

CityScene

A newsletter for the citizens of Camarillo

January - February 2014
Volume 20~Number 3

Camarillo City Council

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Camarillo's Golden Anniversary



That's right—2014 is the City of Camarillo's golden anniversary year, and our City Council is already making plans to commemorate its 50th anniversary in style.

The biggest celebration will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 18**, more details to follow. We hope you'll mark your calendars now and join us for a whole day of fun, food, and music. A smaller, more formal celebration will take place the following Wednesday on the very date our city was officially incorporated—Oct. 22—in conjunction with the City Council meeting.

We are asking Camarillo's various organizations and service clubs to help us celebrate by including the City's 50th in their regular events. If your organization would like to participate, e-mail Janet Starr in the City's General Services Department at jstarr@cityofcamarillo.org or call (805) 383-5633.

Watch for other special events throughout the year, as well. As they are planned, we'll keep you posted here in CityScene, the City website, and on the government TV channel of your cable provider.

Don't Miss This Chance to Be E-Waste Green

Mark your calendar and get ready to clear out those closets, cupboards, and garage of obsolete computers, printers, fax machines, and other electronic equipment. On **Saturday, Jan. 4**, the Future Farmers of America will again host an electronic waste (e-waste) recycling event at the Camarillo Community Center, 1605 Burnley St., from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event, held rain or shine, is open to all City residents and businesses free of charge; no appointment is needed.

You do know that old electronics should not be disposed of in landfills—right? That's because many of their parts, such as circuit boards, batteries, and cathode-ray tubes (CRTs), contain materials that can harm the environment. Proper handling is needed to ensure that toxins such as lead, mercury, and chromium can't pose a threat to human and animal health. That's where our recycling event can help.

In addition to computers, printers, and fax machines, the following items will be collected: DVD players, keyboards, MP3 players, power supplies, server cabinets, stereo equipment, TVs, walkmans, pagers, printers, speakers, telephone equipment, vacuum cleaners, wireless devices, monitors, scanners, video game systems, audio/visual equipment, cellular phones, copiers, digital cameras, and computer components.

Sorry, we can't accept household batteries, household/commercial appliances such as refrigerators, washers, and dryers, or any hazardous material waste (such as paint). For more information, please call PC Recycle at (805) 499-0050.

What to Do with Unused Meds

When was the last time you cleaned out your medicine cabinet? If you're like most people, you probably can't remember that far back. One reason we neglect this task is that we don't know what to do with outdated medications. We suspect they shouldn't simply be flushed down the toilet or dumped in the trash—and that's true. But what do we do instead?

Here's the answer: The Camarillo Police Department provides a convenient and confidential drop-box where residents can deposit unused or expired pharmaceuticals (medicines). The drop-box is accessible in the lobby at the police station, 3701 E. Las Posas Road, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This safe-disposal program prevents meds from entering the “waste stream,” reducing harmful impacts on our water and ocean life. You'll also help to prevent accidental overdoses and increase child safety in your home. It's a good idea to remove labels showing the patient's name, the name of the med, and other personal information.

Items to drop off include prescription drugs such as hormones, antidepressants, and antibiotics; over-the-counter medications such as pain relievers, cold/flu remedies, and antiseptics; and veterinary medicines.

Please note that “sharps” (needles/syringes) are not allowed in the drop-box. These should be returned to the City's hazardous waste center. (Hazardous waste drop-off is by appointment only; (805) 987-0717.) To learn more about the meds-disposal program, call the City's Recycling Coordinator at (805) 388-5392.

How to Read Your Water Meter

The City of Camarillo reads your water meter monthly, so why should you learn how? There are two reasons: You will be able to monitor your water use and check for leaks, both of which will help you to conserve water. Follow these steps.

Locate your meter

Typically, your water meter will be located near the street or parkway in a concrete box about 15x20 inches. Be careful removing your meter box lid. Place a screwdriver into the hole and pry the lid to slide it out of the way. Most meters look like the one pictured.

Meter parts

Dial: The dial will rotate when water is flowing through the meter. One full rotation equals 1 cubic foot of water or 7.48 gallons, and one billing unit equals 100 cubic feet (748 gallons).

Low-flow indicator: This will rotate with very little water flow. It is used to detect slow leaks.

Odometer: This records water use in cubic feet. The digits from right to left represent 1 cubic foot, 10 cubic feet, 100 cubic feet, and so on.

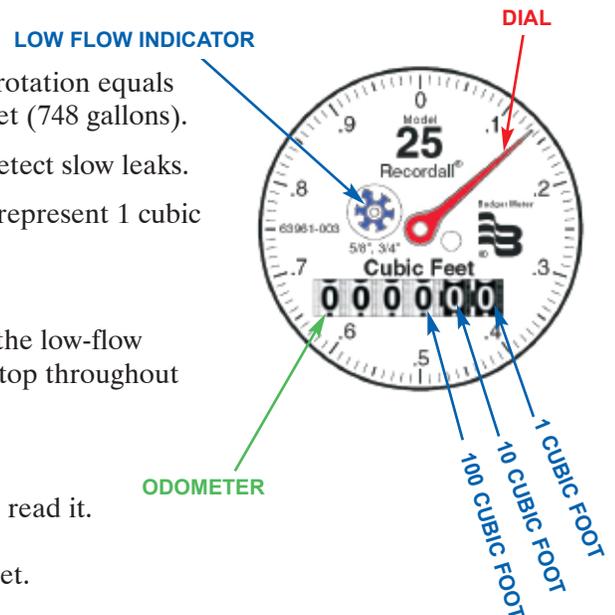
How to check for leaks

Turn off all water-using fixtures (clothes washer, sprinklers, faucets, etc.). If the low-flow indicator moves, this may indicate a leak. Note: A toilet leak may start and stop throughout the day and might not immediately be detected.

How to monitor water usage

1. Read the odometer completely. Write down the number with the date you read it.
Do this again seven days later.
2. Subtract the first read from the second read. This is your usage in cubic feet.
3. Multiply the water use by 7.48; this is your usage in gallons.
4. Divide the usage in gallons by the number of days (7) between readings. This is your average daily use.

And remember: Call your water utility any time you need to shut off or turn on your water meter. Do not attempt to do this yourself.



Your Yard, Your Watershed...Your Actions Matter!

When it comes to landscaping and gardening, we need to keep our environment in mind. Below are several practices that will help you do just that.

- **Plant Selection:** Select pest-resistant and drought-resistant native plants so the need for pesticides, fertilizers, and water can be minimized. Visit the City of Camarillo's Water-Wise Gardening website at www.camarillogardening.com for a list of recommended plants to use in your landscaping.
- **Fertilizers and Pesticides:** Use pesticides or fertilizers correctly to keep the watershed free of pollutants. Apply only as needed and as directed on the label, and always store under cover—out of the rain! Avoid using pesticides or fertilizers around water, drains, or bare ground. Also, if rain is in the forecast within 24 hours, hold off on using them. Note: Pesticides containing diazinon or chlorpyrifos have been banned. These should be disposed of at your local household hazardous waste facility. Camarillo residents can make an appointment for disposal by calling (805) 987-0717.
- **Integrated Pest Management (IPM):** As an eco-friendly approach to effective pest management, the goal of IPM is to use less-toxic methods that result in using fewer pesticides. For example, a pest problem can be handled by incorporating beneficial insects, such as ladybugs, into your garden. For more information regarding IPM, visit ipm.ucdavis.edu.
- **Maintenance:** Clear, remove, and recycle yard debris, placing it in your yard waste or compost bin. If organic waste ends up in a storm drain, it can create flooding and pollute the watershed.

For more information, call the City of Camarillo's Stormwater Program Manager at (805) 383-5659 or visit www.cleanwatershed.org.

Parent Project Helps Our Youth

Camarillo police officers want to help your children reach their scholastic and personal-growth potential. They know that in today's society, children face many obstacles, bad influences, and distractions—which create added difficulties for the parent(s) trying to raise them. Some children engage in harmful behaviors fueled by negative social influences, including alcohol, drugs, gangs, and peer pressure.

The Camarillo Police Department is offering a parenting class on Wednesday evenings for ten weeks starting on **Jan. 15**. Parents with difficult, defiant, or problematic children are especially encouraged to attend. However, parents of middle and high school students will also benefit from this course.

The course content consists of ways to address drugs, sex, gangs, poor grades, runaways, and violence. Additional content includes guidance in gaining children's compliance on house rules, how to never argue with your child again, and how to use other parents for support. The only fee for the course is \$20, the cost of the book.

For more information, call the Camarillo Police Department's Community Resource Unit at (805) 388-5155.

Last Chance to Apply for Grants

The City of Camarillo is still accepting applications from local nonprofit groups and organizations for Community Service Grants and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for fiscal year 2014-2015. Applications are due no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 24. The new fiscal year begins July 1. Community Service Grants are available to support programs and projects sponsored by 501(c)(3) organizations (nonprofits).

CDBG funding originates with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These federal grants help create better communities by providing funds for housing and public services and facilities, as well as by supporting economic-development activities.

Questions about CDBG funding should be directed to Michael Smith at (805) 388-5367 or msmith@cityofcamarillo.org. For Community Service Grant inquiries, contact Debbie Whitlock at (805) 388-5654 or dwhitlock@cityofcamarillo.org. Application packets are available at www.cityofcamarillo.org; click on "Grants" in the A-Z directory.

New Year Means Exciting New *Free* Events At Your Library

Family Programs

- **John Mulhall**, author of *Geddy's Moon*, Saturday, Jan. 11, 2 p.m.
- Author/inspirational trainer **Michele the Trainer**, Friday, Jan. 17, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
- **Ventucky String Band** (bluegrass), Sunday, Jan. 12, 2 p.m.
- **Chinese New Year** on the library lawn, Saturday, Feb. 8. Co-sponsored with VC Chinese American Association and Chinese Language School. See Lion Dance Troupe plus stories, music, and activities.
- **Jazz performance**, Sunday, Feb. 9, 2 p.m., with **Mike Harris & Betty Pattengale**.
- **Getting Started with Constant Contact**, Tuesday, Feb. 11, 10 a.m. – noon, e-mail campaigns for your business

Library Instructor-Led Classes

- **“Is This Thing On? Simple Computer Basics,”** Wednesdays, Jan. 8 & 22, Feb. 5 & 19; call reference desk to register.
- **“Beginning Mousing & Keyboarding,”** two Wednesdays, Jan. 15 & 29
- **“Browsing the Internet,”** two Wednesdays, Feb. 12 & 26
- **“e-Books Can Be E-Z!”** Four Tuesdays: Feb. 4 & 18, Kindle & Kindle Fire; Feb. 11 & 25, Tablets.

Children's Programs

- **PAWs for Reading**, Mondays & Wednesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- **Book Buddies**, Tuesdays, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- **Family Storytime**, Tuesdays, 7 p.m. in the Pirate Ship
- **Around the World Storytime** (NEW series), Thursdays, 3:30 p.m.
- **Homework Center** (K-8 students), Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays, 3 – 6 p.m.; Thursdays, 2 – 6 p.m.
- **Toddler Storytimes**, Mondays, 10 a.m., Jan. 6 – Feb. 10
- **Preschool Storytimes**, Tuesdays & Wednesdays, Jan. 7 – Feb. 19, 10 a.m. in the Pirate Ship
- **LEGOS/Game Days**, two Saturdays, Jan. 11 & Feb. 15, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- **NEW Book Group** for upper elementary and middle schoolers, two Thursdays, Jan. 16 & Feb. 13, 3:30 p.m.
- **@ the Library 24/7** (learn about free databases), two Sundays, Jan. 19 & Feb. 16, 1 p.m.
- **Kindermusik with Katie**, Feb. 24 – 26, 10 a.m.

Teen Programs

- **Teen Writers Club** meets first three Mondays of each month, 4 – 6 p.m.
- **Teen Book Club** meets third Saturday of each month, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- **Teen Advisory Board** meets third Saturday of each month, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Earn service hours!

Adult Programs

- **“Preparing Your Child for Kindergarten,”** Tuesday, Jan. 14, 5:30 p.m., followed by...
- **“Preparing Your Child for Middle School,”** Tuesday, Jan. 14, 7 p.m.
- **“Created Equal”** theme during February includes films, a panel discussion, a multimedia presentation, book club titles, and a group exercise about the Civil Rights Movement.
- **Panel discussion** “Equality under the Law,” Sunday, Feb. 2, 2 – 4 p.m.
- **Films** on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.: Feb. 4, *Slavery by Another Name*; Feb. 11, *Freedom Riders*; Feb. 25, *The Loving Story*
- **Lanny Kaufer's “Martin Luther King and the Spirit of the '60s”** musical multimedia performance, Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6 p.m.
- **Civic Reflection Exercise** on equality under the law, Thursday, Feb. 13, 7 – 8 p.m. Mission: Build community, deepen understanding, and strengthen commitment to civic life. Seating is limited.
- **Thursday Evening Book Club**, Feb. 27, *Breach of Peace*
- **“Got Food Trucks?”** Everything you need to know about becoming a food truck entrepreneur, Wednesday, Jan. 29, 6 – 7 p.m.
- **“Stock Market Basics”** seminars, Mondays, Jan. 13, 20, & 27, 6 – 7 p.m.
- **“Mobile Marketing/Wordpress,”** Tuesday, Jan. 7, 10 a.m. – noon
- **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance** in Tech Lab, Thursdays, 6 – 8:30 p.m., Feb. 6 through April 10. Info, or to volunteer: Program Manager Chuck Spence, (805) 906-0402.

Free Movie Nights, Thursdays in the Community Room, 6:30 p.m. – Check our website for dates and movie titles.

The library is open seven days a week: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m., and Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The library is closed holiday Mondays, Jan. 20 and Feb. 17. Everyone is welcome here! Contact us at (805) 388-5222 or visit us online at www.camarillolibrary.org. The library is located at 4101 Las Posas Road.



January 2014

- 4, 11, 18, 25 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
SPONSORED BY CAMARILLO HOSPICE
8 A.M.- NOON, CAMARILLO OLD TOWN, 482-1507
- 10, 11 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717 OR ONLINE
WWW.CITYOFCAMARILLO.ORG
- 11 **ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION EVENT**
9 A.M. - 1 P.M., CAMARILLO HIGH SCHOOL
4660 MISSION OAKS BLVD., 499-0050

February 2014

- 1, 8, 15, 22 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
SPONSORED BY CAMARILLO HOSPICE
8 A.M.- NOON, CAMARILLO OLD TOWN, 482-1507
- 14, 15 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717 OR ONLINE
WWW.CITYOFCAMARILLO.ORG

2014 Curbside Recycling Schedules

The annual curbside recycling schedules were mailed in December. If you did not receive a copy, please call (805) 388-5325. Schedules can also be viewed or downloaded in PDF format on the City website www.cityofcamarillo.org.

Apply Now to Help Guide Your City

Have you ever thought of pitching in to make decisions about City projects? Helping to set our community's direction can be rewarding, and committee work offers the opportunity to meet and network with dynamic people.

Right now the City has several volunteer openings on the committees listed below. They meet either monthly or as needed. Some of these positions require the applicant to complete and file a Statement of Economic Interest. For more information regarding that form, please visit www.fppc.ca.gov.

Rent Review Commission

Multi-family Member (Owner Alternate)	1 position
Multi-family Member (Tenant Alternate)	1 position
Mobile Home Member (Owner Alternate)	1 position

Camarillo Ranch Foundation Board	5 positions
Citizen Advisory Committee on Land Use	13 positions
CDBG Citizen Loan Committee	1 position
Investment Committee	1 position

Ventura County

Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board	1 Position
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Applications on the City's website at www.cityofcamarillo.org and at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall, 601 Carmen Drive. Your application, along with a current resume, must be submitted to the City Clerk no later than January 31. If you would like more information about each of the vacancies, please contact the City Clerk at (805) 388-5316.

Our Brighter Future Starts Now

Did you know that in Southern California, it costs more to produce electricity in summer, when energy demand is at its peak, and less to produce electricity in winter, during periods of lower demand? When you understand facts such as this, you can use energy more wisely—for example, in cooler weather, set your thermostat to 68 degrees when home, and 55 degrees when away.

Using energy wisely in our everyday lives is a smart way to ensure that our planet and its natural resources are protected—and you'll save money, too. That's why the City of Camarillo and Southern California Edison (SCE) are partnering to encourage energy efficiency and conservation.

Simple changes to how and when you use electricity can make a difference. For example, make it a habit to switch off unnecessary lights when you leave the room and power down office equipment at the end of the day. Even using your washing machine, dryer, or dishwasher before noon or after 6 p.m. can help conserve energy for when demand is highest.

Energy management is key not only at home but at work. It can help create a brighter future for us all. By becoming more energy conscious, you'll help California conserve valuable resources now and well into the future we all want ourselves and our children to enjoy.



"The People Are The City"



City of Camarillo
601 Carmen Drive
Camarillo, California 93010
(805) 388-5307

the City of Camarillo

CityScene

PRSRT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAIL MANAGER, INC.

ECRWSS RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Telephone Directory

City Manager (805) 388-5307
Cable TV Customer Service
Time Warner: (888) 892-2253
Verizon: (888) 553-1555

City Cable TV Representative: 388-5349
Economic Development: 388-5349
Trash Collection (E.J. Harrison): 647-1414
Recycling & Hazardous Waste: 388-5392
Hazardous Waste Appt. Line: 987-0717

City Clerk 388-5316

Finance 388-5320
Accounts Payable: 388-5352
Business Licenses: 388-5330
Utility Billing/Customer Service: 388-5325

Community Development 388-5360
Code Compliance: 383-5660

Public Works 388-5380
Streets: 388-5338
Water: 388-5373
Engineering: 388-5340
Traffic: 388-5340
Water Reclamation: 388-5332

Abandoned Vehicles 388-5150
Airport Noise Complaints 388-4202
Animal Services 388-4341
Building & Safety 388-5395
Camarillo Area Transit (Dial-A-Ride) 988-4228
Camarillo Library 388-5222
Fire Department (non-emergency) 389-9710
Graffiti Reports 388-5338
Police Department (non-emergency) 388-5100
Camarillo Post Office 383-9804

City Website
www.cityofcamarillo.org

City E-mail Address
cityhall@cityofcamarillo.org

Camarillo Library Website
www.camarillolibrary.org

Social Services Hotline: 211

Camarillo Government Channel

Channel 10 (Time Warner customers)
Channel 29 (Verizon FiOS customers)

