



Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles

A 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization, EIN 47-5249182

"Saving the life of one animal may not change the world, but the world will surely change for that one animal."

Hospital & Education

3601 S. Gaffey #8
San Pedro, CA 90731
(310) 548-5677
info@marinemammalcare.org

Fundraising & Development

555 W. 5th Street, 35th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013
development@marinemammalcare.org
www.marinemammalcare.org/donate

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Contact:

Valerie Goodman

Community and Media Relations

Phone: 310-567-6384

Email:

vgoodman@marinemammalcare.org

The Sea Lion Hospital of Los Angeles Brings its Mobile Visitors Center to the Hill

Learn about rehabilitation of sick and injured seals and sea lions rescued from LA County beaches.

(Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA, April 4, 2018) It is pup rescue season! And that means sick, malnourished and injured seals and sea lions are being admitted weekly to the Marine Mammal Care Center's hospital in San Pedro. While visitors are encouraged to visit the hospital and view patients from a safe distance, the Mobile Visitors Center is made available as a traveling walk-through exhibit offering the opportunity for the public to learn about the unique work performed at Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles. The Mobile Visitors Center was purchased and built using generous donations from long-time supporters: MAR3INE and the Robert Sprague Foundation.

Visitors will learn about the 3 common patients -- California sea lions, Northern elephant seals and Pacific harbor seals -- and the main reasons they need to be rescued and treated. Interesting exhibits explain how patients are cared for until their release back into the ocean or to a (different?) new permanent home. The Visitors Center will offer free activities for children including games "How Big of a Pinniped Am I?", "Feed the Patients" and "How Long Does Plastic Last?" The Mobile Visitors Center will be in Rolling Hills Estates next to the George F Canyon Preserve on the following Sundays from 11:00AM – 3:00PM and will feature a unique topic on each date.

April 15th: Pup Hospital Supplies Donation Day: Bring an item to help with daily medical care, housing and food. Hospital supplies include: Dawn dish soap, heavy duty paper towels, high efficiency laundry detergent, fish oil capsules and non-chewable Vitamin C tablets. **Donations will be accepted every Sunday in May as well.**

May 6th: Rescue Day: Learn what to do if you see an injured sea lion, who to call, and how the rescue is performed! (Our patients are rescued 365 days a year from north of Zuma to Seal Beach – That is 70 miles of coastline in Los Angeles County.)

May 13th: Meet Veterinary Staff: Veterinary staff will share information about treatments available for common injuries and illness caused by fishing line and nets, firearms, shark bites, algae blooms and malnutrition. Visitors learn how we care for a seal or sea lion if blind or has damaged flippers, and how we find them a permanent home.

(more)

May 20th: Husbandry Day: Husbandry staff will share information and answer questions about housing seals and sea lions, the type of pools in which they relax, swim and play, how food is prepared and served, and how these vital rehabilitation services are tailored to meet the unique needs of each pinniped species.

May 27th: Pup and Seal Release Day: This day is dedicated to exhibiting equipment and staff needed to transport a healthy animal back to the sea, and learn the importance of tide and weather conditions. Visitors can see the release truck and custom release “pod” and find out how to view an actual release on a nearby beach!

The Mobile Visitors Center is pleased to temporarily be located near the George F Canyon Nature Center where programming and activities are provided by the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy. *“Marine Mammal Care Center of Los Angeles saves the lives of so many pups and mature seals and sea lions stranded on our beaches. We are looking forward to the fun and educational activities they will be provide to our residents through the Mobile Visitors Center,”* says Rolling Hills Estates Mayor Britt Huff.

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy’s Executive Director Andrea Vona states, “Our community members love wildlife and all of the facets of nature on the peninsula. We’re pleased the Marine Mammal Care Center is going to be near the nature center so that families can enjoy visiting both of our sites in one outing.”

Executive Director Jeff Cozad expresses gratitude on behalf of everyone at MMCC Los Angeles: *“The National Marine Fisheries Service counts on MMCC Los Angeles to carry out the goals of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972. Our vital rehabilitation services can only be continued when neighboring communities in Los Angeles adopt us as a favorite charity so residents can learn about our sea lion hospital and donate their money and time. We are very grateful to The City of Rolling Hills Estates and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy to offer us such a highly visible location to introduce MMCC Los Angeles to thousands of local residents. Thank you very much.”*

The Mobile Visitor Center will be parked next to the George F Canyon Nature Center located at 27305 Palos Verdes Drive East at the corner of Palos Verdes Drive North in Rolling Hills Estates. For more information about the Mobile Visitors Center or to schedule a private media tour of the hospital, please contact: Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles Executive Director Jeff Cozad at (818) 395-4317 or email:

Development@marinemammalcare.org.

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