



City of Highland Weekly Report

January 10, 2014

Repete's Wisdom of the Week 6 Green Resolutions You Can Keep

Public Services



Repete's Wisdom of the Week - 6 Green Resolutions You Can Actually Keep. Now that the New Year is here, it's time to start thinking about those dreaded resolutions. It's important to start this year off on the right foot, so here are some suggestions for super-easy green resolutions that won't be hard to keep.

1. Eat and shop local

There are so many benefits to eating local; you're helping your local economy, food is fresher and stays fresh longer and fewer chemicals are needed to prolong life. Also, studies have found that food could travel 1,500 miles before it reaches your plate. That means a lot of pollution. Eating and shopping closer to home helps cut down on that pollution. Check out local farmers' markets and artisan shops.



2. Start a compost pile

Compost is magical. It improves soil quality physically, chemically and biologically. It also reduces the estimated 1.3 pounds of food scraps that Americans throw away daily. The best part is

you can compost no matter where you live and make huge, but simple strides to be greener in 2014. Bonus: Use the nutrient-rich soil to grow herbs and vegetables, and you keep your eating local resolution, too.

3. Reduce your footprint

Almost everything we do contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, but there are a lot of little things you can do to reduce your footprint. An added benefit is that these things will also save you money.

In the winter, try to keep your thermostat at 68 degrees or lower and during summer months, try for 78 degrees or higher. For each degree you vary from these recommended settings, you can increase your energy bill by four percent. Plus, less energy use means fewer emissions.

Make every Friday carpool day to work or school. This simple act will this bring you closer with your neighbors and help cut down on pollution.

4. Start recycling

Recycling is not only one of the greenest things you can do, it's also one of the easiest. Maybe begin with recycling cardboard and paper, then

once you get the hang of it incorporate a new item.

5. Throw monthly reuse parties

How often have you cleaned out the garage and just thrown out what you don't want or can't use anymore? Remember, one man's trash is another man's treasure. Set up clothing and item swaps with your friends once a month.

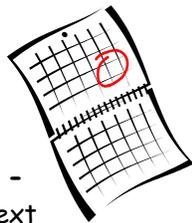
Invite everyone over for an afternoon and have them bring usable items and clothes to trade or give away. It is fun to get together and you can feel good knowing the things you don't want won't go to waste.

6. Simply use less

It's so easy and convenient to use paper plates, paper towels and napkins, but think about all the waste you have to throw away. This year try to avoid single-use products and excessive packaging. Invest in plates, towels and cloth napkins that you can reuse over and over, instead of ones you throw away after only a few uses.

Don't feel like you need to accomplish all six suggestions at once or you may become overwhelmed and not want to try them at all. Start slow and take on one at a time. Success will be slow but well worth the journey to green your lifestyle and reduce your impact on the environment.

Volunteer Services



Blood Drive Committee -

Mark your calendar! Highland's next blood drive is Monday, January 26, 2014!!! Help Highland increase blood donations for 2014! Below is the Blood Drive Schedule for the upcoming year. Hope to see you there!

- Monday, January 27
- Monday, March 24
- Tuesday, May 27

- Monday, July 28
- Monday, September 22
- Monday, November 24

TIME: 1:30pm - 6:30pm

LOCATION: Highland Police Station - 26985 Base Line

Blood drives are hosted at the Highland Police Station, located at 26985 Base Line. Donation times are from 1:30pm to 6:30pm. Please remember to bring a picture I.D. and drink plenty of fluids prior to donation.

Do you have questions or need information about becoming a new donor or volunteer? Contact Volunteer Services Coordinator, Denise Moreno at 909-864-6861 extension 203.

Highland Improvement Team - HIT can help YOU... The Highland Improvement Team (HIT) needs your help. We are currently looking for Highland homeowners who need help with yard cleanup, minor landscaping or garage clean out. There are no income eligibility requirements to qualify and there is absolutely no charge to the homeowner. A fabulous team of volunteers completes all work and repair at H.I.T. cleanups.

Here is what is needed to qualify:

- Resident must be 55 years and older (or) disabled
- Resident must own and reside in home

The Highland Improvement Team schedules one cleanup per month. Each cleanup requires enough work to fill the allotted four-hour period, usually from 8am to noon.

Please contact Denise Moreno, Volunteer Services Coordinator, to see if you qualify or to recommend a resident who may qualify for a residential HIT cleanup. Volunteer Service can be reached at 909-864-6861 extension 203.

Volunteer Opportunity - Volunteers are needed for 2-3 hours, approximately 7am - 10am to staff our Volunteer Services Water Station during the 31st Annual YMCA Run.

What: Water Station Volunteers
When: Sunday, January 26, 2014
Where: Arroyo Verde Elementary

The list is forming fast...sign up today! Please call Volunteer Services Coordinator, Denise Moreno, at 909-864-6861 extension 203.

Engineering

Olive Street Improvement Project- Construction is underway on Olive Street! The project consists of the construction of new curb, gutter, sidewalk, and pavement widening along both sides of Olive Street between Base Line and 14th Street. Work that has taken place to date includes clearing and grubbing, relocation of fences, relocation of water meters and fire hydrants, and grading for curb and gutter. Next week, the contractor will reconnect water services, grade for driveways, and pour concrete for curbs, gutters and driveways. Construction will take three months to complete. The estimated construction cost is \$498,000.

Administration

Emergency Preparedness- Why Prepare? More than 82% of U.S. residents are aware that emergency preparedness is important to handle disasters. Yet of these, most have made little, if any, actual preparations! What about you? Are you ready?

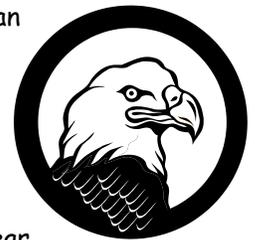
All of us need to take a role in helping protect each other and our families and friends in the event of an emergency. From fires to landslides to ever-present earthquakes, we continuously face emergency situations.

Disasters disrupt hundreds of thousands of lives every year. Each disaster has lasting effects, both to people and property. If a disaster occurs in your community, local government and disaster relief organizations will try to help you. But you need to be ready as well. Local responders may not be able to reach you immediately or they may need to focus their efforts elsewhere. You should know how to respond to severe weather or any disaster that could occur in your area, including earthquakes, wildfires, landslides, pandemic, flooding, terrorism and more. You should also be ready to be self-sufficient for three to seven days. This may mean providing for your own shelter, first aid, food, water and sanitation.

We know that the next emergency is coming. We just don't know when or what kind it will be. But we can - and must - prepare now for the next emergency. Our family, friends and community depend on it.

For more information on getting prepared, please visit www.ready.gov.

Volunteers Needed to Count Bald Eagles- Volunteers are needed to help count bald eagles for the annual winter bald eagle counts in and near the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains on Saturday January 11th, February 8th, and March 8th. Eleven eagles were seen during the December eagle count, including 6 at Big Bear Lake, 2 at Lake Arrowhead, and 2 at Silverwood Lake, and 1 at Lake Perris. These counts have been conducted since 1978.



Concurrent Bald Eagle counts are held at Big Bear Lake, Lake Arrowhead, Lake Silverwood, Lake Perris, and Lake Hemet. Volunteers are stationed at vantage points around the lakes, where they watch for bald eagles during a 1-hour period on the count mornings. Volunteers

record their observations on maps and data sheets. This is a wonderful opportunity to catch a glimpse of our breath-taking national symbol. Brief orientations are conducted prior to the count so volunteers know where to go and what to do.

"Through this method, the agencies and land managers have learned a lot about which areas are important to eagles and how the populations are doing. But we can't do it without a lot of volunteers - we need their eyes to help us look," said Forest Service biologist Robin Eliason.

The bald eagle counts for this winter are scheduled for the following Saturday mornings: January 11th, February 8th, and March 8th. No experience needed. Signing up ahead of time is unnecessary - just show up at the designated time and location, dress warmly, bring binoculars and a watch.

- **Big Bear Lake** area volunteers will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Forest Service's Big Bear Discovery Center on North Shore Drive for orientation. Contact Drew Farr (dpfarr@fs.fed.us or 909-382-2816) for more information. Please call 909-382-2832 for cancellation due to winter weather conditions - an outgoing message will be left by 6:30 am on the morning of the count if it has to be cancelled. Contact the Discovery Center (909-382-2790) for information about Eagle Celebrations. There will also be a free slideshow about bald eagles at 11:00.
- **Lake Arrowhead/Lake Gregory** volunteers will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Skyforest Ranger Station for orientation. Contact Drew Farr (dpfarr@fs.fed.us or 909-382-2816) for more information. Please call 909-382-2832 for cancellation due to winter weather conditions - an outgoing message will be left by 6:30 am on the morning of the count if it has to be cancelled.
- **Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area** volunteers should plan to meet at the Visitor Center at 8:00 a.m. for orientation. Contact

Kathy Williams or Mark Wright for more information about volunteering or taking an eagle tour (760-389-2303 between 8:00 and 4:00; or email: kwilliams@parks.ca.gov).

- **Lake Hemet** volunteers should plan on meeting at the Lake Hemet Grocery Store at 8:30 a.m. for orientation. Contact Anne Poopatanapong (apoopatanapong@fs.fed.us or 909-382-2935 for more information.
- **Lake Perris State Recreation Area** volunteers should plan to meet at the Lake Perris Regional Indian Museum at 8:00 for orientation. Contact the office for more information at 951-940-5600.

See websites for additional information about the San Bernardino National Forest (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/sanbernardino/>) and the California State Recreation Areas (www.parks.ca.gov).

Background - The best time of year to see bald eagles in Southern California is during winter months when there is an influx of eagles. Migrating eagles typically begin arriving in the area in late November and leave in late March or early April.

Bald eagles are usually found close to water because their diet is primarily made up of fish and ducks. As winter approaches in those northern regions, lakes freeze over and waterfowl fly south. For bald eagles, that means that the food they eat has become scarce. So, they head south looking for areas with abundant food supplies and end up wintering in sunny southern California!

During the winter, southern California bald eagles are typically found at many of the lakes, including Big Bear Lake, Baldwin Lake, Silverwood Lake, Lake Arrowhead, Green Valley Lake, Grass Valley Lake in the San Bernardino Mountains and Prado Dam, Lake Perris, Lake Hemet, Lake Skinner, Diamond Valley Lake, Lake Matthews, and the Salton Sea to the south.

Through radio-tracking bald eagles, biologists learned that some of the same individual eagles return to the San Bernardino Mountains year after year. We also determined that there is a lot of movement of eagles between the different mountain lakes and that the lakes do not have distinctive separate populations—the eagles regularly move between the mountain lakes.

Radio-tracking and/or banding also revealed that the eagles that winter in the San Bernardino Mountains migrate to Southern California from Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, and Canada. Those regions are likely where most of our migratory bald eagles nest in spring and summer. Some of the San Bernardino Mountains' eagles were tracked all the way to Alberta and the Northwest Territories in Canada - that is about 2,000 miles one-way! For more information regarding bald eagle migratory routes for these and other California eagles go to the University of Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group's web site at the following web address (<http://www2.ucsc.edu/scpbrg/baeamigration.htm>). While the evidence suggests a northern interior migration for most of the bald eagles, some of our southern California eagles have traveled fewer miles, moving over from the Channel Islands.

Breeding populations of bald eagles in Southern California were extirpated by the late 1950s. Until reintroduction efforts began in the 1980s on Catalina Island, the southern-most nest site known in California was in Lake County. Since 2003, several pairs of bald eagles have decided that our southern California neighborhoods were too nice to leave - they built nests and have successfully raised families. Nesting bald eagles can now be found at Lake Hemet, Lake Skinner, Lake Matthews, and Big Bear Lake. As the populations continue to grow, more bald eagles are in our future.

This is exactly what happened at Lake Hemet in Riverside County. The female eagle with orange

wing tags "02" hatched at San Francisco Zoo in 2000 and was released on Catalina Island as part of the reintroduction efforts. In 2004, she arrived at Lake Hemet and decided to take up year-round residence with the male bald eagle that was already there. In 2012, the first successful bald eagle nesting ever recorded in the San Bernardino Mountains happened in Big Bear Lake!

As bald eagles raise families in southern California, it is now possible to see bald eagles year-round (not just during winter migrations). Because of the influx of migrating bald eagles during the winter, the easiest time to see eagles is still between December and March.

The bald eagle is a success story of the federal Endangered Species Act - through protection under that law; its populations have recovered from the brink of extinction. Captive breeding programs, reintroduction efforts, the banning of DDT, and public education have all helped in the recovery of this species. There are over 10,000 breeding pairs in the United States and they now breed again in all 49 of the continental United States (they have never bred in Hawaii).

Because of the population rebound, bald eagles are no longer in jeopardy of going extinct. While bald eagles are no longer protected under federal Endangered Species Act, they still have full protection under the Bald Eagle Protection Act and under the State of California's Endangered Species Act. These laws make it illegal to harm or harass bald eagles. It is also illegal to possess bald eagle parts, even a feather.

Catching a glimpse of our breath-taking national symbol is relatively easy during winter months. There are some fantastic opportunities for excellent close-up photographs too. Just look in the tallest trees around the lake near open water for perching eagles. Or, if the lake is

partly frozen, look for eagles perched on the ice near small groups of ducks using the open water.

If you want to look for eagles in the Big Bear area, stop by the Forest Service's Big Bear Discovery Center (on North Shore Drive, 1-1/2 miles west of Stanfield Cutoff) and pick up a handout on eagles. Also, join us for one of our free public talks - call the Big Bear Discovery Center (909-382-2790) for dates and times.

Remember that human presence may distract or disturb the eagles - so, try to limit your movements and do not make loud noises when they're nearby. If possible, remain in your car while looking at eagles - the car acts as a blind. Stay a respectful distance of at least 200-300' away from perched bald eagles. Do not get closer than 1/4 mile away from nesting bald eagles - trying to get a closer look may result in eagles becoming agitated and knocking eggs or chicks out of the nest. It is illegal to harm or harass bald eagles. Please do your part to help protect our national bird!

Community Development

Historic and Cultural Preservation Board determination: At its January 8, 2014, Special Meeting, the Board Approved Certificate of Appropriateness 13-011, for the replacement of three (3) exterior doors on an existing historic residence and one (1) exterior door on an existing 205 square foot detached carriage house, subject to the Conditions of Approval and Adopted the Findings of Fact. The Property is located at 6932 Cole Avenue which is in the Highland Historic District. Representative and Owner: Eran Fattal.

Building and Safety

Building and Safety Division Activity Update. The following statistics were provided by the Building and Safety Division for the

number of Permit Totals and Valuations for the months of November and December, 2013.

Code / Description / No. of Units

OS - Plumbing, Electrical, Mechanical, Reroofs, Patio Covers, Special Inspections, etc. / 133
 101 - Single Family Residences / 5
 329 - Structures Other than Buildings, Pools, Walls, Fences / 19
 434 - Single Family Additions, Alterations / 16
 437 - Commercial Additions / Alterations / 2
 645 - Demolition of Single Family Residences / 1

Grand Total Valuation: \$3,635,115

Building & Safety Division in Total Fees collected

Plan Check	\$19,393.97
Building Permits	\$65,675.20
S.M.I.P.	\$ 239.85
Archiving	\$ 1,574.45
Green Building	\$ 250.00
Code Enforcement	\$ 3,340.40
Police Fee	\$ 254.52
Lien Release	<u>\$ 172.00</u>

Total Fees Collected \$90,900.39

Total Inspections Performed for the months of November and December: 642

If you want additional information, please contact the Building and Safety Division at (909) 864-8732.

Year 2013	Number Of Permits	Total Fees Collected	Total Inspections	Plan Checks
Jan	88	\$35,226.10	394	25
Feb	106	\$38,995.07	411	20
March	90	\$35,461.36	331	16
April	85	\$36,828.68	441	26
May	97	\$32,774.87	335	25
June	79	\$31,932.00	317	26
July	103	\$53,997.31	392	27
Aug	84	\$37,365.48	325	39
Sept	90	\$46,738.68	318	34
Oct	99	\$45,354.17	356	38
Nov	80	\$29,873.53	320	35
Dec	96	\$61,026.86	322	39

Save the Date...Saturday, March 29, 2014 from 9am to 3pm - It is the Annual Citrus Harvest Festival!!! This year, the Highland Area Chamber of Commerce year has taken over the management of the Annual Citrus Harvest Festival. The Festival is held in the Highland Historic District at the intersection of Palm Avenue and Main Street up to Pacific Street.

The Festival seeks to educate Highland's youth and adults on Highland's rich citrus history through an event that is family friendly and inclusive of profit and non-profit businesses. Residents will be able to enjoy family valued themes, products and services. For further information and Applications, contact the Highland Area Chamber of Commerce at (909) 864-4073 or <http://www.highlandchamber.org>

Public Works

Public Works Report - December 2013

Total Man-hours	981
Compensated Man-hours	847
Un-compensated Man-hours	135
Man-Hours per Activity	
General Clean-up	47.75
Parkway Maintenance	0
Potholes	43.5
Sidewalk	0.75
Storm Drains	53.75
Signs/Traffic Control	29.5
Trees Trimmed	0
Vehicle/Tool Maintenance	34.5
Building/Grounds Maintenance	54.75
Landscape Maintenance District	42
Park Maintenance	158.8
Trail Maintenance	30.5
Special Maintenance	56.75
Crack Sealing	0
Graffiti	148.5
USA Markings	18.3
Weed Spraying	71.25
Staff Meetings	83
Safety Training	2
Personal Time Off	0

SPECIAL: Placed k-rail at Highland Ave. /Summer Trail; removed sandbags at 6th/Victoria and spread dirt; sidewalk cleanup on Lytle Lane; removed sofa from Central Ave.; Highland Ave. /Boulder cleanup of debris and shopping carts; Base Line Project - slope irrigation/weed abatement/testing of irrigation system, and programmed water timing.

Finance

Commercial	Business	License
Applications - There were two new commercial business licenses for the week of 1/6 to 1/10/14, Z Best Insurance Agency located at 25716 Baseline and Mariscos El Korita located at 25570 Baseline.		



Mark Your Calendar

Monday, January 13, 2013

4pm to 5pm - Blood Drive Committee Meeting
Highland City Hall - 27215 Base Line

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

5:15pm - Finance Subcommittee Meeting, Upright Conference Room
6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Saturday, January 18, 2014

8am to 12pm (Noon) - HIT Cleanup, Meet at Highland City Hall - 27215 Base Line

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Monday, January 24, 2014

1:30pm to 6:30pm - Blood Drive held at the Highland Police Station, 26985 Base Line

Sunday, January 26, 2014

7:30am, 1st Race Time - Highland Y Run
Arroyo Verde Elementary, 7701 Church Street

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Thursday, February 6, 2014

5pm - Historic and Cultural Preservation Board Special Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

3pm - Street Naming Committee Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Thursday, February 13, 2014

5pm - Community Trails Committee Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Monday, February 17, 2014

President's Day Holiday - City Offices are closed

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Sunday, March 9, 2014

Daylight Savings Time Begins - remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour!!!

Thursday, March 13, 2014

5pm - Community Trails Committee Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Saturday, March 29, 2014

9am to 3pm - Annual Citrus Harvest Festival in the Highland Historic District. Located at the intersection of Palm Avenue and Main Street up to Pacific Street. For further information and Applications, please contact the Highland Area Chamber of Commerce at (909) 864-4073 or the Chamber's Website at the following web address <http://www.highlandchamber.org>

Assembled by: Elena Rodrigues



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