

# THE LAKE MERRITT INSTITUTE

(Lake Trash Removal, Fountains, Education, Lake Expertise)

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## VOLUNTEER LETTER

**TRASH TALK:** Trash was collected on **9 of 31 days**, by **83 people**. We brought **560 pounds** to the Davis Street Transfer Station, including **46 bags** and miscellaneous large items (tree branches et cetera). Reasons for the low trash total: Finally, a month without rain and; removal of some trash by the City harvester boat (which doesn't have any widgeon grass to pick up this year). However, the harvester cannot go inside the boat barriers at the wildlife refuge, mouth of Glen Echo creek and mouths of Trestle Glen & Pleasant Valley creeks. Nor can it remove trash from the 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Bandstand Beaches. These areas depend on YOU for clean up.

**Catches Of The Day:** A safe (our second) a bucket, a truck tire, a whole lot of turtles, auto trim, catch and several toys.



*Does your neighborhood have signs like these?*

*Educational messages like these (from Victoria, Canada) remind folks that their dogs leavings can pollute public water.*

*Bacteria in our lakes, streams and bathing areas are a major reason that many bodies of water are listed as "impaired." That means that high fecal coliform numbers are impairing the designated uses of the water.*

*In Lake Merritt, the Glen Echo cove has high levels of bacteria, possibly from Glen Echo creek.*

**VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH – The Laney College Biology Class:** Extra credit can be a powerful motivator. So reasoned the biology instructor at Laney College this summer, and she was right. Amy's students turned out in force on three weekends in July, earning them the title of "Volunteers of the Month." On each of three Saturdays we had over a dozen eager people. They cleaned up, learned some biology and had a good time.

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Not a member? Join the Institute and support your Lake!