



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pacific Marine Mammal Center Announces Temporary Closure to the Public

Laguna Beach, CA – Pacific Marine Mammal Center Visitor Yard is temporarily closing to the public while the Center undergoes major renovations and expansion. The closure began on Sunday, October 22, 2023, and is expected to last until Fall 2024. While we cannot physically welcome you to our Center as we embark on the next phase of our rebuild, we are excited to provide many new and exciting ways to stay involved in our mission.

Pacific Marine Mammal Center, PMMC, remains committed to providing educational and engaging content to our audience through online resources, virtual programs, and social media channels. We encourage our patrons to stay connected with us on social media @pacificmmc or our website at: www.pacificmmc.org for updates and virtual experiences.

For the next year, we will be housing our patients at a nearby temporary facility. The space was generously shared to us from the Friends of the Dog Park, Laguna Beach. This new structure will include a triage unit, field hospital and additional pools which ensures our continued ability to care for our marine mammals who are in need.

During this temporary closure, PMMC will:

1. **Undergo a Major Renovation:** The new facility will include a state-of-the-art treatment room for surgeries, endoscopy, ultrasound, radiographs and other medical needs. Additional patient units and pools will improve patient care and increase capacity, better preparing the hospital for busy periods.
2. **Build a Water Reclamation System:** the system reduces the center's water usage by nearly 90%. The Average daily use will be reduced from 18,000 gallons to approximately 1,500 and will fully reclaim 7,800 gallons of water in 3 hours. Ensures highest standards of clean water environment for animals.
3. **Expanded Education:** We will double our current classroom space allowing PMMC to provide higher quality education programs and allow for a greater number of students to visit daily. We are also enhancing our distance learning with a designated location for programs that allows us to broaden our reach outside of Orange County.

Catch the next Wave at PMMC.

While we know the temporary closure is difficult, this renovation and expansion was necessary to improve our capacity to serve and lead in the marine mammal and regional environmental sectors for decades to come. To join the community of ocean and animal advocates who are making a difference visit: www.pacificmmc.nextwave.org.



This isn't goodbye. It's just Seal You Later.



PMMC would like to extend its gratitude to our loyal patrons and the community for their ongoing support during this exciting time. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to the new and expanded Center Fall of 2024.

About the PMMC

The Pacific Marine Mammal Center rescues, rehabilitates and releases marine mammals and inspires ocean stewardship through research, education, and collaboration. The only center in Orange County, California, licensed to rescue, rehabilitate, and release marine mammals that strand on local beaches. PMMC is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. Tax-ID #: 95-3680896

For more information, please visit our website www.pacificmmc.org or contact Kathleen Biermeier, 949-228-4033 or kbiermeier@pacificmmc.org