



DPU Scoop



IN THIS EDITION

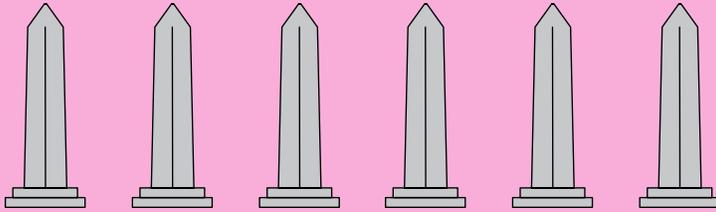
- So Much Gum!
- Safety Tips for Black Bear Country
- Do You Have an Electric Transformer Box?
- Water: There's Only So Much to Go Around



So Much Gum!



- * Chewing gum isn't biodegradable. It takes 25-1,000 years to decompose.
- * Chewing gum was invented December 28, 1869, by a dentist.
- * Chewing gum is second to cigarette butts in total litter.
- * The gum base is made out of polyvinyl acetate, which is a primary ingredient in most glues and latex paints.



The gum industry puts out 6 Washington Monuments worth of pollution annually. That's 100,000 metric tons of plastic pollution!



Safety Tips for Black Bear Country...

If You Encounter a Bear:

- If a bear comes near your home, camp or picnic, scare it away by making noise from a safe distance: yell, clap hands, bang pots together, use an air horn.
- Never try to get closer to a bear for a photo.
- Don't corner a bear; give it an escape route. Alert your neighbors or people in the area.

- Don't let dogs bark at, harass, chase, or corner a bear.
- Store pet food inside and feed dogs inside, if possible. Never leave food/water bowls outside.
- If your dog gets into an encounter with a bear, don't try to rescue it. You will get injured. Use bear spray; it works from 30 feet away.

Outdoor Safety:

- Hike in groups and stay together, especially kids.
- If you see a bear, watch quietly from a safe distance (at least 50 yards or 10 car lengths for black bears). Never approach.
- Never run from a bear.
- Carry bear spray (if permitted) and know how to use it.

Bears and Dogs:

- Keep dogs on non-retractable leashes at all times. Don't force a bear to defend itself.



To learn more about the black bear and living with other wildlife, visit the County website at www.lacnm.com/wildlife.

