healthebay.org](mailto:mmccarthy@healthebay.org).*

## Energy Star-Rated Holiday Lights...



Try Energy Efficient  
LED Holiday Lights  
This Year!

Consider using energy-saving LED holiday lights this season! They come in all colors, are more durable and less likely to break than conventional bulbs and last up to 10 times longer. They are also cool to the touch so they're less likely to cause fires.

According to the Energy Star website, if everyone in America switched to Energy Star-rated holiday lights, it would reduce over 700 million kilowatt/hours of electricity per year. It would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of taking 100,000 cars off the road.

Look for the Energy Star label and learn the facts before buying.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### 311 Online

In addition to calling 311 to report problems or request services, you can use 311 online.

[Click here to find the appropriate service.](#)

## NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS IN CD12

[Canoga Park](#)

[Chatsworth](#)

[Encino](#)

[Granada Hills North](#)

[Granada Hills South](#)

[Lake Balboa](#)

[Northridge East](#)

[Northridge West](#)

[Northridge South](#)

[Porter Ranch](#)

[North Hills West](#)

[Reseda](#)

[West Hills](#)

[Winnetka](#)

## CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

To learn more about Energy Star holiday lights, [click here](#).  
You can even find [solar-powered LED holiday lights!](#)

## Re-use, Recycle, Rejoice!

Make it a green holiday this year and recycle your tree! In addition to gift wrapping paper, boxes and gift packaging, you can recycle your Christmas tree. Every year, the City of Los Angeles offers residents the opportunity to recycle Christmas trees. Dead, dry trees can be a fire hazard, and when they go to landfills, they release greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. When the trees are recycled, they are turned into mulch and re-used for gardening and landscaping. You can even get free mulch for your own garden!

Remove all ornaments, decorations and the tree stand. Cut the tree into pieces and place it in your green waste bin. If it does not fit, place the whole tree at the curb and the Bureau of Sanitation will pick it up. You can also bring it to one of the City's drop-off locations. To see a list of all of the Christmas tree drop-off locations, [click here](#).



## Gift Wrapping & Packaging

Please do not burn gift wrapping in the fireplace once the holiday gifts are opened. They often contain dyes and plastics that release toxins into the air. Most gift wrapping can be recycled in the blue bin. You can also re-use gift wrapping to wrap other gifts.

## Free Mulch for Your Garden...



You can get free mulch for your garden from the City's Mulch Giveaway Program! The free mulch is made from recycled yard trimmings and other "green waste" from the green bins.

Recycling green waste is an important way to reduce the amount of organic material that goes into landfills. When plant materials go into landfills, they emit large amounts of the greenhouse gas methane, which contributes to climate change.

California law (AB 939) requires all cities to reduce the amount of waste they sent to landfills by 50% by the year 2000. The City of Los Angeles met and surpassed that goal (to learn more [click here](#)), and has adopted the further goal of reducing landfilled waste by 70% by the year 2015. One of the largest single components of the City's waste stream is greenwaste.

[Canoga Park/West Hills](#)

[Chatsworth](#)

[Encino](#)

[Granada Hills](#)

[North Valley Regional](#)



The City turns all of that green waste into mulch which is available to L.A. residents for free at several locations. This mulch is like green gold for your garden!

### Free Mulch Locations in the San Fernando Valley

#### North Hills (near Van Nuys Airport)

16600 Roscoe Pl., North Hills

[Click here](#) for a map.

Mulch delivered to this location Wednesdays & Fridays.

Hours of operation: Daily 7:00 am to 6:00 pm

#### Van Nuys (near D.C. Tillman Plant)

15800 Victory Blvd., Van Nuys

[Click here](#) for a map.

Entrance: turn south on Densmore Ave. from Victory, follow curve.

Mulch delivered to this location every Monday.

Hours of operation: Monday - Friday, 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

For more information [click here](#).

## Place Palm Fronds and Tree Branches Next to Green Bin...

The Bureau of Sanitation is urging L.A. residents to place palm fronds and tree branches that have blown down in the recent heavy winds next to the green bins to be picked up.

If palm fronds and branches are placed next to the green used for residential yard trimmings on regular trash collection days, they will be picked up together with the green waste and turned into mulch. This will help residents to keep their yards, streets and sidewalks clean in the wake of the strong wind storms.

Last Saturday, Sanitation crews conducted sweeps to clear palm fronds through Los Angeles. Additional Saturday sweeps are planned until the wind-related debris is cleared. For more information, or to report downed trees, palm fronds or branches, please call 3-1-1 or Bureau of Sanitation at (800) 773-2489.



### Curbside Palm Frond & Branch Pick-Up

## Join Northridge West Neighborhood Council's Weekly Clean-Up and Help Keep Northridge Clean and Green!

Join Northridge West Neighborhood Council for their weekly community clean-up effort and help keep Northridge looking clean, green and



beautiful!

On Thursday, Dec. 15, they will continue their work, removing weeds and trash to beautify the north side of Plummer St. from Tampa Ave. to Vanalden Ave. in Northridge.

**Thursday, Dec. 15**

**8:00 am**

**Meet up at the corner of Plummer and Tampa in Northridge**

At 8:00 am the crew will review the game plan with free refreshments provided by Northridge West Neighborhood Council. Bring gloves if you have them, sunscreen, a sunhat and appropriate shoes for outdoor work.

*For more information, call Glen Wilson, phone (818) 886-3534 and email [glenw@dslextreme.com](mailto:glenw@dslextreme.com).*

## Donate Your Unwanted Coats to Reduce Landfill Waste and Help Those in Need...



Help support this great effort by the Kiwanis Club of Chatsworth to help struggling families stay warm, and help reduce the waste going to landfills by donating your unwanted winter coats.

The 4th Annual Warm Coats Project accepts gently used, clean jackets, coats, sweaters and blankets for men, women and children. Donations are being accepted now through Dec. 16, 2011.

### Drop-Off Locations

Chatsworth/Porter Ranch Chamber  
10038 Old Depot Plaza Rd.,  
Chatsworth

Los Toros Mexican Restaurant  
21743 Devonshire St., Chatsworth

Chaminade High School  
7500 Chaminade Way, West Hills

Chatsworth High School  
10027 Lurline Ave., Chatsworth

*To learn more, email [exec@chatsworthchamber.com](mailto:exec@chatsworthchamber.com).*

## Get On Your Bike and Go Green...

Whether you want to try commuting by bicycle, go on a leisurely ride with your kids, or plan a long sport ride, LADOT's Bicycle Services website offers everything for you to plan your bike ride quickly, and safely.



<http://www.bicyclela.org/>.

There is even a special map dedicated to safe, fun, efficient bicycle routes in the San Fernando Valley. To see the printable Valley Bike Routes map, [click here](#).

It also includes a special section on how you can use public transit with a bike, and where to find public transit stops with bike lockers and park and ride options. Many Metro and L.A. Department of Transportation buses have free bike racks for bus passengers to use. For more information [click here](#) or call (213) 808-2273.

*Please remember to always wear a helmet, use proper lighting at night, and obey all traffic laws.*

## Go Hiking in the San Fernando Valley...



There are hundreds of locations right in our backyard where your family can enjoy world-class hiking trails with stunning views, many kinds of natural habitats, and abundant plants and wildlife.

It's a great way to get exercise, enjoy L.A.'s phenomenal weather, and teach kids about protecting our environment and natural resources.

The website [www.Trails.com](http://www.Trails.com) offers a free searchable database showing every different kind of trail available,

and posts them on an interactive map. It includes hiking, equestrian and mountain biking trails. [Click here](#) and enter "Chatsworth" or "Granada Hills" to see trails in the mountains and nature areas in our District.

## Greening Your Business...

Los Angeles strives to be the environmental leader in the country. Here are some great resources so that your business can improve its energy efficiency, waste management, and carbon footprint.

### Get Cash for Saving Energy and Water

DWP offers cash rebates and resources to help you lower your water and energy costs and go



green.

[Install an Energy Efficient Chiller](#) - If your business uses a chiller for space conditioning, you may qualify for cash rebates when you buy a more energy efficient chiller.

[Install Energy Efficient Lighting Equipment](#) - Installing energy-efficient lighting can significantly reduce your company's electricity bills. Replacing existing fixtures with state-of-the-art, energy-efficient lighting technologies can also reduce replacement and repair costs.

[Build an Energy Efficient Building](#) - Receive valuable cash incentives when you build a new energy-efficient building, and save energy costs for years to come.

[Install Energy Efficient Equipment and Systems](#) - Receive cash incentives for the installation of energy saving measures, equipment or systems that exceed Title 24 or minimum industry standards.

[Receive Free Energy Efficient Lighting for Your Small Business](#) - Receive a free lighting assessment, free lighting upgrades (up to \$2,500 in costs), and free installation when you participate in the Small Business Direct Install Program.

[Replace or Retrofit Your Refrigeration Equipment](#) - Reduce your electricity bills and the cost of new refrigeration equipment by replacing or retrofitting existing refrigeration equipment with state-of-the-art, energy-efficient refrigeration technologies.

[Install a Solar Power System](#) - Receive incentive payments when you purchase and install your own solar power systems.

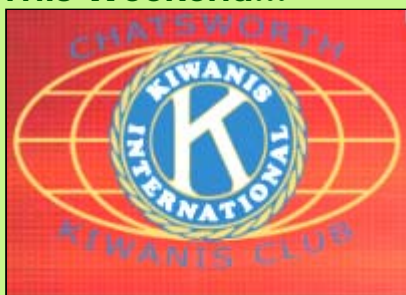
[Install Water Efficient Equipment](#) - Get cash rebates when you install equipment that reduces your water consumption.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

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### 28th Annual Chatsworth Holiday Parade and Festival This Weekend...



Don't miss the 28th Annual Chatsworth Holiday Parade and Festival, coming up this Sunday, Dec. 11. The parade and festival will be held from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, and the route runs east on Devonshire St., from Vassar Ave. to Lurline Ave.

The parade includes over 1,500 participants, with holiday favorites such as marching bands, clowns, classic cars, horses, and hitchcarts. There will also be gourmet food trucks, holiday shopping, arts and crafts vendors, pictures with Santa, childrens' area, and more!

**Sunday, Dec. 11**  
**Chatsworth Depot Metrolink Station**  
**10046 Old Depot Plaza Rd**  
**Chatsworth**  
**11:00 am to 5:00 pm**



For more information, click here

<http://www.chatsworthholidayparade.org/#!/page-2>

To see photos from last year's parade, click here

<http://www.chatsworthholidayparade.org/#!/page-5>

To see the parade route click here <http://www.chatsworthholidayparade.org/#!/parade-route>

## Ride with Pride Holiday Party...

Join Ride With Pride for their annual Holiday Party on Sunday, Dec. 11 in Chatsworth. Enjoy some top-notch Mexican food at Casa De Carlos with Ride With Pride's staff, volunteers, and Board Members as well as fellow equestrians and Chatsworth community members. This fun annual dinner party helps raise funds for Ride With Pride's therapeutic horsemanship programs for people with disabilities.



**Ride With Pride  
Holiday Party**  
**Sunday, Dec. 11**

**Sunday, Dec. 11**

**6:00 pm**

**Casa De Carlos Restaurant**

**20549 Devonshire St., Chatsworth**

Please RSVP and contribute the \$20 donation in advance. The donation includes choice of one entree with rice and beans and a drink.

All guests are invited to play Secret Santa. Bring a wrapped gift valued at \$15 to \$20. For more information, visit <http://www.ridewithprideth.org>.

## Community Celebration of Fire Station 104's 50th Anniversary...



LAFD Fire Station 104, Winnetka Neighborhood Council and the District 12 Office are holding a community celebration of the 50th anniversary of the original groundbreaking on construction of Los Angeles Fire Department Station 104.

Join members of Fire Station 104 "B" Platoon, Battalion Commander Karen Richter of Battalion 17, representatives from Winnetka Neighborhood Council and Council District 12,

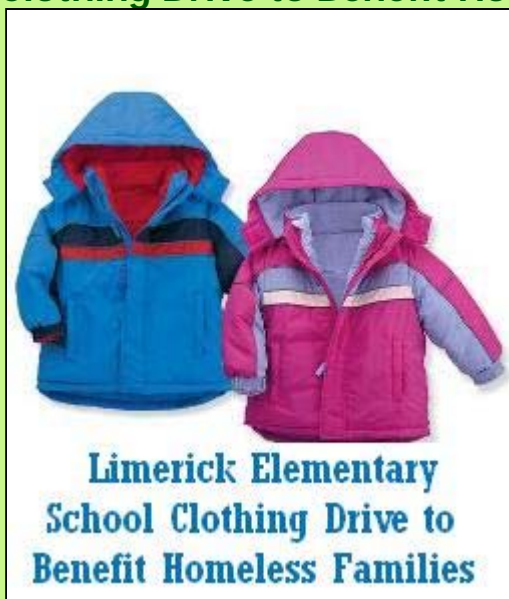


and the original Miss Winnetka of 1961, Ruth Richter. At the celebration, they will be taking a photo re-enacting the photo of the original groundbreaking.

**Sunday, Dec. 11**  
**11:00 am to 12:00 pm**  
**Fire Station 104**  
**8349 Winnetka Ave.**  
**Canoga Park**

*For more information call Captain Mark Gozawa at Fire Station 104 at (818) 756-8604.*

## Limerick Elementary School Holiday Toy and Clothing Drive to Benefit Homeless Families...



Limerick Elementary School and Winnetka Neighborhood Council have launched "Project Hope," a wonderful effort to assist families in the San Fernando Valley struggling during the holidays.

The school and the Neighborhood Council have identified 52 families with children in Winnetka who are currently homeless or living far below the poverty line. Some of these families are living in their cars, some are sharing a single room at the homes of friends or relatives.

Donations of toys, jackets, sweaters, shoes, socks, clothing and blankets for boys and girls ages 5 through 11 will go to those families. Gift cards are also highly

appreciated. Donations will be accepted through Dec. 16.

**Drop off location**  
**Hope Chapel**  
**7930 Mason Ave.**  
**Winnetka**  
**Through Dec. 16**  
**9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Tuesday through Friday**

*All donations are tax-deductible. For more information, call (818) 882-1298.*

## Re-Districting Commission Public Meetings in the San Fernando Valley...

The L.A. City Council's Redistricting Commission is holding a series of public meetings as part of the process of drafting new Council District boundaries. Every 10 years, following the U.S. Census, districts are



redrawn at all different levels of government, including the Los Angeles City Council Districts.

The Commission wants public input about the shape of the new Districts in advance of creating the early drafts.

The next Commission meeting in the San Fernando Valley is on Saturday, Dec. 17 in West Hills.

**Saturday, Dec. 17**

**11:00 am**

**West Valley Christian Church  
22450 Sherman Way, West Hills**

To learn more about the Re-Districting process, visit the Commission's website at <http://redistricting2011.lacity.org/>. There you can find meeting agendas and minutes, videos from previous meetings, documents and district maps dating back to the 1970s and more.

### Police Commission Meeting in Northridge...



Join the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners, Councilmember Mitchell Englander, and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck on January 17, 2012 for a community meeting in Northridge to discuss public safety issues in the Devonshire Area and the City of Los Angeles.

**Tuesday, January 17, 2012**

**6:30 pm**

**St. Nicholas Greek Church  
9501 Balboa Blvd. (at Plummer St.)**

#### Northridge

Under the City Charter, the Board of Police Commissioners is the head of the Police Department. Established in the 1920's, the Board consists of five civilian volunteer Commissioners who set overall policy while the Chief of Police manages the daily operations of the Department and implements the Board's policies or policy direction and goals.

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services are available upon request. To ensure availability, all requests for reasonable accommodation must be made at least three business days (72 hours) in advance.

*For more information, please call (213) 236-1400.*

This message was sent to by:

**Councilmember Mitchell Englander**

18917 Nordhoff Street, Suite 18

Northridge, CA 91324

(213) 473-7012

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