

# PALOS VERDES PENINSULA NEWS

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Yummy branches  
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## RANCHO PALOS VERDES

# Zoo animals munch on tree branches from Peninsula

When Cassie Jones of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy and Jeremy Barlow of the L.A. Zoo loaded acacia branches onto a flatbed truck last Monday, it was the first of what may be many shipments of vegetation for zoo animals to gnaw on.

Since then, elephants and giraffes and other animals have enjoyed the food grown on the Peninsula.

The first truckload of acacia branches arrived from the Alta Vicente Reserve in Rancho Palos Verdes. Further shipments of vegetation, which may include eucalyptus branches as well, will

be made throughout the year as the vegetation becomes available, said Louise Olfarnes of the PVPLC.

“Our stewardship staff heard about the zoo’s need for specific trees the animals eat, and we contacted the L.A. Zoo,” Olfarnes said.

An L.A. Zoo representative was unavailable for comment.

“They have a collector who goes around L.A. looking for food,” Olfarnes said. “And the zoo is thrilled to have an ongoing relationship with the conservancy to pick up food like the acacia branches for their animals.”

— Ed Pilolla



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PVPLC

PVPLC Board Member Cassie Jones and L.A. Zoo’s Jeremy Barlow gather acacia branches for shipment to the zoo during the PVPLC’s MLK Day of Service Jan. 18.



A giraffe at the L.A. Zoo snacks on acacia branches brought from the Alta Vicente Reserve in Rancho Palos Verdes.  
PHOTO COURTESY OF THE L.A. ZOO