UCLA

Recent Work

Title

2015 Environmental Report Card for LA County (Infographics)

Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3p7602z9

Author

Sustainable LA Grand Challenge

Publication Date

2015

Supplemental Material

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/3p7602z9#supplemental

Copyright Information

This work is made available under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial License, available at https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/

WATER: C



No substantial violations of sewage treatment plant or industrial wastewater permits over the last 5 years



Nearly everyone in Los Angeles County has access to clean drinking water



90% of beaches received A or B grades for Summer '13 dry weather water quality



Between 2000-2013, LA County per capita water demand dropped by ~16%



Contamination of groundwater wells is prevalent countywide



>85% of LA County waterways are impaired by one or more pollutants



Los Angeles County imports 58% of its water



40% of LA County beaches received an F grade for 2013-14 wet weather water quality



3 ways to help



cut your shower time by 5 minutes



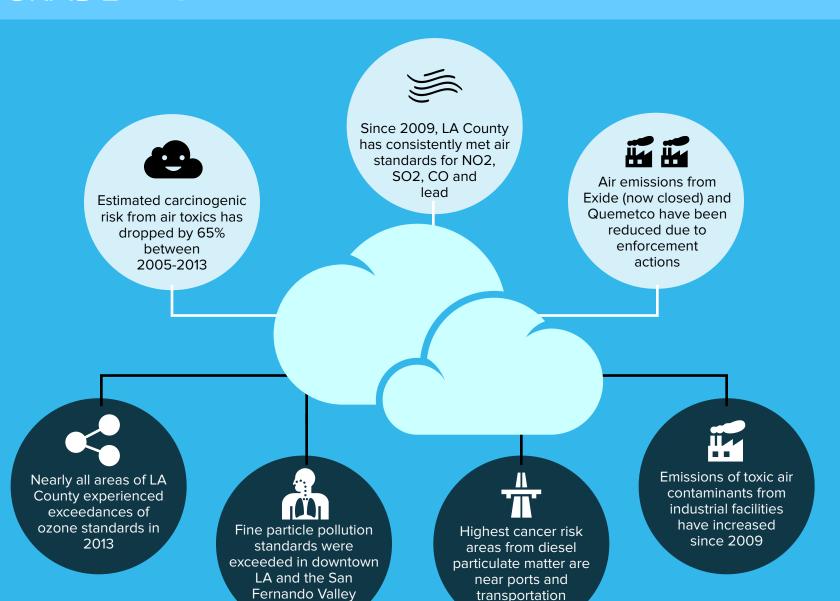
Replace grass with native vegetation



switch to ultra-low water use toilets



GRADE: C+



corridors

in 2013



3 ways to help



Plant trees around your home



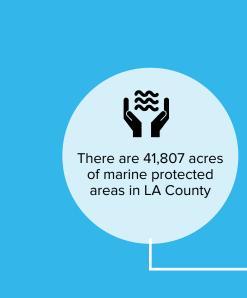
Drive an alternative fuel vehicle



Report air pollution (nuisance, odor, dust) to 1-800-cut-smog



ECOSYSTEM HEALTH: C-/INCOMPLETE





There are 886,443 acres of protected lands in LA County, 34% of the total County land area



An additional 8% of County land is regulated to limit use or development



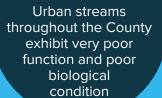
Over 35,000 acres of land are at high risk of vegetation type change due to over-burning



LA County has lost >96% of its total estuarine wetland area from 1850 to the present



Lows in greenness values since 2013 indicate vegetation is experiencing extreme water stress due to the drought





3 ways to help



Plant native plants



Refrain from using fertilizers and pesticides



Don't light campfires or smoke on protected lands



WASTE B INCOMPLETE



Total municipal waste generated by the County has generally decreased since 2005



All LA County
jurisdictions appear to
have met their
population-based per
capita disposal
targets for 2013



Total hazardous waste generated in LA County in 2013 was ~2.2 million tons, >2x as much as in 2011

?

There is a lack of County-level data on actual quantities and final disposition of municipal waste diverted from landfills



Contaminated soils from site clean-up comprised the majority (68%) of hazardous waste in 2013



3 ways to help



Bring your own mug, bag, tupperware, & cutlery



Read magazines and newspapers online



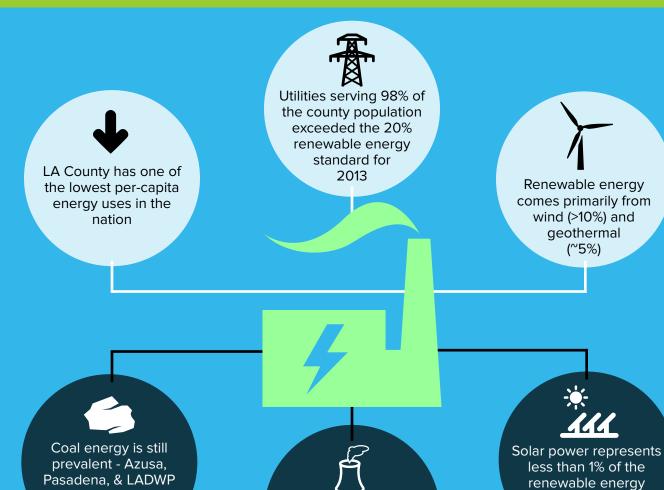
Reduce purchases of toxic products and take leftover toxics to dropoff facilities



ENERGY & GHG : B-

get 42% of their

energy from coal



LA County's GHG

emissions are ~30% higher than cities with comparable energy use



3 ways to help





Buy ENERGY STAR products



sources for LA

County utilities

Eradicate "vampire" electronics that use energy while not in use

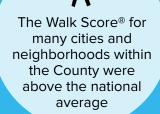


ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF LIFE: C+



There has been substantial investment in parks through Prop 12 and County
Measure A

Federal Investments and Measure R funds have improved public mass transportation





The overwhelming majority of County residents (73%) drive alone. Ten percent carpooled & 7% took public transit

•



The average ParkIndex rating calculated by GreenInfo Network for LA County is 34 out of 100



~20% of LA County population lives in areas ranked in the worst 10% of EnviroScreen scores in the State



Over 47% of commuters take >30 min to get to work.
Over 50% of public transit commuters take >45 min

Environmental Report Card FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY

3 ways to help



Advocate for the environment at your Neighborhood Council



Support more bike lanes on roads



Start a carpool if you need to drive

