To enrich lives through effective and caring service

Los Angeles County
Department of Beaches & Harbors

Santos H. Kreimann
Director

Kerry Silverstrom
Chief Deputy

March 28, 2011

TO: Parents/Guardians of W.A.T.E.R. Program Participants

FROM: Santos H. Kreimann, Director

SUBJECT: **2011 SUMMER CAMP CANCELLATION**

Thank you for your interest in the Department's Water Awareness, Training, Education and Recreation (W.A.T.E.R.) Program summer camps. While I am very proud of the summer beach camps that my staff and the County lifeguards have offered over the years, I unfortunately must inform you that, due to budget constraints, the Department will not be able to offer the summer camps this year.

Last year, the W.A.T.E.R. Program served over 6,600 children, yet our summer camp participants comprised only 9% of the youth served. The summer camps also happen to be one of the most costly portions of the program, as the number of children served is low relative to the number of lifeguards we must contract with to instruct the weeklong activity. The main goal of the W.A.T.E.R. Program is to educate Los Angeles County youth and raise awareness of ocean and beach safety through organized activities, which not only provide skills and knowledge, but also create positive lifetime experiences for our participants. Accordingly, a major goal of this Department is to provide outreach services to those with limited access or opportunity, including inner city and/or low-income children, who would otherwise not have the ability to participate in this worthwhile program. Many of our participants visit the beach for the first time through our program's Ocean Safety Days, which are made available to schools and youth groups throughout Los Angeles County and are the vehicle we use for our outreach efforts. These participants also comprise over 80% of the children we serve.

Our Ocean Safety Days are unique to us and are not made readily available to schools and youth groups by other providers throughout the year. These are all factors that were used in assessing which aspects of the W.A.T.E.R. Program to cut, as it is no longer feasible to fund the full Program as in years past. This was a difficult decision to come by, as I am well aware of the W.A.T.E.R. Program's popularity and importance in children's lives. However, I strongly believe that focusing our resources to a year-round program will allow us to serve the largest and most diverse segment of the youth population in Los Angeles County.

Fortunately, summer beach camps are not unique to our W.A.T.E.R. Program and are readily offered by other providers, both public and private, along Los Angeles County beaches every year. For your convenience, we have attached a list of camps offered by local cities you may want to consider patronizing. I remain hopeful that we will be able to offer our summer camps in the future.

Thank you again for your continued support and interest in our wonderful youth program.

SHK:PP:ks
Attachments

13837 Fiji Way • Marina del Rey • CA 90292 • 310.305.9503 • fax 310.821.6315 • internet: http://marinadelrey.lacounty.gov

Local City Summer Youth Camps

City of Calabasas
- Camp Calabasas (at Zuma Beach) - Marty Hall - 818-880-6461

Culver City
- Culver City Day Camp (at Marina "Mother's" Beach) - Stafford Hamlin – 310-253-6676
- Culver City Teen Camp (at Venice Beach) - Arames White - 310-253-6675

City of Malibu
- Surf Camp at Surfrider - 310-317-1364
- Kamp Indy Sports Camp (at Zuma Beach) - 310-317-1364

City of Manhattan Beach
- City of MB Volleyball Camp - Deborah Hom - 310-877-0519
- City of MB Volleyball Camp - Dennis Marlowe - 310-913-0108
- City of MB Day Camp - Don Braunecker - 310-658-7119
- City of MB Day Camp - David Ibarra - 310-877-0516

City of Redondo Beach
- Beach Blast Volleyball Camp - Shannon Sneed - 310-318-0610
- Breakwater Day Camp - 310-318-0610
- Camp Busy Bee - 310-318-0610
- Wilderness Camp - 310-318-0610
- Club Summer - Monica Bruno - 310-318-0610
- Perfect Day Surf & Beach Camp - 310-318-0610

City of Santa Clarita
- Santa Clarita Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Jennifer Lindstrom - 661-284-1465

City of Torrance
- City of Torrance Day Camp - Jim Millinder - 213-725-3559

City of Los Angeles
- Tarzana Recreation Center Day Camp (at Dockweiler Beach) – Michon Rickman/ Chris Wilson - 818-343-5946
- Ramona Hall Community Center Day Camp (at Dockweiler Beach) - Jennifer Rockwell - 323-276-3021
- City of LA Junior Guards (at Dockweiler Beach) - Caitlin Moss - 818-899-3779
- Penmar Sports Camp (at Dockweiler Beach) - Juan Guzman - 310-396-8735
- Sylmar Recreation Center Day Camp (at Dockweiler Beach) - Juchell Wardlow - 818-367-5656
- El Sereno Recreation Center Day Camp (at Manhattan Beach) - Richard Cuellar - 323-225-3517
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City of Los Angeles (cont.)

- Lemon Grove Recreation Center Day Camp (at Marina "Mother's" Beach) - Miranda McCord - 323-666-4144
- Camp Hollywoodland (at Point Dume Beach) - Cricket Smith- 323-467-7193
- City of LA Lifeguards (at Point Dume Beach) - Gonzalo Moran - 323-906-7953
- Palms Recreation Center (at Point Dume Beach) - Robyn Nelson - 310-838-3838
- Alpine Recreation Center (at Redondo Beach) - Cynthia Yparraguirre – 213-485-5448
- Rustic Canyon Summer Camp (at Will Rogers Beach) - Darren Massey – 310-454-5734
- LA County Parks & Rec Day Camp (at Will Rogers Beach) - Louie Guerrero - 626-934-7041
- Camp Sharwood (at Zuma Beach) - Jennifer Haun - 818-883-9370
- Stonehurst Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Cecile Chabot – 818-767-0314
- Hollywood Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Karen King – 323-467-6847
- LA City Dept of Parks & Rec Mar Vista Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Meghan Lucas - 310-398-5982
- North Hollywood Recreation Center/Camp F.A.M. (at Zuma Beach)- Alfred Tutungi - 818-763-7651
- Downey Recreation Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Lupe Zamora - 323-225-7100
- Hubert Humphrey Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Daniel Salazar - 818-896-6510
- Lanark Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Yvonne Velazquez – 818-883-1503
- Studio City Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Liz Kekahuna - 818-769-4415
- Oakwood Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Kirstin Zullo – 310-452-7479
- Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Holli Miller - 818-899-8087
- Stoner Community Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - David Ruiz – 310-479-7200
- Sun Valley Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - Margarita Reyes - 818-767-6151
- Reseda Recreation Center Day Camp (at Zuma Beach) - ZoAnne Di Fonzo – 818-881-3882