

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

### Field Trip to SMURRF.

SMURRF is the *Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility*. It was built to treat stormwater runoff from city surface streets where many contaminants are added to the drainage system that eventually goes out to sea untreated. In Los Angeles this is a major problem. Coastal waters are often unfit for bathers and surfers since they often contain high counts of coliform bacteria that is pathogenic to humans as well as marine biota. The source is dog waste from all the storm drains that go to the sea. In addition, there are things like motor oil and plastic and detergents and kitchen grease and other substances either that are either accidentally (rainy weather) or intentionally (motor oil, kitchen grease) dumped in storm drains.

See files and video that accompany this post. We are planning a trip to the SMURRF May 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is located in a heavily trafficked part of Santa Monica—the pier and Ocean Ave. The nearest parking might be Parking Structure 6 (2<sup>nd</sup> Street) or Santa Monica Place. Closer parking fills up fast on Fridays. Students should arrive at 10:30am since we want to start the tour at 11:00am. It is a self-guided tour and actually does not take too long. After the tour, students can enjoy the pier and local amenities.

### Where is the SMURRF?

