



Seascape

Bike Action Plan Rolls Out!



After almost a year of community outreach, City Council adopted the new Bike Action Plan to encourage cycling in Santa Monica. The plan provides strategies to make cycling an even more viable form of transportation and ensures compliance with state, regional and federal policy initiatives. The Council also allocated \$2.5 million in

funding to augment approximately \$8 million in grants awarded to the city for bicycle infrastructure, education and other programs.

The new Bike Action Plan includes programs to educate bicyclists and motorists about how to use roads together, as well as facility improvements. Residents can expect to see 14 miles of new bicycle lanes, signal improvements and a bicycle campus in the coming years. The city will also be installing 17 miles of sharrows (shared lane markings) to remind motorists to make room for cyclists in areas where the streets are not wide enough for separate bicycle lanes. Look for new signs and markings to encourage safe use of the beach bike trail and beach walkways by summer 2012. For more information on the Bike Action Plan, please see page 3.

CHECK OUT THE BIKE ACTION PLAN:
www.bikesantamonica.org

Kick-start 2012 with Active Santa Monica

With the start of the new year, many of us are thinking about losing weight, eating healthier and living better. Santa Monicans are fortunate to have excellent weather year-round and an abundance of fitness and recreation opportunities. Starting this month, Active Santa Monica will highlight ways to incorporate active living and healthy lifestyle choices into your daily routine. Let's start by dispelling a few myths about getting active:

Myth #1: Working out is expensive.

Getting fit doesn't have to break the bank! Check out these low and no-cost ways to get active.

- Run or walk the track at Santa Monica High School.
- Use the par course fitness stations at Clover Park.
- Take a ride along the beach bike path.
- Go for a walk with a coworker during lunch – and then make it a regular thing.
- Drop in at Memorial Park Gym for a pick-up game of basketball.
- Hop on a treadmill at Memorial Park Fitness Room.
- Walk, bike or skate to work.

Myth #2: Working out is boring.

Is your routine getting too...routine? Try something new! Check out *Recscape*, pages 13-23, for a complete list of camps, classes and activities offered through the city. Registration begins February 1.

Myth #3: Going to the gym is a hassle.

With high-quality equipment, a central location, no contracts, plenty of parking and low entry fees, Memorial Park Fitness Room may be one of Santa Monica's best kept fitness secrets. Ages 16 & up. Where: 1401 Olympic Blvd. Monday-Friday noon to 9 p.m. & Saturday-Sunday noon to 7 p.m. Cost: \$3/visit for Santa Monica residents or \$4/visit non-residents. 4-week pass just \$24 for residents or \$32 for non-residents.



Join the
Active Santa Monica community:
www.facebook.com/activeSM

*Enhancing the well-being of the community
 through fitness, recreation and healthy lifestyles.*

ACTIVE SANTA MONICA WEEK
 JANUARY 23 - 30
 TRY THE MEMORIAL PARK FITNESS ROOM
 FOR FREE!

Briefly...

CITY HALL, 1685 MAIN STREET, is open Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and every other Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Most city offices are closed on alternate Fridays as part of the city's commute trip reduction plan to improve air quality – January 13 & 27, February 10 & 24 and March 9 & 23. Payment and permit services are available every Friday – please call 310.458.8411 for the counter hours of your preferred service.

All city offices will be closed January 16 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and February 20 for President's Day.

NEW IN TOWN? Our new resident packet is filled with information to help you get familiar with your new neighborhood, including the City Services Directory, maps, parking and bus information, Family Guide, and more. Just send an email request to 411@smgov.net or call 310.458.8411 and we'll drop one in the mail, or stop by the Information Desk in the City Hall lobby to pick one up.

HAVE A QUESTION, BUT NOT SURE WHO TO ASK? Get the "4-1-1" by emailing the Information Desk at City Hall. Send your question to 411@smgov.net and you will receive a response during normal City Hall business hours. This service is a complement to our GO System, where you can submit service requests or feedback 24/7 at www.smgov.net/GO.

Be Excited! Be Prepared

Downtown Parking Structure 6 Rebuild Begins this Spring

Beginning in March, the 350-space structure located at 1431 2nd Street, PS6, will be torn down and rebuilt in the same location with over 700 new parking spaces, bike racks for approximately 90 bikes and 7,000 square feet of new retail space. The new PS6 is expected to be complete in late 2013. In the meantime, here are a few strategies for getting around downtown:



- The Civic Lot and Structure at 333 Civic Center Drive are good options for all-day parkers. The Big Blue Bus is operating a shuttle between Downtown Santa Monica and the Civic Center every ten minutes, Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. – 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. – 7:40 p.m. For more information on downtown parking, visit www.smgov.net/parking or call 310.458.8295.

- All other downtown structures and lots will continue to operate as usual during construction. Use our online parking maps at www.smgov.net/parkingmaps to find the number of available spaces before choosing your route. An optimized version for mobile devices is coming in late January.
- Try an alternate mode of transportation – most Big Blue Bus lines terminate in Downtown Santa Monica (see www.BigBlueBus.com), and the new Bike Centers in Santa Monica Place Parking Structures 7 and 8 are now open, featuring bike valet, showers, lockers and other amenities for cyclists. Check it out online at www.smbikecenter.com.

A community meeting about the interim parking plan and construction impacts will be held on January 25 at 6 p.m. at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street. Visit www.SMConstructs.org/PS6 for more information.

What's Happening on Ocean Park Boulevard?

This past December, the city and neighbors from the Ocean Park Association broke ground to transform Ocean Park Boulevard into a "Complete Green Street," featuring wider sidewalks, over 100 new trees, pedestrian-scaled lighting and furniture, painted bicycle lanes and three new marked crosswalks with flashing overhead beacons. In addition to creating a better-performing "complete street," this project will help keep our bay clean by adding storm water filtration devices and improvements to the Los Amigos Park storm drain. These elements of the project are funded by Measure V.

Construction on Ocean Park Boulevard will last 12-14 months, and one lane of traffic will be kept open in both directions throughout construction. Find out more at www.SMConstructs.org/OPB.



For more information on these and many other capital improvement projects coming to Santa Monica, visit www.SMConstructs.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter @SMConstructs.

SANTA MONICA

Seascape

Seascape is a publication of the City of Santa Monica designed to inform residents about city programs and services. Please e-mail editorial information and comments to seascape@smgov.net or mail to:

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In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Seascape is available in alternate formats by calling the City Manager's Office at 310.458.8301 (TDD/TTY 310.917.6626).



ASK THE STAFF! COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

Get information on key city construction projects underway or coming soon, and talk with project managers.
February 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street.

BIKE CENTER OPENS IN DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA

The City of Santa Monica opened its first full-service Bike Center in November. The largest facility of its kind in the nation, the Santa Monica Bike Center promotes green mobility through classes, tours and amenities:

- Over 350 secure bike parking spaces
- Access-controlled showers and lockers for members
- Attended bike valet parking for visitors
- Bike rentals and repair service
- Travel information



The new Bike Center is a great resource, whether you'd like to rent a bike for a day to ride the beachfront with friends or green your commute to and from Downtown Santa Monica.

For inspiration, riding tips and membership information, visit www.smbikecenter.com

Would you like to ride more often, but are intimidated by the idea of riding in the road? Confident City Cycling will build your confidence as a cyclist to make riding safe, comfortable and fun. Cyclists ages 16 and up can sign up for a free two-part cycling class beginning in February 2012.

2012 CLASS SCHEDULE

February 11 & 18, March 10 & 17, April 14 & 21, May 12 & 19, June 9 & 16, July 14 & 21, August 11 & 18, September 8 & 15.

Subject to change

You'll learn:

- Your rights and duties as a bicyclist on public roadways; state and local laws applicable to cycling.
- How to perform pre-ride safety checks and basic roadside repairs, such as fixing a flat tire and minor mechanical adjustments.
- How to identify unsafe traffic situations and make decisions that can prevent crashes and collisions.

You'll receive:

- A Planet Bike "Beamer" head & tail light set
- Pedro's tire levers
- A Nutcase helmet
- A safety manual

And all you need is:

- Your own bike, in good repair and with at least one functional hand or coaster brake.

Confident City Classes are offered monthly on two dates – a classroom session and a hands-on training session. Class size is limited to 12 participants to ensure personal one-on-one instruction. Participants must complete the classroom segment in order to participate in the hands-on segment.

Sign up now at www.sustainablestreets.org

GET INVOLVED IN THE NEW DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN

Community Workshop:

Thursday, January 26

Civic Center Auditorium, 1855 Main Street

Help design Santa Monica's living room. The Downtown Specific Plan will implement the community's vision for downtown as a premier local and regional shopping, dining, and entertainment destination, while generating opportunities for great public spaces and strong connections to the new Expo Light rail station. As described in the adopted Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE), the downtown area will be a gathering place supported by high-quality streets for walking, bicycling, transit, vehicles and a mix of uses that includes new housing, employment, services and unique shopping. The consulting team on the project, Torti Gallas and Partners, will lead the urban design process, including building form, mobility and access, along

with important design features such as wayfinding elements and public art. Please join us at the January workshop to share your ideas, issues and thoughts, and to discuss future opportunities for Santa



Monica's downtown. Additional meetings will be scheduled throughout the spring and summer.

For more information on the Downtown Specific Plan visit www.shapethefuture2025.net or contact Travis Page at travis.page@smgov.net.

citytv highlights

New season of the Twilight Dance Series premieres February 1!

Last summer, CityTV captured some of the best live musical acts from the weekly concert series at the Pier, including legendary New Orleans pianist Jon Cleary, The Bangles, Australian pop star Missy Higgins, Latin music sensations Oscar Hernandez and Grupo Fantasma, Dawes and more!

Airs nightly at 11 p.m. with back-to-back music marathons on Saturdays starting at 8 p.m. on CityTV channel 16. Go to www.citytv.org for a complete schedule of band air dates and times.



EATING WELL IN SANTA MONICA

We have a new tool to put fresh, locally-grown food at your fingertips – the *Eat Well Guide*® is a free online directory for anyone in search of healthier, locally-grown and sustainably-produced food in the United States and Canada. The *Eat Well Guide* creates local connections between consumers and producers of fresh, sustainable food to increase access to healthy food, expose unjust and unsustainable food production practices and expand markets for small-scale farmers and other socially responsible food producers.



The Guide has over 50 listings in Santa Monica, including restaurants, farmers markets, stores, coffee shops, and more. Users can search the online directory by keyword, category or product to find good food and download customized guides. If you're headed outside of Santa Monica, you can plan a trip with their innovative mapping tool, Eat Well Everywhere.

Visit www.eatwellguide.org or www.eatwellguide.org/mobile to begin eating better – it's never been easier! If you know of a food provider that should be listed in the Guide, contact the Office of Sustainability and the Environment at 310.458.2213 or submit the listing directly to *Eat Well Guide*.

2012 QUARTERLY LIBRARY PANEL SERIES

Gardening on the Farm and in the City



Thursday, February 9, 7-9 p.m.
Santa Monica Public Library

Join farmer Nate Peitso of Maggie's Farm, master gardener Sarah Spitz, formerly of KCRW, Il Grano Chef Sal

Marino and urban homesteader Craig Ruggless from Winnetka Farms in a lively discussion about how their gardens grow. Moderated by Darra Henigan, Santa Monica Farmers Market. Stay afterward for market treats prepared by Chef Sal Marino. Free and open to the public.

Visit the Farmers Market's NEW website at www.smgov.net/farmersmarket!

DOWNTOWN MARKETS
Wednesday
Arizona Ave & 2nd St.
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Saturday
Arizona Ave & 3rd St.
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

PICO MARKET
Saturday
2200 Virginia Ave.
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

MAIN STREET MARKET
Sunday
2640 Main Street
9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Frequently Asked Questions about Santa Monica's Bag Ban

Santa Monica's Single-use Carryout Bag Ban went into effect in September, reflecting the community's desire to reduce waste and keep debris out of the ocean. Here are a few common questions and answers about the bag ban:

How does the single-use bag ban benefit the community?

The ban protects the Santa Monica Bay and the rest of our community from the impacts related to plastics pollution, natural resources consumption, and waste generation. By switching to durable, reusable bags, we use fewer natural resources and create less waste. Additionally, residents and ratepayers will not have to pay the clean-up costs and landfill fees associated with the disposal of single-use bags.

Why did Santa Monica only ban lightweight plastic bags – less than 2.25 mil?

Because they're so light, and so prevalent, the majority of bags that end up on our beaches are the lightweight petroleum or bio-based plastic bags.

Why are stores charging ten cents for paper bags?

The ten-cent charge is a gentle reminder to bring your durable, reusable bags when you shop. **It is not a "tax" on bags. The fee goes to the retailer, not the city.** Only grocery, drug and liquor stores are required to charge ten cents for paper bags, because the majority of bags distributed come from this smaller group of retailers.

Why do I still see plastic bags in Santa Monica?

The bag ban targets the most critical elements of the waste stream. Take-out food bags are exempt, as are the bags used for meats and produce in grocery stores. The thicker bags used by clothing retailers and department stores are also exempt.

I need more bags/I have too many reusable bags. What can I do?

Try the Share A Bag program – an exchange for lightly used reusable bags! Visit one of 23 bag exchange sites located throughout Santa Monica. A list and more information about the bag ban is posted at www.sustainable-sm.org/bag.



Sign up for a Community Discussion Group: Inform the Vision for the Future of the Santa Monica Airport



We'd like you to tell us what you think by attending a small group of 8-12 community members that are taking place beginning in January through March 2012. Input from these groups will help shape the city's plans for the airport campus.

There are 30 two-hour discussion groups set in a variety of locations throughout the city at times convenient for all.

Visit www.smovisioning.org/discussions to sign up or call 310.458.8221.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Comes To Your Home

Chemicals that are toxic, corrosive, flammable or reactive/volatile should never go in the regular trash. Now it's even easier to dispose of hazardous materials safely – the haz-mat technicians come to your door! Just follow these easy steps:

- 1 Reserve collection service by calling 800.HHW.PKUP (800.449.7587), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; or e-mail atyourhome@wm.com.
- 2 You'll receive a collection kit in the mail with a collection bag, detailed instructions and a collection day reminder.
- 3 Prepare collection kit at your doorstep or at a predetermined location on collection day and the HHW collection professionals will pick it up.

Home collection service is provided on a free and unlimited basis to all Santa Monica residents. Still prefer to get rid of your household hazardous waste on your own time? Drop-off service is available on Saturdays ONLY from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Household Hazardous Waste Center, 2500 Michigan Avenue.

We accept:

- Personal care items such as acetones, aerosols, and sharps. Please place all needles and lancets in a sealed and approved sharps collection container. Prescription medication disposal is provided using special mail-in service. To order a special collection envelope, please call 800.HHW.PKUP.
- Household products: cleaners, waxes, pesticides and poisons, batteries, electronics, paint and art supplies.

- Automotive products: oils and lubricants, batteries
- Anything that contains mercury, such as old thermometers or fluorescent lights

We DO NOT accept:

- Unknown/unlabeled waste or materials
- Leaking containers
- Business or home-business waste
- Explosives (including fireworks)
- Radioactive waste
- Infectious/biomedical waste

For additional information or to give feedback please visit www.sustainable.sm.org/hhw or call 310.458.2213.



WHAT'S NEW IN PARKS & AT THE BEACH

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL NOW AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY USE



Thanks to a new partnership between the city and the school district, the swimming pool, dance studio, wrestling room, south gymnasium, and brand-new synthetic turf field are available by permit during non-school hours. The track, outdoor basketball courts and tennis courts are open for drop-in and permitted use.

For field, track and tennis court inquiries,

please visit www.smgov.net/recreation or contact the city Community Recreation Permit Office at 310.458.8300 ext 1.

For outdoor basketball courts, swimming pool, dance studio, wrestling room and gymnasium use, please contact the SMMUSD Facilities Office at facilitypermits@smmusd.org or call 310.395.3204 ext 71586.

RESERVATIONS FOR BARBEQUE AREAS NOW OPEN

Have a special event or occasion coming up? Need more space to fit the whole family and friends? Take it outside to one of Santa Monica's spacious picnic areas. All barbeque areas come fully furnished with grills, picnic tables, and nearby restrooms. Best of all, the barbeque areas may now be reserved in advance! Reserve one of these areas for your next gathering:

- **AIRPORT PARK**
3201 Airport Ave. (2 large grills, 6 picnic tables)
- **CLOVER PARK**
2600 Ocean Park Blvd. (3 large grills, 8 picnic tables)
- **MARINE PARK**
1406 Marine Ave. (4 small grills, 4 large picnic tables)

For more information on reserving a picnic area, please visit www.smgov.net/recreation or call 310.458.8573 ext 7.

YOUTH PROGRAMS



Virginia Avenue Park

2200 Virginia Avenue | 310.458.8688 | www.smgov.net/vapark

After School Programs As the cold winter days are beginning to warm up, come to Virginia Avenue Park and take part in some of our refreshing offerings! VAP Kidz After School offers a safe, fun and nurturing environment for youth in grades 1-5. Staff lead children in games, sports, cooking, crafts, outdoor activities and special events. Homework assistance is available daily until 7 p.m. Free enrichment classes are also offered throughout the season. Check out the new parent lounge in the lobby of the Thelma Terry Building. Resource materials and an ever-changing bulletin board keep you updated on opportunities for you and your children.

Saturday Kidz Zone Adventure and learning, every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for youth ages 11 and under while parents enjoy shopping at the Pico Farmers Market. Visit the Kidz Zone for arts & crafts, outdoor games and specialized classes for toddlers. All programs are free – no registration required.

Police Activities League

1401 Olympic Boulevard | 310.458.8988 | www.smgov.net/pal

PAL provides educational, cultural and recreational programs for youth ages 6-17 at the PAL Youth Center. Activities offered this spring include classes in culinary arts, computer classes, basketball camp, acrobatics, indoor football, SAT prep classes and college tours.

The PAL Fitness Gym at Virginia Avenue Park is open to youth ages 6 – 24. Activities include fitness classes, karate, boxing, sports training, weight training and open workouts. Coaches and instructors for the PAL program include Santa Monica Police Officers, staff from the Community and Cultural Services Departments, and volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, PAL is looking for volunteers to help with homework assistance, special events and field trips.

PAL YOUTH CENTER AT MEMORIAL PARK

1401 Olympic Blvd. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-10 p.m., Sat noon-6 p.m.
Friday Nights w/PAL for youth ages 13-17, 6 p.m. – 1 a.m.
Weekly signup required.

PAL Homework Assistance

Hours: Mon-Thu 2:30-6:30 p.m. Computers available until 9 p.m.

PAL FITNESS GYM @ VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK

2200 Virginia Avenue. Hours: Mon-Fri noon-8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

VAP Teen Center Middle and high school students who live in Santa Monica or who currently attend or graduated from a public school in Santa Monica are encouraged to sign up for free educational, recreational and cultural arts programs at the Teen Center. Take advantage of free tutoring, the new Apple® computer lab and one-on-one homework assistance to support your success at school and college. Community Service and Leadership opportunities are available. Join in the fun of planning events and supporting your local community!

Teen Center classes include urban art, digital media, oil painting, silk screening, music recording and DJ classes. The center also offers sports programs, social groups, field trips and opportunities to get together with others with similar interests, including the Real Talk Men's Group, Girls on the Move Club, Chess Club, Leadership Group, Women's Group and Semillas de Pio Pico, a college group.



Sunday, March 11, 2012, 1:00 - 5:00 pm, Virginia Avenue Park

The 6th Annual Unity Resource Festival is coming your way – get ready to experience **A Cultural Infusion!** Enjoy festivities and entertainment for all generations – music, dance and culinary arts from many cultures. It's free, it's fun, and with opportunities to check out all the supportive services Santa Monica has to offer. For more information visit www.smgov.net/vapark or call 310.458.8688.

Other Ongoing Programs

Connections for Children, Santa Monica College and Westside Family Health Center offer child development activities for children 0-5 years Monday – Friday mornings. Contact the park or visit our website for more information.

In partnership with local nonprofit agencies, Virginia Ave Park continues to offer assistance with employment searches and workshops for youth, parent education workshops, mental health counseling, childhood obesity prevention and other community resource services.

Rosie's Girls Spring Challenge

See Recscape page 22 for details or visit
www.smgov.net/rosiesgirls.

SANTA MONICA'S 2012 HOMELESS COUNT NEEDS YOU!

Looking for a way to become more hands-on and engaged in local efforts to address homelessness? Join police and fire and other city departments and the Chamber of Commerce on the evening of January 25 for the annual Homeless Count. Approximately 250 volunteers are needed to make a visual count of homeless individuals



living outdoors in Santa Monica. Teams travel on foot and in cars from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m.

The data yielded from the annual count provides a snapshot of the local homeless population, and helps the city and our social service providers identify the most vulnerable people living on our streets and prioritize services to help them. The information

also helps leverage federal, state and local resources, and measure the effectiveness of our ongoing efforts to end homelessness in our city.

Past counts have shown a 19% reduction in street homelessness from 2009 to 2011. What will this year show? Join us as we work to find out. Spread the word – encourage your friends, family and colleagues to participate. Sign up at www.smgov.net/homelessness.

Volunteer Santa Monica

The New Year is a great time to share your talents and interests by volunteering in the community. The city's Animal Shelter, Santa Monica Public Library, Westside Special Olympics, Farmers Market and Senior Center are on the lookout for volunteers. Get started today by calling 310.458.8300 ext 5265, or email vol@smgov.net.

Virginia Avenue Park Volunteers We're always in need of tutors, reading partners, event support or Saturday Kidz Zone helpers. Please call 310.458.8688 for more info.

50+ & SENIOR PROGRAMS www.smgov.net/seniors

Evolving to meet the desires of older adults, programs offered by WISE & Healthy Aging, SMC Emeritus College, and other community partners are varied, meaningful and lively. Watch for the introduction of new programming for older adults at Ken Edwards Center in late winter/early spring.

Senior Center 1450 Ocean Avenue | 310.458.8644
Activities at the Senior Center for those aged 50+ include Zumba Gold, yoga, Tai Chi, health education, group exercise, improv, cultural arts workshops and Bridge.

Healthy Lunch Program by Wise & Healthy Aging
Stay healthy with good nutrition. Fresh lunches are available to seniors 60+ at locations throughout the city at 11:45 a.m. Reservations must be made in person or by telephone one day in advance between 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. Suggested donation is \$2.50.

Mon – Fri: Ken Edwards Center 310.395.8478; Reed Park 310.458.8315; WISE Adult Day Service Center 310.394.9871 ext 220; Senior Center 310.458.2219

Thursday Only: Virginia Avenue Park 310.394.9871 ext 220
Additionally, a hearty box lunch is available on **Saturday** on a first-come, first-served basis. Senior Center. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

SMC Emeritus College

The Emeritus College offers a range of classes for adults 50+ at various sites throughout the City, and will introduce classes at the Ken Edwards Center spring semester. Check www.smc.edu/emmeritus for class schedules.

Meals on Wheels

Healthy meals and in-home visits are available daily to people who are homebound or unable to shop or cook for themselves. Call 310.394.5133, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. for info.

Additional Support Services for Older Adults

WISE & Healthy Aging and other local service providers offer services including Dial-A-Ride; independent living and caregiver support; money management; health services, care management; housing assistance; volunteer opportunities; friendly home visiting and more. Call 310.394.9871 or visit www.wiseandhealthyaging.org. While you're there, check out WISE Connections, a new membership-based program from WISE & Healthy Aging.

Remembering When:

Fall And Fire Prevention Program For Seniors

Did you know adults ages 65 and older are twice as likely to be **killed or injured by fires or falls compared to the population at large?** Be safe: schedule a fall and fire prevention education program for your group, such as your HOA or community service organization.

Visit the Community Outreach section of the Santa Monica Fire Department at www.santamonicafire.org or call 310.458.8761 for more information.

ARTIFACTS

THE RETURN OF FIRESIDE @ THE MILES

Weekends, January 20 – February 26

Six weeks of intimate performances beside the historic fireplace. Come in and shake off the cold, settle into a cushioned seat, order an organic coffee or tea from the indoor beverage bar and enjoy! For a full schedule of events, please visit our website www.fireside.milesplayhouse.org

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT ARTWALK

Celebrate Art & St. Paddy's Day Saturday, March 17, 12-5 p.m.

Celebrate St. Paddy's day at the annual Santa Monica Airport ArtWalk. Explore open studios, watch artful demonstrations, try your hand at a fun holiday themed workshop, and enjoy some live Irish jigs and food trucks all in one of LA County's oldest operating airfields. More than 60 local artists and performers will have their private studios and works on view, including Santa Monica Art Studios and ARENA 1 Gallery, Santa Monica College Art Mentor Program and Ceramic Arts, Ruskin Group Theatre and Santa Monica Airport Artist Studios. Painting, sculpture, ceramics, and mixed media will be represented and many artists will be selling work from their studios as well as offering refreshments.



YOUR WEEKLY DOSE OF ART: THE PALETTE

The Palette is a weekly email, sent each Wednesday, that highlights a handful of art and cultural events happening in Santa Monica every Thursday through Sunday. Sign up: It's simple. Visit



www.smgov.net/arts and click on 'Sign-up for The Palette.'

Submissions can be made months in advance but must be received no later than Monday at

noon to be considered for that week's Palette. All submissions are considered but there is no guarantee that they will be included. Please send submissions to artpalette.mailbox@smgov.net and include the title of the event, date & time, description, website, photo (with credits if necessary), contact phone number, cost and address.

FESTIVAL PREVIEW:

A YEARS' WORTH OF EVENTS



Love festivals? Then you're in the right place! Santa Monica's city calendar is filled with festivals and cultural events that bring the community together throughout the year. Mark your calendar for these great events:

Unity Resource Festival

Feel Santa Monica's neighborhood spirit. The sixth year of this festival is themed "A Cultural Infusion" and features performances, games and delicious food in celebration of our many cultural and educational resources. Sunday, March 11, 1-5 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park. WWW.SMGOV.NET/VAPARK

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

A colorful show of Mexican culture, music & dance. Join us and be prepared to dance as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo with performances including Mariachi, Salsa and Folklorico performances, cultural exhibits, games and delicious food! Sunday, May 6, 12-5 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park. WWW.SMGOV.NET/VAPARK

21st Annual Santa Monica Festival

Revel with a Cause: the Festival is a celebration with a purpose, highlighting the dynamic connection between the city's communities, businesses, art, culture and the environment while offering ideas and options for a greener, healthier and more sustainable lifestyle. Saturday, May 19, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Clover Park. WWW.SMGOV.NET/FESTIVAL

7th Annual Santa Monica Teen Film Festival

Established to showcase the talent of teen filmmakers, this interdepartmental initiative is now in its seventh year. June 9 & 10. Santa Monica Main Public Library, Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium. WWW.SMPL.ORG

Juneteenth

Virginia Avenue Park and the Juneteenth Celebration Committee co-host this event commemorating the day in 1865 when African-American slaves in Texas received delayed news of the Emancipation Proclamation. Featuring gospel, blues and dance music, cultural exhibits and delicious cuisine! Saturday, June 16, 12-6 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park. WWW.SMGOV.NET/VAPARK

Jazz on the Lawn

A series of summer concerts featuring local jazz artists. Sundays in August, 5-7 p.m. Due to construction of Town Square, concerts will be held at a park (TBD). WWW.SMGOV.NET/JAZZ



Pico Festival & Car Show

A free festival celebrating Pico Boulevard businesses, artists and cars. Sunday, October 7, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park. WWW.PICOPASSPORT.COM

Spring Events At Heal The Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium

WHALE OF A WEEKEND

February 18 & 19

12:30 – 5 p.m.

Celebrate the annual migration of the Pacific Gray Whale. Visitors can feel the heft of a whale rib, check out bristly baleen and try on a layer of simulated whale blubber for warmth. Kids of all ages can have their faces painted and make a whale visor to take home. Learn more interesting facts about these gentle giants at the Aquarium through story time, film screenings and staff presentations on the impact of climate change on local marine life. Aquarium naturalists, along with representatives of the American Cetacean Society, will staff a wildlife observation station at the west end of the Santa Monica Pier.



EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

April 21 & 22

To show your love for Earth, clean the beach and collect a reward for your efforts: free admission to the Aquarium. Check out all of the more than 100 species exhibited – all marine life found in the Santa Monica Bay. Details for all Aquarium and Heal the Bay events are available on the website calendar at www.healthebay.org/events.

Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium is located beach level at the Santa Monica Pier, 1600 Ocean Front Walk.

Admission is free for children 12 and under when accompanied by an adult. \$5 suggested donation for ages 13 and up, \$3 admission per person required. For groups of 10 or more, the fee is \$2 per person. Call 310.393.6149 for more information or visit www.healthebay.org/smpa.

CALIFORNIA'S MOST CELEBRATED BEACH CITY



Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau (SMCVB) is excited to welcome Cirque du Soleil back to Santa Monica in 2012. This year, Cirque du Soleil brings its performance of *OVO*, January 20 through March 25, under the Grand Chapiteau at the Santa Monica Pier! Planning to go to the show? Take advantage of specials offered by local businesses exclusively for Cirque du Soleil ticketholders, www.santamonica.com/cirque-du-soleil, as we roll out the red carpet for your Cirque du Soleil experience.

Speaking of red carpets, while Hollywood celebrates the glitz and glamour of film award season, SMCVB is paying tribute to the local businesses and organizations that have been honored in the past year.

Visit www.santamonica.com/awards to see the winners!

BUY LOCAL EXPO

Saturday, March 17 | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Third Street Promenade

Support your community – celebrate buying local at the 2nd annual Buy Local Expo! Featuring over 80 local merchants on Third Street Promenade, free music, demonstrations and tastings, plus a weekend of festivities throughout Santa Monica. Get “caught with your receipt showing” to be entered into a raffle for some great prizes from local businesses. Enjoy sidewalk sales citywide, a Buy Local scavenger hunt and more.

Organized by the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Santa Monica and the City of Santa Monica in partnership with the Buy Local SM Committee, Main Street Merchants Association, Montana Avenue Merchants Association, Pico Improvement Organization, Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation and the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Visit www.buylocalsantamonica.com for more information.





BIG BLUE BUS WINTER SERVICE CHANGES

Effective Sunday, February 12th, the Big Blue Bus will change services on some routes:

ROUTE 4: Same weekday schedule with some schedule changes on Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays. Route 4 trips to downtown Santa Monica that change into Route 8 trips to UCLA will now do so from Broadway at 4th St. (instead of Broadway at 2nd St.)

RAPID 7: No schedule changes. NEW stop at Avenue of the Stars in both directions.

ROUTE 8: Minor schedule adjustments. NEW layover for Route 8 on southbound 6th at Broadway. Route 8 will no longer stop on 2nd St. at Broadway.

RAPID 10: In downtown Santa Monica, stop moved from 2nd St. near Colorado to 2nd St. near Broadway. Minor schedule adjustments (1 – 3 minutes) and morning trip changed to make connection with first Route 9 inbound trip.

Please call BBB Customer Service for more information at 310.451.5444 or visit www.bigbluebus.com.

CIVIC AUDITORIUM

JANUARY

28 California Fight Syndicate LA: Rivalry

FEBRUARY

4 & 5 Vintage Fashion Expo

10-12 Gem Faire

18 Flex-Pro Championships

23 Illuminating Engineering Society Lighting Product Show

MARCH

8 Food Fare

10 Santa Monica Symphony

22 & 23 Stairway of the Stars

30 & 4/1 International Gem & Jewelry Show

The Civic Auditorium is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, 3, 7, 8 and 10. Call 310.458.2288 or visit www.santamonicacivic.org for more information. All events are subject to change without notice.

Santa Monica Citywide Reads

FEBRUARY 22 THROUGH MARCH 31

Santa Monica Citywide Reads marks its tenth anniversary in 2012 with featured novel *The Lady in the Lake* by Raymond Chandler. *The Lady in the Lake* – set partially in “Bay City,” Chandler’s stand-in for Santa Monica – is a classic example of the author’s noir style and finds private detective Phillip Marlowe embroiled in the case of a missing woman. Join your Santa Monica community in book discussions and special events held throughout the city.

An Evening with Michael Connelly & Robert Crais

Saturday, February 25, 7 p.m. | Lincoln Middle School Auditorium. Best-selling mystery authors Michael Connelly and Robert Crais discuss the influence Raymond Chandler has had on their own works and the crime genre in general. Book sale and signing to follow.

A Touch of Naomi

Monday, February 27, 6:30 p.m. | Annenberg Beach House. Naomi Hirahara presents an evening of words and music, accompanied by the torchy songs and sax of Doc & Renee.

Los Angeles Noir Now

Tuesday, March 6, 7 p.m. | Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium. Author Denise Hamilton leads a discussion on the noir genre of today with authors Christopher Rice, Jim Pascoe and Gary Phillips.

Bay City and Beyond

Saturday, March 10, 2 p.m. | Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium. A look back at the history of Santa Monica and Los Angeles in the noir period with authors Ernest Marquez (*Noir Afloat: Tony Cornero and the Notorious Gambling Ships of Southern California*), David Kipen (*Los Angeles in the 1930s: the WPA Guide to the City of Angels*) and Alain Silver (*Raymond Chandler’s Los Angeles*), and Image Archives Librarian Cynni Murphy.

The Lady in the Lake Live: Authors Reading Raymond Chandler

Friday, March 16, 7 p.m. | Santa Monica Bay Woman’s Club, 1210 Fourth Street. Judith Freeman, Janet Fitch and Denise Hamilton lead a star-studded list of authors in a staged, costumed reading of *The Lady in the Lake*.

The Masters of Los Angeles Noir

Tuesday, March 20, 7 p.m. | Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium. Author Denise Hamilton discusses noir pioneers Raymond Chandler, Dashiell Hammett and Ross Macdonald with their respective biographers Judith Freeman, Julie Rivett and Tom Nolan.

Staged Reading of “The Pencil”

Saturday, March 24, 3:00 p.m. Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium. Join us for a staged reading of Raymond Chandler’s last Phillip Marlowe short story, *The Pencil*.

Citywide Reads for Kids: Bruce Hale presents Trouble is My Beeswax

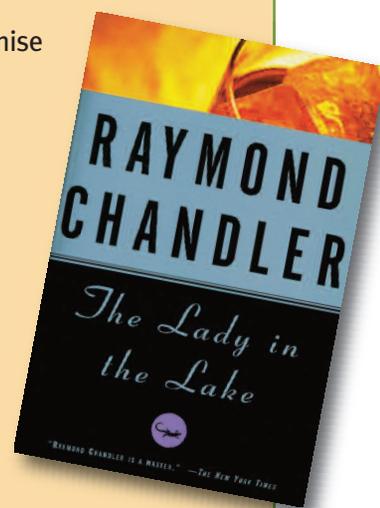
Wednesday, March 28, 3:45 p.m. | Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium. For the first time, *Citywide Reads* includes a children’s book! Bruce Hale, author of the *Chet Gecko* mystery series, discusses his kid-friendly noir series with younger readers (Grades 4-6). Book sale and signing to follow.

RAYMOND CHANDLER ONSCREEN

Films written by Raymond Chandler or based on his novels:

<i>Double Indemnity</i>	Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m. Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium
<i>The Big Sleep</i>	Saturday, March 3 at 2 p.m. Ocean Park Branch Library
<i>Strangers on a Train</i>	Tuesday, March 13 at 7 p.m. Fairview Branch Library
<i>Murder My Sweet</i>	Monday, March 19 at 2 p.m. Montana Avenue Branch Library
<i>Lady in the Lake</i>	Thursday, March 22 at 6:30 p.m. Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium
<i>The Long Goodbye</i>	followed by a Q&A with actor Elliott Gould (schedule permitting) Sunday, March 25 at 2 p.m. Main Library, MLK Jr. Auditorium

For more information about Citywide Reads and a list of community book discussions, please visit smpl.org/Citywide_Reads.aspx.



STRETCH OUT! IT'S SPRING AT THE BEACH HOUSE!

Open to the public seven days a week. Wander in the Gallery, take a class, enjoy a *Beach=Culture* event, tour the Guest House. Or make your own fun playing volleyball, relaxing in the courtyard or splashing in the splash pad.

MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE

What famous British playwright was captivated by Marion's charms? Find out this and more from Santa Monica Conservancy docents. Tours are free and last about 30 minutes. Reservations are not required. Check the website or call for tour dates and times. Interested in becoming a docent? Please contact Santa Monica Conservancy at info@smconservancy.org.

BEACH=CULTURE

A year-round series of free concerts, lectures, readings and exhibits

- Winter Artist in Residence, writer Lucy Wang, begins her 10 week residency January 16.
- In the Gallery, *Los Angeles – Images and Icons* opens January 20.

For details on these events and more, check www.annenbergbeachhouse.com.



PLANNING A MEETING OR CELEBRATION?

Blending elements from the Gold Coast era estate, contemporary architecture and breathtaking ocean views, the Beach House is an event space like no other. The Beach House is also available for photo, film and TV shoots. Contact our sales team at 310.458.4934.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! SUMMER AT THE BEACH HOUSE STARTS JUNE 16.

VISIT WWW.ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE.COM FOR UP TO DATE INFO ON ALL ACTIVITIES AND TO JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST.

CALL US 310.458.4904.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK – FACEBOOK.COM/ANNENBERGBEACHHOUSE

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @SMBeachHouse.

Check Recscape page 14 for class listings or visit us at www.annenbergbeachhouse.com

CYBERNEWZ Coming soon to your smart phone or tablet: Mobile Santa Monica

Today, one in six users are accessing the city's website on a mobile device, and trends point to that number increasing. Coming this spring, a mobile version of the city's award-winning website, www.smgov.net, will provide quick access to some of its most in-demand features.

The mobile site will offer a concise directory of city services and facilities, real-time parking information for the city's beach and downtown parking

lots, news items and information about upcoming events. It will also have links to other mobile resources, including the city's social media feeds and the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau's mobile site, www.santamonica.com, an excellent resource for dining, shopping and things to do in the city.

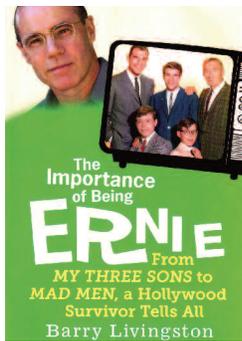
The smgov.net mobile site will be the latest addition in the growing number of mobile web tools designed to help you get around and engage with your

city. Currently, iPhone® and Android™ users can get the Santa Monica GO app to report service issues.

To download, visit the iTunes® store or Android Market and search for GORequest. Look for additional services designed for mobile users coming later this year.

MAIN LIBRARY

Digital Photography Made Simple Learn simple tips and techniques for creating great images using your digital camera. Sat 1/21, 11 a.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.



Actor Barry Livingston
Beloved for his role as Ernie in *My Three Sons*, Livingston shares the story of his life in entertainment. Thu 2/2, 7 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Digital Bookmobile Expo
Learn how to download free eBooks and eAudiobooks through interactive and live demonstrations. Fri 2/10, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. North Courtyard.

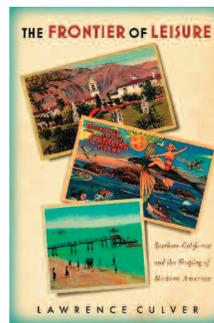
Quality of Life Forum Surfrider Foundation CEO Jim Moriarty shares best practices for improving one's quality of life. Thu 3/8, 7 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Barbara Foster on *A Dangerous Woman* The author discusses her book about Adah Isaacs Menken – actress, poet and America's original tragic starlet. Wed 3/14, 7 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Mystery Writer C.J. Box Author of the Joe Pickett mystery thriller series celebrates his new book release. Tue 3/27, 7 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Gluten Sensitivity & Celiac Disease 101 Eric D. Miller discusses gluten sensitivity and celiac disease and their impact on health and wellbeing. Sat 4/14, 3 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Lawrence Culver presents *The Frontier of Leisure*
Author discusses his book on Southern California's "culture of leisure." Sun 4/22, 2 p.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.



Find out about the basic legal documents that every person should have in place from local attorney Elizabeth Botsford. Sat 2/4, 11 a.m.

FAIRVIEW BRANCH LIBRARY

Résumé Workshop Take your résumé to the next level with help from a professional résumé writer. Mon 1/23, 7 p.m.

Estate Planning 101

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY

The Montana Branch closes January 16 for interior improvements and reopens on Saturday, February 25. Check smpl.org for the date of our open house in the spring and check out our new look!

Book Group Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
4/19 *The Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes

OCEAN PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

VITA Tax Assistance UCLA Business School provides tax assistance to seniors and those in need of help. Sat 3/10, 12-4 p.m.

Pulitzer Prize Book Group Saturdays at 11:30 a.m.
2/18 *All the Kings Men* by Robert Penn Warren;
3/17 *The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck; 4/21 *The Magnificent Ambersons* by Booth Tarkington

Ocean Park YA & Young at Heart Book Group
Thursdays at 7 p.m. 2/23 *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* by Ransom Riggs; 3/22 *The Book Thief* by Mark Zusak; 4/26 *Ten Cents a Dance* by Christine Fletcher

SANTA MONICA MAIN LIBRARY AND BRANCH INFORMATION

Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 310.458.8600

Fairview Branch
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 310.458.8681

Montana Avenue
1704 Montana Ave., 310.458.8682

Ocean Park Branch
2601 Main St., 310.458.8683

Library Hours

Main Library: Mon-Thu 10 a.m.-9 p.m.;
Fri/Sat 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sun 1-5 p.m.

Branch: Mon-Thu noon-9 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Closed Fri and Sun.

Big Blue Bus Routes

Main Library Lines 1, 7, 8, 10

Fairview Branch Lines 6, 8, Sunset Ride and Crosstown Ride

Montana Avenue Line 3 and Crosstown Ride

Ocean Park Branch Lines 1 and 8

Bike parking available.

All city libraries are wheelchair accessible. To request a disability-related accommodation for events, call the library at 310.458.8600 (TDD 310.395.8499) at least three business days in advance.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

MAIN LIBRARY

Noisy Tales with the Noise Guy! Get ready to laugh out loud and listen to fractured fairy tales performed with plenty of vocal sound effects. Ages 5 & up and families. Sat 1/21, 2 p.m.

Brian Waite Band in Concert! Join the Brian Waite Band on a rock & roll concert adventure! Ages 3 & up. Wed 2/8, 11:15 a.m. MLK Jr. Auditorium.

Super Seuss-a-bration! Celebrate the world of Dr. Seuss with crafts and other fun activities. Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica. Sat 3/3. Program begins at 10:30 a.m.

Spring Break Family Fun Week! Spend your spring break enjoying quality family time at the library! Ages 2 & up. 4/9-12.

Hooray for Earth Day! Celebrate our Earth with a puppet show, then decorate grocery bags that will be handed out to shoppers on Earth Day. Ages 4 & up. Sat 4/21, 11 a.m.

Programs for Teens

FAFSA—The Key to College Dollars A financial aid overview and a review of the FAFSA and the CSS Profile (used for Private Universities) for college. For grades 11 & 12. Mon 1/23, 7 p.m. Multipurpose Room.

SAT Essay Workshop Learn how to score a 12 out of 12 on the SAT essay with author and teacher Jodi Fodor. Thu 2/16, 7 p.m. Multipurpose Room.

SAT Practice Test Sign-ups begin 1/30. For grades 10-12 only. Sat 2/25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Multipurpose Room.

Going On 13 Movie Screening and Discussion Special Women's History Month screening and discussion. All ages welcome. Sat 3/24, 2 p.m. Multipurpose Room.

'Racy Reads' Teen Book Group Munch on snacks and talk about books and issues that matter to you. For grades 8-12. Mon 1/23, 2/27 & 3/19, 5:30 p.m.

Food Fan Club Snack and learn about the food you eat with the Santa Monica Farmers' Market. Thu 2/2, 3/1 & 4/5, 4 p.m.

FAIRVIEW BRANCH LIBRARY

Programs for Teens/Tweens

SAT Practice Test For grades 10-12 only. Sign-ups begin 1/3. Sat 1/21, 12 to 4 p.m.

SAT Score Results Seminar Get your score results and discuss SAT test strategies. Sat 2/4, 2 p.m.

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY

The Montana Branch closes January 16 for interior improvements and reopens on Saturday, February 25.

Programs for Children

Kids Club Crafts & fun for grades K-4. Tue 3/27 & 4/24, 3:45 p.m.

Spring Vacation Special! Join us each afternoon for something special! Check at the branch after 3/1 for details. 4/2-4/5, 3-4 p.m.

Programs for Teens/Tweens

Books & Bites A monthly book discussion group for grades 5-7. Check at the branch for titles. Wednesdays, 3/14 & 4/11, 5 p.m.

OCEAN PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

A Heart Full of Laughter! Love and laughs with puppets. Ages 3-7. Tue 2/7, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m.

Spring Sprinkles! Spring into laughter with puppets! Ages 3-7. Tue 3/13, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m.

April Jollies! Shower yourself with laughter and puppet fun. Ages 3-7. Tue 4/10, 3:30 & 4:30 p.m.

Youth and Family Chess Every Wednesday, 3-6 p.m. All levels and ages are welcome. Parents too!



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CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Santa Monica City Council regularly meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month in Council Chambers, located at City Hall, 1685 Main Street. Upcoming City Council meetings are scheduled for:

- January 10, 24
- February 14, 28
- March 13, 27

Visit www.smgov.net/council for more information or to check the status of upcoming agenda items. City Council meetings are broadcast live on CityTV cable channel 16 and streamed at www.citytv.org. Regular meetings air on 89.9 KCRW from 8 p.m. to midnight.

City Council meetings are open to the public. Public comment may be made in person at the City Council meeting, or prior to the meeting via regular U.S. mail, e-mail, or by fax to:

1685 Main Street, Room 209, Santa Monica, CA 90401
 Phone: 310.458.8201 / Fax: 310.458.1621
 Email all Council members: council@smgov.net.

Check the status of upcoming agenda items at www.smgov.net/council.

HONDA LA MARATHON RETURNS TO SANTA MONICA

For the third year in a row, the Honda LA Marathon will finish in Santa Monica on Sunday, March 18. The "Stadium to the Sea" course begins at Dodger Stadium and winds past dozens of iconic LA landmarks before finishing at California and Ocean Avenues, just steps from the Santa Monica Pier! Interested in running or volunteering for the race? Sign up at www.LAMarathon.com

Find out about activities planned in Santa Monica to celebrate, street closures for race day and more at www.smgov.net/lamarathon.



Friday & Saturday

May 11 & 12
2012

10am - 5pm

Santa Monica
 Civic Auditorium



- Over 100 Exhibits and Dozens of Speakers
- Rebate and Product Information on Rain Barrels, Irrigation, Landscaping, Solar, Energy & Water Conservation Retrofits and More
- Green Building & Design Materials
- Compost and Veggie Gardening

FREE ADMISSION

Please check our web site for a full overview of the Expo, exhibitors, speakers schedule and special events.

www.altbuildexpo.com or call (310) 390-2930