

City of Highland

Weekly Report



June 18, 2015

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

HIGHLAND IMPROVEMENT TEAM



HIT Cleanup is this SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2015! HIT will be helping out with a RESIDENTIAL yard cleanup! Volunteers will be helping a disabled homeowner with yard work. Some of the work needed is weeding, mowing, and trimming shrubs and broken tree branches as well as help dumping bulky items from the yard. This is a perfect project for family and youth volunteer groups!

Remember...EVERYONE is welcome to join in and help with any and all HIT projects. Interested Volunteers can contact Volunteer Services to sign up. You can also help in another way by being on the lookout for areas in Highland that the HIT can beautify. We would love to hear from you. We can all work together to keep Highland clean and in tiptop shape!

Please contact Volunteer Services Coordinator, Denise Moreno, with any questions or for more information about this Saturday's cleanup at 909-864-6861 extension 203.



9 Water-Conserving Tips for Summer Gardening

Across the country, the heat is on. To keep your grass or your garden alive during the summer heat wave without driving your water bill to new heights, follow these tips.

1. Choose the Right Tool — A standard garden hose and nozzle is the least efficient means of applying water to plants because so much water is lost as mist, runoff and evaporation. Use a soaker hose or a sprinkler wand.
2. Don't Over-Water — For most Americans, a good rule of thumb is that a lawn needs 1 inch of water a week and perennial plants and shrubs will need from 1 inch to 2 inches a week. There's no neat rule for watering annuals, so your best guide is always the plant tag (the small spear-shaped plastic tag that came with the plant when you bought it). It will tell you the sun, soil, pH and water requirements.

Continued on next page...

When in doubt, keep the plant's soil lightly moist and see how it responds. If conditions are especially hot and windy where you are, keep a careful eye out for wilting. If you see the signs, add water to the soil, but don't overcompensate by drowning the plant. Over-watering is just as bad as under-watering; it leads to root rot and soil compaction that robs the roots of air.



3. Don't Waste Water — Don't soak the plant's foliage; it does little good. And don't apply water outside a shrub's or a perennial's root zone. A shrub's root zone is roughly 1 to 3 times the diameter of its canopy, and keeping the water inside this radius will allow it to soak down to where the plant's roots can reach it.

If you see water puddling or running off, stop; let the water soak in before resuming. Likewise, water that runs off your lawn or off the top of a flower bed onto paved surfaces does no good. The same applies to running lawn sprinklers: Water your lawn, not the side of your house or the driveway.

4. Make Sure Mulch Doesn't Crust Over — Mulch is great for holding in moisture and keeping the base of plants cool. However, a thick layer of mulch can also form a crust that prevents water from soaking in. Break up crusted mulch with a rake to allow water in.

5. Test for Moisture — You can buy a tool to gauge your soil's moisture level at a nursery or through a horticultural supply catalog. But if you don't have one, a large straight blade screwdriver is a good standby. Poke it into the soil; the drier the soil, the more resistance you'll meet.

6. If You Can, Water in the Morning — If you water while it's (relatively) cool outside, water can soak in before it evaporates on the surface. And if you do it in the morning, that helps the plant to take up the water during the day. Watering at dusk or even during early evening is OK, but you run the risk of fungus formation, because these organisms love dark and damp places. Plus, the darkness can make it hard to see what you're doing (and, as noted, precision counts even when watering your plants).

7. Focus on the Front — The front of the house plays the greatest role in determining its curb appeal and value. If you're worried about conserving water, or find yourself under water restrictions, worry about the front lawn first and let the rest of the lawn take care of itself.

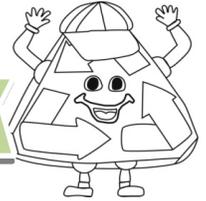
8. Use Cool Water — Don't use a hose that's been coiled up, filled with water and sitting in the sun all day. That coiled hose can act like a water heater, and hot water stresses sensitive plants. Store your hose in the shade. If you can't, at least run out the heated water before giving your plants a drink.

9. Water at Widely Spaced Intervals — With your lawn and perennials, it's better to give them larger amounts of water at longer intervals than it is to apply small amounts of water frequently. That's because shallow watering encourages shallow rooting. In very hot weather, a ballpark range for watering is every other day for perennials and every three to four days for shrubs. Again, make sure to monitor the soil moisture.



Water annuals and container plants as needed. Since container plants can't draw moisture from surrounding soil, it's crucial that their soil remain moist (but not wet).

Repete's Wisdom of the Week



IE Conservation Fair— Join your local water providers for the IE Conservation Fair, a day for families to come together for smart and practical landscape inspiration, access to local vendors and conservation rebates, as well as speakers, food and entertainment for the kids. This is a FREE event.

Date: June 27, 2015

Times: 10am to 2pm

Location: University of Redlands – Stauffer Complex

The Inland Empire can beat the drought if we all work together to conserve. For more information please visit www.iefficient.com

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ Do You Have a Leak? ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

Household Leaks— Did you know that a typical home can lose 2,000 to 20,000 gallons of water per year due to leaks? Some leaks are obvious, such as dripping faucets and leaking water heaters. Unfortunately, some leaks are not easily visible as others and can be between walls or even underground. The most common source of a leak in a home is a toilet leak.

Test Your Toilets - Did you know that a silent leak in a toilet can waste more than 40 gallons of water per day? To test your toilets for leaks, put a few drops of food coloring or leak detection tablets into the tank of the toilet. Do not flush the toilet for 15 minutes. If colored water appears in the bowl, your toilet has a leak.

You can also detect a toilet leak by listening to see if you toilet “runs” when they are not in use. A running toilet can waste up to five gallons per minute. Repairing a toilet leak is usually simple and can often be done by replacing the flapper or fill valve, or adjusting the float.



Check for Invisible or Slow Leaks - Reading your meter often will help detect invisible or slow leaks making it more likely you'll catch a leak early. Turn off all water taps inside and outside your home. Record the meter reading and return in two to three hours to check for movement. If the meter reading has changed, you may have a leak. Many meters have a small triangle on the meter face, designed to detect even small leaks. If this triangle is moving when you have all water off inside and outside your home, you may have a leak.

Is the Leak Inside or Outside? To find out if a leak is inside or outside your home try monitoring the meter with the house valve turned off. If there is movement on the meter while the house valve is off, the water leak is outside.

Check Your Yard & Sprinkler System - If certain areas of your yard are always wet or muddy, check for leaks in your sprinkler system. Also, check for broken sprinkler heads. Broken sprinkler heads spray excessive amounts of water and need to be replaced.

For more information please visit: http://www.epa.gov/watersense/our_water/howto.html

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning Commission: At the June 16, 2015, regular meeting, the Planning Commission considered the following items:

1. An Application by Immanuel Baptist Church Requesting an Extension of Time for the Use of an Existing Modular Building. (EXT 015-003)

The Planning Commission adopted Resolution 2015-005 approving a one (1) year extension for the continued use of the existing modular building.

2. Tentative Tract Map 18935 (TTM-14-001) for the Subdivision of two (2) Adjoining Parcels into 71 Numbered Lots and One (1) Lettered Lot for the Construction of 70 Detached Single-Family Residences (Continued from June 2, 2015 Planning Commission Meeting)

The Planning Commission:

1. Adopted the Mitigated Negative Declaration and instructed the Secretary to file a Notice of Determination;
2. Adopted Resolution No. 2015-004 approving Tentative Tract Map Application (TTM-14-001) (TTM-18935), subject to the Conditions of Approval and Findings of Fact; and,
3. Directed Staff to reach a feasibility of installing a midblock stop sign on Aplin St. and provide the findings of the research to the Public Safety Committee for review.

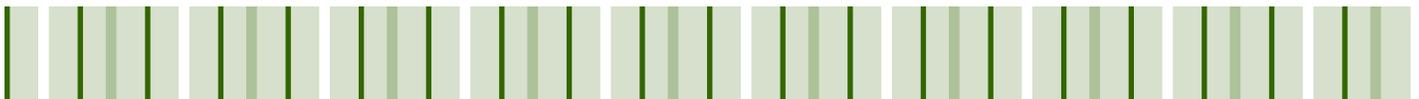
3. Review of the City's 2014 General Plan Implementation Annual Report in Accordance with Government Code Section 65400 and 65588

The Planning Commission received and filed the 2014 General Plan Annual Report.

4. Municipal Code Amendment (MCA-015-01) – Reorganization of the City of Highland Planning Commission from a seven (7) member Board to a five (5) Member Board

The Planning Commission:

1. Adopted a Notice of Exemption and instruct the City Clerk to file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk of the Board, and;
2. Adopted Planning Commission Resolution No. 2015-006 recommending the City Council adopt an Ordinance approving Municipal Code Amendment (MCA-015-001) amending Title 2, Administration and Title 16, Land Use and Development Code to Reorganize the Highland Planning Commission from a seven (7) member Board to a five (5) member Board.



ADMINISTRATION

Emergency Preparedness Maintaining your kit

Just as important as putting your supplies together is maintaining them so they are safe to use when needed. Here are some tips to keep your supplies ready and in good condition:

- Keep canned food in a cool, dry place.
- Store boxed food in tightly closed plastic or metal containers to protect from pests and to extend its shelf life.
- Throw out any canned good that becomes swollen, dented or corroded.
- Use foods before they go bad and replace them with fresh supplies.
- Place new items at the back of the storage area and older ones in the front.
- Change stored food and water supplies every six months. Be sure to write the date you store it on all containers.
- Re-think your needs every year and update your kit as your family's needs change.
- Check batteries. Throw out any that are corroded or discharged and replace with fresh ones.
- Check medication and first aid items. Throw out any that are beyond their expiration date and replace.

Keep items in airtight plastic bags and put your entire disaster supplies kit in one or two easy-to-carry containers, such as an unused trashcan, camping backpack, plastic tote bin or duffel bag. For more information about disaster preparedness, please visit www.ready.gov.

FINANCE

Commercial Business License Applications

There were no new commercial Business licenses for the week of 6/15/15 to 6/19/15.

Public Works

City-Wide Sidewalk Repairs

Reconstruction of damaged sidewalk and damaged or non-ADA compliant handicap curb ramps at various locations throughout the City was completed this week from the west City limits to Church Street. Due to various factors, the segment of the City east of Church Street was not completed. However, the remaining concrete repairs will be folded into another upcoming public works concrete project that is anticipated to begin construction early September of 2015.



© Can Stock Photo

9th Street Safety Improvements

Construction is more than halfway done. This week, the contractor completed slurry seal, cat-tracking for striping, and installation of signal pedestrian countdown heads at 5 intersections along 9th Street from Del Rosa Drive to Victoria Avenue. Traffic signal loops and construction of in-pavement lighted crosswalks devices are also underway. Next week all loops will be constructed and final striping will begin. Construction completion is on schedule to be done in July of 2015.

alendar of Events

June 20, 2015

8am to 12 Noon—Highland Improvement Team Cleanup
Registration 7:30am to 8:00am
Highland City Hall, 27215 Base Line

June 23, 2015

8:30am—Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting, Upright Conference Room
4pm—Public Safety Tax Ad Hoc Meeting, Upright Conference Room
5pm— Special City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers
6pm – City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

July 7, 2015

6pm – Planning Commission, Donahue Council Chambers

July 9, 2015

5pm - Community Trails Committee, Donahue Council Chambers

July 14, 2015

DARK – City Council Meeting,

July 15, 2015

Public Nuisance Hearing Board, Donahue Council Chambers

July 21, 2015

6pm - Planning Commission, Donahue Council Chambers

July 28, 2015

DARK – City Council Meeting

August 4, 2015

6pm -Planning Commission, Donahue Council Chambers

August 6, 2015

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

August 11, 2015

6pm – City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

August 12, 2015

3pm— Street Naming Committee , Donahue Council Chambers

August 13, 2015

5pm – Community Trails Committee, Donahue Council Chambers

August 18, 2015

6pm – Planning Commission, Donahue Council Chambers

August 25, 2015

6pm – City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

September 1, 2015

6pm– Planning Commission, Donahue Council Chambers

September 8, 2015

6pm—City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

September 10, 2015

5pm – Community Trails Committee, Donahue Council Chambers

September 15, 2015

6pm – Planning Commission, Donahue Council Chambers

September 22, 2015

6pm – City Council Meeting , Donahue Council Chambers



Created by: Elena Rodrigues