

# Trash Tragedy

**To The Editor,**

Last weekend, my family and I attended a birthday party at Colorado Lagoon. It's a wonderful place for a child's birthday party. Lots of shady trees to relax under, a little beach for the kids to splash around in, picnic tables to eat on, grills on which to cook, and a wonderful shaded playground.

The nearby public restrooms are a big bonus. Ample public parking makes for a very desirable place to have a gathering. And the city was so kind as to put enormous garbage bins on the beach, every 30 feet or so.

Imagine my dismay at the site of trash absolutely everywhere. Dirty diapers, empty fast food containers, wrappers of every shape and kind — the list goes on and on. I could not get over so many people absolutely refusing to pick up their own mess. How a person can enjoy a free public park, be surrounded by trash receptacles, and not appreciate it enough to clean up after themselves is beyond me.

After the party, I took my children down to the peninsula to play at Bay Beach.

My son had to use the restroom, so we took the five-block trudge down to the basketball courts to use the newly refurbished restrooms. It was worse than the Lagoon! I don't even want to get into detail about what those new restrooms looked like.

My question is, why aren't the police giving out littering tickets? I failed to see even one police officer out there, but I saw plenty of littering going on. Imagine the amount of revenue they could get just by spending a few hours there on the weekends. I imagine that the offenders would not be so numerous if it were well known that depositing trash on our parks and beaches was not tolerated.

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