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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****CITY OF L.A. KICKS OFF ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING PROGRAM*****Los Angeles Officials Demonstrate Responsible and Environmentally Friendly Tree Recycling***

**LOS ANGELES (December 27, 2007)**— The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works kicked off its annual Christmas Tree Recycling program today at The Grove shopping center in the Fairfax District with a demonstration of an easy three-step process on how to recycle a Christmas tree. Eric Garcetti, President and Tom LaBonge, Councilmember, Los Angeles City Council; Cynthia M. Ruiz, President, Board of Public Works; Ernesto Cardenas and Julie B. Gutman, Commissioners, Board of Public Works; and Deputy Chief Emile W. Mack, Los Angeles City Fire Department encouraged residents to use the city's green bins to recycle their trees. The program, through recycling and conservation efforts, aims to keep the city safe and clean as the holiday season comes to a close.

Cynthia M. Ruiz, President of the Board of Public Works said, "Residents are urged to 'go green' and recycle their Christmas trees. The results are the conservation of limited landfill space and the recycling of green renewable resources." She added, "Mayor Villaraigosa and the city are very appreciative that every year, more members of the public take responsibility to recycle their trees and take a proactive role in making Los Angeles cleaner, greener and safer."

The program encourages residents to recycle their trees at home in their city issued green yard trimming bins. Residents with green bins can follow a simple three-step process: 1) Remove the ornaments from the tree; 2) Cut the tree; and 3) Place it in the green yard trimming bin for pick-up by the Bureau of Sanitation on their regular trash collection day. Christmas trees collected by the city will be recycled into mulch with other green waste normally collected during the week.

Multi-family and apartment residents at buildings that do not have green bins were urged to use one of the 28 Bureau of Sanitation drop-off sites supported by the Department of Recreation and Parks and City of Los Angeles Fire Department on the weekend of January 5 and 6, 2008 between 9:00 a.m.

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and 4:00 p.m. Residents were asked to call the city's "3-1-1" telephone service directory for information about the drop-off locations and proper tree disposal options.

Last year, the city successfully collected nearly 80,000 Christmas trees citywide from the public and the trees that were collected were recycled as part of the city's green waste program. The trees were recycled into mulch and provided free back to the public.

"For the first time, as an added-value service, excess holiday wrapping and packaging material will be accepted at Recreation and Park drop-off sites for residents that are not able to use recycling bins," said Enrique C. Zaldivar, Director of the Bureau of Sanitation. "We are committed to enhancing city programs that encourage recycling and enable residents to help save dollars and the environment while conserving energy and renewing resources."

"Green" give-a-ways will be made available at Recreation and Park drop-off sites, while supplies last. The give-a-ways include: one-gallon trees from Million Trees LA; energy saving compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) from the Department of Water and Power; and mulch coupons from the Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation.

Nick Patsouras, President, Board of Water and Power Commissioners said, "The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is pleased again to be partnering with other City departments in mounting and communicating this important environmental recycling effort. There is a wonderful connection between recycling trees and saving energy. All our resources are precious."

The program is offered as a responsible option for residents to dispose of Christmas tree in conformance with Los Angeles Municipal Code 57.21.06: Storing and Disposing Prohibitions.

"Christmas trees at the curb create a fire hazard and if you do it, Santa will surely put you on his naughty list next year. Fortunately, there's an easy and environmentally-friendly way to dispose of your tree. Simply cut it up and put it in your green yard waste bin. If you don't have a green bin, you can bring it to one of the city's many drop-off centers," said Council President Eric Garcetti.

Participating Los Angeles City Fire Stations will only accept Christmas tree drop-offs from residents and will not accept any wrapping or packaging material nor provide any give-a-ways.

For more information on the Department of Public Works Bureau of Sanitation Christmas Tree Recycling program or for assistance with oversized and large Christmas trees, please dial "3-1-1" in the city of Los Angeles or visit the program website at [www.lacitysan.org/tree-recycle.htm](http://www.lacitysan.org/tree-recycle.htm).

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**DROP-OFF LOCATIONS – Saturday, January 5 & Sunday, January 6, 2008**

**RECREATION & PARKS**

**Christmas Tree Drop-Off with  
“Green” Give-A-Ways (while supplies last)  
Excess Holiday Wrapping & Packaging Drop-Off**

**ARLETA**

**Branford Park**  
13300 Branford St., Arleta, CA 91331

**BALDWIN HILLS**

**Rancho Cienega Recreation Center**  
5001 Rodeo Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90016

**BOYLE HEIGHTS**

**Hollenbeck Recreation Center**  
415 S. St. Louis St., Los Angeles, CA 90033

**CHATSWORTH**

**Chatsworth Park South**  
22360 Devonshire St., Chatsworth, CA 91311

**ENCINO**

**Balboa Sports Center**  
17015 Burbank Blvd., Encino, CA 91316

**HARBOR CITY**

**Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park**  
25820 Vermont Ave., Harbor City, CA 90710

**HIGHLAND PARK**

**Highland Park Senior Citizen Center**  
6152 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, CA 90042

**HOLLYWOOD BOWL**

2301 N. Highland Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90068

**LOS ANGELES ZOO**

5333 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90027

**RANCHO PARK**

**Cheviot Hills Recreation Center**  
2551 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064

**SUNLAND**

**Sunland Recreation Center**  
8651 Foothill Blvd., Sunland, CA 91040

**SYLMAR**

**Sylmar Recreation Center**  
13109 Borden Ave., Sylmar, CA 91342

**WESTCHESTER**

**Westchester Municipal Building**  
7166 W. Manchester Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045

**FIRE STATIONS**

**Christmas Tree Drop-Off ONLY**

**AVALON / SOUTH PARK / SOUTH LOS ANGELES**

**Fire Station #21**, 1187 E. 52nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90011

**BALDWIN HILLS / CRENSHAW DISTRICT**

**Fire Station #94**, 4470 Coliseum St., Los Angeles, CA 90016

**BEL AIR / BEVERLY GLEN / EASTERN UCLA**

**Fire Station #71**, 107 S. Beverly Glen Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

**CANOGA PARK / CHATSWORTH LAKE /  
WEST HILLS**

**Fire Station #106**, 23004 Roscoe Blvd., Canoga Park, CA 91304

**CYPRESS PARK / MOUNT WASHINGTON**

**Fire Station #44**, 1410 Cypress Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90065

**FRANKLIN CANYON / COLDWATER CANYON /  
MULHOLLAND DR.**

**Fire Station #108**, 12520 Mulholland Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90210

**HANCOCK PARK / WILSHIRE CENTER**

**Fire Station #29**, 4029 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90005

**HOLLYWOOD / HOLLYWOOD HILLS**

**Fire Station #82**, 1800 N. Bronson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90028

**PORTER RANCH**

**Fire Station #28**, 11641 Corbin Ave., Porter Ranch, CA 91326

**PORTS O' CALL / PORT OF LOS ANGELES / SAN PEDRO**

**Fire Station #112**, 444 S. Harbor Blvd. Berth 86  
San Pedro, CA 90731

**SHERMAN OAKS**

**Fire Station #88**, 5101 Sepulveda Blvd.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

**SOUTH LOS ANGELES**

**Fire Station #64**, 118 W. 108th St., Los Angeles, CA 90061

**SUN VALLEY / LA TUNA CANYON / SHADOW HILLS**

**Fire Station #77**, 9224 Sunland Blvd., Sun Valley, CA 91352

**VENICE / VENICE BEACH**

**Fire Station #63**, 1930 Shell Ave., Venice, CA 90219

**WATTS**

**Fire Station #65**, 1801 E. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90002

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About Board of Public Works

*The five-commissioner Board of Public Works manages the Department of Public Works, the City's third largest municipal division. The department oversees the construction, renovation, and operation of public projects such as municipal buildings, streets, bridges, street lights, water treatment plants, sewers and sidewalks, and provides essential public services like recycling and solid waste management. For more information, visit [www.lacity.org/bpw/](http://www.lacity.org/bpw/).*

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