

We Create Community



DeForest Park Environmental Education Center Opens



Dan Knapp, left, Executive Director / CEO of the Conservation Corps of Long Beach welcomes the crowd at DeForest Park Environmental Center opening

The new DeForest Park Environmental Center opened on September 28. The Center will serve as a satellite office for the nonprofit Conservation Corps of Long Beach (CCLB) to conduct environmental stewardship activities along the Lower Los Angeles River and at DeForest Park and Wetlands. The Center has office space and areas to offer environmental-related work and training opportunities for young people in Long Beach, as well as community rooms open for public use.

The development of the center was made possible by a \$1.9 million grant by the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to the CCLB to build the new facility along the Lower Los Angeles River.

The center was planned in accordance with the DeForest Park Vision Plan, which was produced in partnership with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, CCLB, City Fabrick, Camp Fire Angeles Council and the DeForest Park Neighborhood Association to serve as a guide for future developments at DeForest Park and Wetlands.

The Conservation Corps of Long Beach is headquartered at 340 Nieto Ave. The organization has an Education, Conservation, Operations & Recycling Center at 3635 Atlantic Ave., and an Environmental Education Center at 3251 E. 19th St. in Signal Hill.

Director's Corner



Brent Dennis

*Director, Long Beach Parks,
Recreation & Marine and ACS*

November has always been one of my favorite months. Native American Heritage Month invites us to remember, appreciate and celebrate the indigenous people of our region. Election Day reminds us of the importance of our democracy and the right to vote. And of course, our beloved veterans. Having several cousins who served our country nobly in the military, I have a very personal sense of family pride when we celebrate Veterans Day. Houghton Park hosted Long Beach's Veterans Day celebration on Saturday, November 12.

A colorful, but reflective remembrance of people in our lives who have passed on, Día De Los Muertos was celebrated this month with a parade and festival from Pine Avenue to Marina Green in downtown Long Beach. Our department remembered the team members and volunteers who passed away over the past year as we gathered in Good Neighbor Park for a Day of Remembrance at the memorial tree we planted in 2021.

Several major capital improvement projects moved forward this month out in our parks with the El Dorado Park West Duck Pond renovation project underway. We also celebrated the long-awaited Colorado Open Lagoon project at Marina Vista Park with a ceremonial groundbreaking event mid-month.

November has a potpourri of programs that includes Hoops After Dark's Winter Season that will tip off in late November the week after Thanksgiving. The El Dorado Nature Center once again offers its popular Native Plant Sale on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 10 am – 1pm thru November 29th. The sale always a great selection of quality native plants to help beautify your garden or landscape while supplies last.

But maybe the most meaningful holiday this month might be Thanksgiving. I pause to be very grateful and offer heartfelt thanks to our amazing Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care Services team members, our dedicated volunteers, passionate park supporters, collaborative community partners, and all those who call Long Beach home. I hope all of you have a very meaningful, safe, and enjoyable Thanksgiving this month with your friends, family and loved ones.

Stay safe and have fun throughout the month of November. Parks Make Long Beach...Parks Make Life Better! And I am thankful for you!

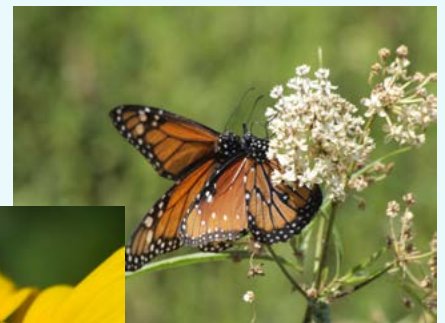
**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

Don't Miss Out! El Dorado Nature Center Once a Year Native Plant Sale

Enhance your garden, patio or balcony, while increasing habitat for wildlife!

We will have hundreds of beautiful and beneficial California native plants to choose from. Patrons can download plant list and order form online and bring in or pick up on site and fill out. Payments will need to be done onsite the day of plant pick up.

Plants will be available for pickup from November 1 – 29 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. or while supplies last. Friends of El Dorado Nature Center California Native Plant Sale El Dorado Nature Center 7550 E Spring St., Long Beach (562) 570-1745 www.longbeach.gov/naturecenter.



Plant list is available at: <https://www.longbeach.gov/globalassets/park/media-library/documents/news/nature-center/ednc---plantlist-2022->

Parks, Recreation & Marine Teen Academy



The Parks, Recreation and Marine Teen Academy for ages 13 to 18 engages youth in recreational and social activities to help mitigate the negative effects of isolation brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Participants can access resources for mental health, financial literacy, physical health, educational opportunities and job pathways. Applications and waivers to be signed by parents are available during normal hours at all Teen Centers. A total of \$60,000 has been allocated from the Long Beach Recovery Act to support the Teen Academy. Visit longbeach.gov/recovery for more information.

Admiral Kidd Park, 2125 Santa Fe Ave.

Cesar Chavez Park, 401 Golden Ave.

Freeman Community Center, 1205 Freeman Ave.

Houghton Park, 6301 Myrtle Ave.

McBride Park, 1520 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

Silverado Park, 1545 W 31st St.

For more information visit: <https://bit.ly/3RzQ8fh>

LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

WINTER CLASS REGISTRATION GOING ON NOW

Whether you're looking to get fit, prepare your toddler for preschool, have a child interested in cooking or musical instruments, we offer a class for it. Explore your creative side, learn to swim, train your dog and more with Parks, Recreation & Marine classes.



LBParks.org

CITY OF
**LONG
BEACH**

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Parks, Recreation and Marine Halloween Activities

Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Centers Celebrate Halloween



From potlucks and parties to costume contests and dancing, local seniors had fun centers celebrating Halloween. Visit <https://www.longbeach.gov/park/recreation-programs/programs-and-classes/senior-citizen-program/> to see calendars of activities each month at the Department's six senior centers.



El Dorado Nature Center Howl-O-Ween

The Friends of El Dorado Nature Center and Partners of Parks hosted a Howl-o-Ween Festival on October 22. Attendees were encouraged to wear Howl-O-Ween finery and have fun trick or treating along the trails and enjoying games and activities.



26th Annual Historical Cemetery Tour



The 26th Annual Historical Cemetery Tour took place on October 29 at Sunnyside Cemetery and Long Beach Municipal Cemetery. Professional and volunteer actors presented the stories of the people who made up Long Beach's past and

who now rest in these historic cemeteries. Proceeds from ticket sales benefitted the Historical Society of Long Beach.



Halloween Activities at Parks, Recreation and Marine



Orizaba Park Trunk or Treat Event

A free Trunk or Treat Halloween Carnival was held at Orizaba Park on October 28. Kids and families visited decorated cars for treats, and enjoyed a Kid's Zone with moon bounces and carnival games.

Long Beach Animal Care Services Howl-o-ween Event



Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) hosted a free Howl-o-ween Celebration on October 29. The evening of family fun included Adoption Specials, a Bark-o-Treat, the Best Cat Room Contest, Costume Contests, Raffles, Day of the Dead Pet Memorial, and more.



Like us on Instagram: [instagram.com/longbeachparks/](https://www.instagram.com/longbeachparks/)

Eagle Scout Improves Colorado Lagoon



An Eagle Scout project at the Colorado Lagoon was a huge success. The project was designed by Ben Pruitt to get his final eagle scout badge and was meant to replace sand in the west arm that washed away four years ago during a storm and help prevent further erosion by placing a natural rock wall barrier up as a wall.

Ben and his volunteers disposed of old fencing, and removed dead plants to make room for fill sand in the West arm bank. They replaced damaged fencing and graded 33 tons of sand, before working with the Friends of Colorado Lagoon to plan and plant new drought tolerant plants and boulders in front of the fencing for security. The Eagle Scout project at the Colorado Lagoon was a huge success and went off without a hitch.



Beach Maintenance delivers three truckloads of sand for grading



Beach Maintenance crew carefully place rocks in front of fencing as a barrier to erosion.

Casey Edelmant and Beach Maintenance Crew members provided support for the project. They provided all of the sand and rocks and managed to place all the rocks without breaking the delicate snow-fencing! Kudos to everyone in completing this project!

TAKE THE BIXBY PARK COMMUNITY SURVEY!
¡TOME LA ENCUESTA COMUNITARIA DEL PARQUE BIXBY!

Scan QR Code to Take Survey!



ENGLISH

¡Escanee el Código QR para Tomar la Encuesta!



ESPAÑOL

To guide the next future improvements to Bixby Park the City would like to know what projects the community is most interested in prioritizing. Please share your feedback and help us prioritize what improvements you would like to see happen.

Para orientar las próximas futuras mejoras del Parque Bixby, a la Ciudad le gustaría saber cuales proyectos son de gran interés en priorizar para la comunidad? Favor de compartir su retroalimentación y ayude a priorizar las mejoras que le gustaría ver que tomen lugar.

Take the short PARK SURVEY HERE:

<https://bit.ly/bixby-park>

COMPLETE BY November 27, 2022

YOU COULD WIN A \$25 GIFT CARD!



Tomar la breve ENCUESTA DEL PARQUE AQUÍ:

<https://bit.ly/bixby-espanol>

REALIZADO POR 27 NOVIEMBRE 2022

¡PODRÍA GANAR UNA TARJETA DE REGALO CON VALOR DE \$25

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

PARA MAS INFORMACIÓN, FAVOR DE COMUNICARSE CON:

NANCY VILLASEÑOR
Park Planning & Partnerships Manager
562.570.3165
nancy.villaseenor@longbeach.gov

YOUTH **FREE!** FISHING DERBY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2022

El Dorado Regional Park

7550 E. Spring St.,
Long Beach, CA 90815

- Registration: 8 a.m.
- Fishing Derby: 9 a.m.
- Raffle: 1 p.m.

PRIZES!

This is a free children's fishing derby. Fishing poles and tackle to catch fish will be provided to kids age 15 years and under for free. Anyone over age 16 is required to have a California State Fishing License.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
El Dorado Regional Park (562) 570-1771



Congratulations September Employee of the Month-Kimarie Vestre



Congratulations to Kimarie Vestre for being named the Employee of the Month for September and also for her retirement. Before she left for a new chapter in her life she answered a few questions that remind us of what a fun, energetic personality and her positive impact on the Marine Bureau.

What do you like to do in your free time? Outdoor activities: walking, biking, camping, and playing a little

bingo and Wheel of Fortune slot machines.

What's your biggest work achievement so far? Helping with the Alamitos Bay Rebuild Project and changing the Naples Island billing and permit process.

What's your own advice that you always follow? Be kind to others and help when you can.

What's one small thing that makes your day better? Smiling faces.

Who inspires you? Those with a "can-do" attitude.

What are you famous for at work? "Borrowing" others staplers and pens and only eating a 1/2 donut the first time around (this way seconds don't really seem like seconds!)

What song is always in your head when you're working? Can't think of just one but it would probably be something country or Jimmy Buffet.

If you could have a superpower, what would it be? Find a cure for Mental Health, Cancer and Alzheimers Disease.

Who would play you in a movie of your life? Lucille Ball

Using one word, how would you describe your family? Competitive.

Would you rather be the best player on a horrible team or the worst player on a great team? The worst player on a great team.

What is the name of your imaginary boat in the marina? Adventures await.

How long have you worked with Parks & Rec? How long with the City? What is your current title? 38 years, all at the marina, Marina Supervisor.

October By the Numbers

PRM Community Service • Maintenance • Park Maintenance • Water Use

COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKERS PROGRAM

Attendance figures for the month of October 2022

Number of persons enrolled in the program for October.....	16
Total number of hours worked at Beach Maintenance.....	117
(Litter pickup along beach areas, parking lots, Belmont Pool area, Ocean Blvd., Peninsula area and maintenance yard)	
Number of hours worked at El Dorado Park areas.....	156
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility sites including Tree Farm and Night Crew)	
Number of hours worked at Los Cerritos Wetlands.....	172
(Litter pickup and vegetation removal of Sims Pond, Golden Shore, Colorado Lagoon and other various Wetlands)	
Total number of hours worked at special clean-ups.....	9
(neighborhood clean-ups, graffiti paint outs and community events)	
Total number CSW hours for October:	454
Work orders completed	451
Restrooms cleaned on a daily basis bureau wide	172
Facilities and Gymnasiums cleaned and stocked daily	28

Park acres maintained

Park turf814 Park landscape 2310

Water Use MOB GP105 Water report for September

Parks Potable.....	40,142 ccf	\$163,335
Parks Reclaimed	63,096 ccf.....	\$145,223

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November-December 2022 Calendar

Free Mobile Recess Program - Visit a Site to Register

Mondays and Wednesdays	2-4:30 p.m.	Grace Park, 361 E. Plymouth Street
Tuesdays and Thursdays	3-5:30 p.m.	Rose Park, corner of Orizaba Avenue and 8 th Street
Fridays	2-4:30 p.m.	Hill Street, Hill Street and Gale Avenue

November

Th. 17	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Fri. 18	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Sat. 19	9 a.m.	Free Youth Fishing Derby	El Dorado Regional Park
	10 a.m.	3 rd Saturday Wetland Warriors Cleanup	Colorado Lagoon
	7:30 p.m.	Tellebration Storytelling Event Ages 12 +; \$5	El Dorado Nature Center
Sun. 20	8-10 a.m.	Bird Walk, event is free, parking \$8.	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 21	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 22	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 23	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 24		Thanksgiving	
Fri. 25		City Holiday	
Sat. 26	9 a.m.	4 th Saturday El Dorado Regional Park Volunteer Cleanup	El Dorado Regional Park Area III
Mon. 28	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 29	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 30	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites

December

Th. 1	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 2	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Mon. 5	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 6	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed. 7	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 8	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 9	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Mon. 12	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Tue. 13	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Wed. 14	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Th. 15	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Fri. 16	Varies M-F	Free After School Recreation Program	Visit LBParks.org for hours and sites
Mon. 19	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Tue. 20	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Wed. 21	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Th. 22	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Fri. 23	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Sun. 25		Christmas	
Mon. 26	10 a.m. – Noon	Nature Center Discovery Workshops - Ages 5-8, \$20	Pre-register at LBParks.org
Tue. 27	10 a.m. – Noon	Nature Center Discovery Workshops - Ages 5-8, \$20	Pre-register at LBParks.org
	1 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
	10 a.m. – Noon	Nature Center Discovery Workshops - Ages 5-8, \$20	Pre-register at LBParks.org
Wed. 28	10 a.m. – Noon	Nature Center Discovery Workshops - Ages 5-8, \$20	Pre-register at LBParks.org
	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Th. 29	10 a.m. – Noon	Nature Center Discovery Workshops - Ages 5-8, \$20	Pre-register at LBParks.org
	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Fri. 30	10 a.m. – Noon	Nature Center Discovery Workshops - Ages 5-8, \$20	Pre-register at LBParks.org
	11 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Winter Break Fun Days	Visit LBParks.org for locations
Sat. 31		New Year's Eve	



Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine
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