

CityScene

A newsletter for the citizens of Camarillo

March - April 2014
Volume 20~Number 4

Camarillo City Council

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Drought Demands We All Save Water

On Jan. 17, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown proclaimed a drought emergency in California. Governor Brown has asked all Californians to reduce their water consumption by 20%.

This year's unprecedented spell of dry weather has dramatically decreased California's rivers and reservoirs to below-record levels and has also impacted our local groundwater supplies.

Total rainfall in most of the state stands at less than 20% of normal levels. Forecasts suggest the dry spell may continue, exacerbating the already heightened fire danger.

The City of Camarillo is asking its water customers to make every effort to conserve water in order to stretch the state's limited supplies.

What are the basics of the City's current Stage 1 conservation measures?

- Landscape irrigation is allowed on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday.
- Watering landscapes between hours 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. is prohibited.
- Washing hard surfaces, such as sidewalks, patios, driveways, parking lots, etc., is prohibited.
- Landscape irrigation water must not be allowed to run to waste.
- Leaks within a water user's plumbing system must be repaired within 72 hours of discovery.
- A positive shut-off nozzle must be attached to a hose when hand-watering gardens and washing cars, trucks, boats, trailers, etc. (permitted at any time).

Your water conservation efforts will help reduce the impacts of mandatory rationing this summer, as well as reducing the City's need to purchase expensive imported water supplies.

To view or download the water conservation ordinance, visit www.cityofcamarillo.org. If you have any questions, call the Water Division at (805) 388-5373.

Don't Mess with Meds: Get Rid of them Safely

So you're cleaning out your bathroom and want to get rid of unused, unwanted prescription drugs? Wait! Do not flush unused meds down the toilet! They will contaminate our water supply. And don't toss them in with your regular trash, either. They may find their way into some vulnerable person's hands.

So what can you do? Well, you're in luck: the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has scheduled another National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, Apr. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Camarillo Police Station, 3701 Las Posas Road.

In five previous take-back events—with help from state, local, and tribal law-enforcement partners—the DEA has collected more than two million pounds (1,000 tons!) of medicine.

Take-back day provides a convenient, responsible means of putting meds out of circulation, while also educating the public about their potential for abuse.

Reminder: If you miss the national event, our Police Department also accepts prescription drugs for disposal Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Go Green—Be E-Waste Clean

If you're like most of us, you probably have a few old electrical gadgets accumulating in your closet or garage, right? If so, here's your chance to dispose of them properly. Saturday, Mar. 15, the Adolfo Camarillo High School Future Farmers of America and PC Recycle are teaming up once more with the Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District to host a free e-waste collection event. This event will be held rain or shine from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Camarillo Community Center, 1605 Burnley Street; it's open to all City residents and businesses, no appointment needed.



What to bring: Computers and computer components, fax machines, VCR/DVD/CD players, keyboards, MP3 units, power supplies, server cabinets, stereo equipment, TVs, Walkmans, pagers, speakers, telephone equipment, wireless devices, monitors, scanners, video game systems, audio/visual equipment, cellular phones, copiers, corrupted flash drives, and digital cameras.

What NOT to bring: Household/commercial appliances such as refrigerators, washers, and dryers, or any hazardous material waste such as paint and household batteries. (To dispose of these items, see our article on spring cleaning to cut clutter, also in this issue.)

Funds from selling the collected e-waste after the event will benefit the Adolfo Camarillo High School Future Farmers of America. Questions? Call PC Recycle at (805) 499-0050.

Use Your Brain Before You Drain!

Summer is coming, and that's swimming pool season. Good pool maintenance is important! Pool water contains pollutants such as salts and chlorine that could end up in our creeks and ocean if not drained correctly. Here's what the City needs you to know if you own or maintain a swimming pool.

- Properly maintained pools should require draining no more than once every ten years.
- Before draining your pool, notify the City's stormwater program manager at (805) 383-5659. You should also notify your water purveyor; City of Camarillo water customers should call (805) 388-5373, so you will not be cited for water waste under the water conservation program.
- It is illegal to discharge the water from salt-water chemistry pools into the storm drain or sewer systems. This water must be hauled to an ocean-discharging disposal facility. If you currently have a salt-water pool, you might want to consider that higher disposal costs may justify replacing the salt-water pool chemistry system with a fresh-water system.
- Before draining a fresh-water pool, inspect and clean the drainage path (curb/gutter/street) that the fresh-water pool discharge will travel through. Be sure trash, sediment, and other debris does not wash out to the storm-drain system with the pool water.
- Using a pool test kit available from a pool supplier, check the fresh-water pool's chlorine level before draining. This level must be at or below 0.1 parts per million (ppm) before it can be discharged. If your level exceeds that, reduce it before draining by either waiting several days to weeks without adding additional chlorine or by adding commercially available chlorine reducers (also available from pool supply stores). Always discontinue pool use when the chlorine drops below 1.0 ppm.
- Acid-wash wastewater or other pool cleaning wastewater should never be drained into the street, gutter, or storm-drain system.
- Pool filter backwash (diatomaceous earth) should never be washed into the street, gutter, or storm drain system. If no harmful chemicals are present, filter waste should be bagged wet and placed in a trash container.
- Read the directions before using any pool chemical. Avoid the use of copper-based algaecides. Copper can easily build up to hazardous levels, killing aquatic organisms if drained into the environment. Instead use a hypochlorite shock treatment.

So remember, don't be a pain when you drain—be considerate of your community and environment. If you have questions, please call the City's stormwater program manager at (805) 383-5659.

Graffiti Hurts Us All: Report It!

Some people believe graffiti is a harmless artistic activity. It's not. Instead it hurts communities aesthetically and economically by decreasing feelings of safety, lowering property values, draining tax dollars, and sending a message that no one cares. That's why the City of Camarillo strives to have all graffiti removed within 48 hours.

The City developed a successful, two-pronged approach to preventing the spread of this destructive vandalism: greater police enforcement, including restitution paid by taggers for graffiti clean-up and property damage, and public assistance in identifying taggers via confidential phone calls.

Residents, businesses, and visitors should call (805) 388-5338 to report graffiti as quickly as possible, noting vital information such as a description of the tagger(s) and vehicle information. Under no circumstances should vandals be directly confronted, since they can be very dangerous and possibly armed. Be observant but safe!



Special Care for Special Needs

Do you live alone, or do you know of someone who lives alone and could require special assistance in an emergency? If so, we urge you to contact the City about our Special Needs Emergency Operations Center Roster as soon as possible.

The Special Needs Roster could be for someone who receives treatment for dialysis or other medical conditions that would require special attention. It could also be for an elderly person who has mobility issues.

If an evacuation is needed after a major earthquake or other emergency, it is crucial that we know where our residents with special needs are.

If you reside in an assisted-living facility, please consult your facility manager, because such facilities have staff in place to care for their residents during emergencies.

Information received by the City's emergency staff will be kept confidential in Camarillo's Emergency Operations Center and will only be used by emergency management personnel. To be included on the Special Needs Roster, phone Heidi Zahrt at (805) 383-5688 or e-mail hzahrt@cityofcamarillo.org.

From Garbage to Greenery: Winning Program Expands



When Harrison Industries and its strategic partner Agromin launched their pilot *commercial food-waste program* in April 2012, the Albertsons supermarkets in Camarillo, Ventura, and Carpinteria were their only customers.

From humble beginnings, the food-waste recycling program has now grown to include 65 businesses, including 14 in Camarillo—mostly restaurants and supermarkets but also hospitals and schools.

Almost two years into this successful program, more than 1,952 tons—over 3.9 million pounds—of fruit and vegetable skins, unused dairy products, bones, meat fat, and other biodegradable food scraps have been diverted from our landfills.

Where do the food scraps go? Harrison trucks collect them from participants and transport them to Agromin, which employs a covered, aerated, static-pile system to mix them with yard waste to create enriched compost.

Harrison's goal is to expand the food-waste program to include more businesses and, eventually, residential customers as we march on toward "Zero Waste."

For more information, call Donald Sealund, food-waste coordinator for Harrison Industries, at (805) 647-1414, ext. 4318.

Camarillo Reads @ Your Library

Special Events

- “A Day During the Great Depression,” homemade crafts and displays, Saturday, Mar. 8, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- Dr. Barry Kerzin, personal physician to the Dalai Lama Friday, Mar. 14, 7 p.m.
- Camarillo Reads hosts Mask Making with Aimee French, Saturday, Mar. 22, 2 p.m.
- Friends of Library & P.I.P.W. present a fundraiser with author Jamie Ford, Saturday, Mar. 29, 2 p.m. \$25
- Camarillo Reads hosts Jamie Ford lecture and book signing, Sunday, Mar. 30, 2 p.m.

Basic Computer Workshops

- “Beginning Mousing & Keyboarding,” Thursdays, Mar. 5 & 19, Apr. 9 & 23, call reference desk to register.
- “Beginning Internet Browsing,” Thursdays, Mar. 12 & 26, Apr. 16 & 30.

Children’s Programs

- PAWs for Reading, Mondays & Wednesdays, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
- Book Buddies, Tuesdays, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
- Storytimes, check website for morning and afternoon times.
- Homework Center (K-8 students), Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays, 3–6 p.m.; Thursdays, 2–6 p.m.
- VC Reading Association members read California Young Readers-nominated picture books, Thursday, Mar. 13, 3:30 p.m.
- LEGOS/Game Days, two Saturdays, Mar. 15 & Apr. 12, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
- @ the Library 24/7, learn about free databases, Sunday, Mar. 16, 1 p.m.
- Poetry Out Loud, students grades 3-8 share a favorite poem for prizes, Wednesday, Apr. 2, 5–8 p.m.
- Teddy Bear Sleepover, Saturday, Apr. 5, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
- NEW Book Group for upper elementary and middle schoolers, Thursday, Apr. 10, 3:30 p.m.
- Alphabet Soup Puppeteers present “Spring Fling!” Wednesday, Apr. 16, 10 a.m.
- Kindermusik with Katie, Apr. 28-30, 10 a.m.

Teen Programs

- Teen Movies! (NEW) first Thursday of each month; Apr. 3–The Book Thief, 6:30 p.m.
- 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.
- AAA “Dare to Prepare” teen driver preparation, Saturday, Apr. 12, 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Adult Programs

- “Cyberbullying–Virtual Reality, Real Dangers,” CSUCI Professor Julia Balen, Wednesday, Mar. 12, 6 p.m.
- Pacific Sound Men’s Barbershop Chorus, Friends of the Library program, Sunday, Mar. 16, 2 p.m.
- O.P.E.N. Job Search workshop, five days: Mar. 17–21, 8:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
- LA Opera: Steve Kohn lectures on Puccini’s last opera, Sunday, Mar. 23, 2 p.m.
- Master Gardeners Series each Tuesday night during April, 6:30–8:30 p.m.: composting, vegetables, and garden myths.
- Photography Series by John Mueller, Mondays, Apr. 7, 14, 21, 6:30–8:30 p.m.: intro, landscape, and wildlife topics.
- Marketing & Social Media Seminar, Thursday, Apr. 17, 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.: e-mail and blogging.
- Sedalia Ragtime Orchestra, Sunday, Apr. 27, 2 p.m.
- Ryan Morgan, Cofounder of Rocket Fizz, speaks Wednesday, Apr. 30, 6 p.m.
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance in Tech Lab, Thursdays, 6–8:30 p.m., through Apr. 10; info, or to volunteer: Program Manager Chuck Spence, (805) 906-0402.
- Adult Learning Center tutors adult reading and writing skills, Mondays & Wednesdays, 3–6 p.m.
- Free Movies for Adults Every Thursday, 6:30 p.m. (teen movie Apr. 3).

The library is open 7 days a week. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Contact us at (805) 388-5222, or visit us online at www.camarillolibrary.org. The library is located at 4101 Las Posas Road. Like Us on [Facebook.com/camarillolibrary](https://www.facebook.com/camarillolibrary). Follow Us on [Twitter.com/camarillolib](https://twitter.com/camarillolib).



March 2014

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 **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
- 15 **ELECTRONIC WASTE COLLECTION EVENT**
9 A.M. - 1 P.M., CAMARILLO COMMUNITY CENTER
1605 BURNLEY ST., 499-0050
- 31 **MEADOWLARK SERVICE LEAGUE**
CHARITY TENNIS TOURNAMENT AND LUNCHEON
8:30 A.M.- 2 P.M., CALL 482-2392 OR VISIT
WWW.MEADOWLARKSERVICELEAGUE.COM

April 2014

- 5, 12, 19, 26 **CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET**
SPONSORED BY CAMARILLO HOSPICE
8 A.M.- NOON, CAMARILLO OLD TOWN, 482-1507
- 11, 12 **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF**
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, 987-0717 OR ONLINE
WWW.CITYOFCAMARILLO.ORG
- 19 **FREE EGGSTRAVAGANZA**
10 A.M.- 3 P.M., 1605 BURNLEY STREET
WWW.PVRPD.ORG
- 25 **CAMARILLO OLD TOWN CRUISE NIGHT**
5 P.M. - 8 P.M., VENTURA BLVD.
FOR DETAILS, CALL TOM MALONEY 443-9219
- 26 **NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY**
10 A.M. - 2 P.M., 3701 LAS POSAS RD.
FOR DETAILS, PLEASE CALL 388-5392

Classic Car Cruise Night

Hey, all you classic car buffs, get ready to oooh and aaah over your favorite old wheels. Classic Car Cruise Night begins Friday, Apr. 25, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., and will continue on the fourth Friday of each month through Sept. 26.

You'll enjoy pre-1980 vintage cars on display along Ventura Boulevard between Elm and Fir Streets in the beautifully restored Camarillo Old Town business district.

The Camarillo Old Town Association hosts Classic Car Cruise Night. To learn more, call Tom Maloney at (805) 443-9219.

Spring Cleaning? Here's How to Cut Your Clutter

What's the toughest part of spring cleaning? For many of us, it's figuring out what to do with that dinged-up old desk, moth-eaten carpet remnant, and other clutter you've decided must go. Good news: many programs exist to help you make sure your clutter is properly recycled, reused, or disposed. A few options are listed below.

Bulky Item Disposal—(805) 647-1414

If you receive a trash bill directly from the City, you are allowed two bulky items—picked up at no extra charge—in a 12-month period (not including special disposal). Examples of accepted items include mattresses, dishwashers, water heaters, furniture, and tree stumps that weigh less than 50 pounds. For an extended list of acceptable items, or to schedule a bulky item pick-up, call E.J. Harrison & Sons at (805) 647-1414.

For non-City customers, E.J. Harrison charges \$25 per bulky item, plus fees for special handling of discards such as Freon and cathode ray tubes. (City customers may request special handling, too, for the same fees).

Refuse Bin Rental—(805) 647-1414

Large roll-off containers and smaller bins for use during renovation or large clean-up projects are available for rent from E.J. Harrison & Sons. Call (805) 647-1414 for information concerning this service. Customers will be billed directly.

Household Hazardous Waste—(805) 987-0717

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), such as paint, solvents, pesticides, pool chemicals, household cleaners, household batteries, button batteries (used for hearing aids and cameras), and fluorescent tubes and bulbs, must NOT be discarded in your solid waste or recycling barrels. The City's HHW drop-off center is open the second consecutive Friday and Saturday of each month, by appointment only. These items can harm people, animals, and the environment if not properly discarded.

Used motor oil and oil filters may be recycled at our HHW drop-off center or at any state-certified recycling center. Call 1-800-CLEANUP for the location of a center near you.

Electronic Waste (E-Waste)—(805) 388-6068

Computers, printers, monitors, and "peripherals" (any device used with a PC, such as a flash drive), TVs, VCRs, DVD players, fax machines, stereos, radios, cell phones, speakers, and other electronic waste must NOT be discarded in landfills because they may contain hazardous materials. Instead, go to a free e-waste recycling event such as the one on Mar. 15 (see related article) or take them to be recycled free of charge at G& C Technologies, 90 Camarillo Street, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The City's "Odds-N-Ends Guide," available to download and print at www.cityofcamarillo.org, is a great source for more reuse, recycle, and disposal info. Or you may call the City's recycling coordinator at (805) 388-5392.



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

the City of Camarillo



PRSR 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)

