

THE LAKE MERRITT INSTITUTE

A Center For Urban Runoff And Watershed Research

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www.lakemerrittinstitute.org

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VOLUNTEER LETTER

HOW MUCH TRASH HAVE YOU PICKED UP – WHERE DOES IT COME FROM? As shown in the table below, we remove about 1,000 to 6,000 pounds of trash per month from our urban tidal lagoon. But not all months are equal. In the rainy season, trash from the streets is washed into the Lake from our 7 square mile watershed. The gory details:

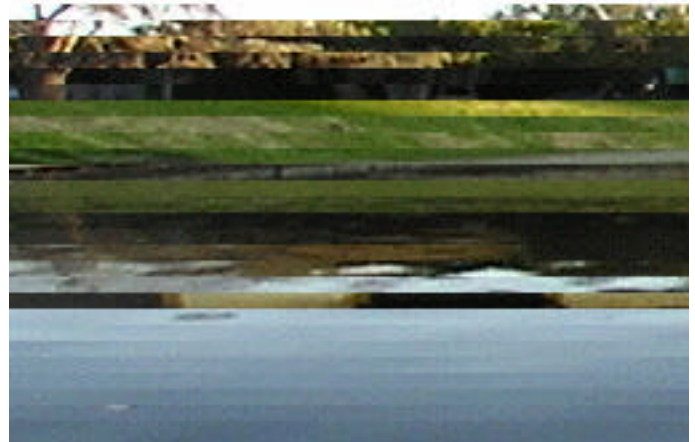
| MONTH | TRASH ⁽¹⁾ | RAIN ⁽²⁾ | MONTH | TRASH | RAIN |
|----------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|-------|------|
| January | 5,010 | 4.31 | July | 1,435 | 0.01 |
| February | 6,010 | 3.67 | August | 1,190 | 0.06 |
| March | 5,137 | 4.46 | September | 1,300 | 0.58 |
| April | 4,123 | 1.42 | October | 2,593 | 1.56 |
| May | 2,347 | 0.47 | November | 6,127 | 3.96 |
| June | 1,369 | 0.11 | December | 6,050 | 3.17 |

⁽¹⁾ Average Pounds Removed: 1998 to 2003 ⁽²⁾ Inches: Average: 1981 to 1990

CHRISTMAS TREES AND TRASH – A BAD COMBINATION: Who wants to see a litterbug's bottles floating next to the reflections of seasonal lights? Not Santa Claus! So he is asking you to come down to the Lake on a Tuesday at 10:30 or Saturday at 10 and help remove the nasty stuff. People who don't have been known to get coal in their stocking.



Glen Echo Cove After a Rain



Glen Echo Cove the Way it Should Be

CLEANING AND CAROLING: After you're done cleaning up the trash, our favorite staff at the Boating Center are once again offering Caroling On The Lake, and this year it will be on the brand new tour boat, all decked out in Christmas splendor. For \$5 your water sleigh will carry you on a voyage around Lake Merritt as you lift your voices in song. Cookies and hot cider are included: Reservations are a must. Tour dates and times are: 12/16 & 12/23 – 6 and 7 pm; 12/10 & 12/17 – 4, 5 and 6 pm; 12/11 & 12/18 – 4, 5 and 6 pm. Call 238-2196 to reserve.

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