



City of Highland Weekly Report

November 7, 2013

Repete's Wisdom of the Week Wood Burning Tips

Public Services

Repete's Wisdom of the Week - Wood-Burning Tips. How to Reduce Air Pollution from Wood Burning. A wood-burning fireplace can cause pollution and be harmful to your lungs. But with some small changes, you can make a big difference. Here are some tips to help reduce pollution from your wood-burning fireplace:



1. Choose not to burn when air quality is already poor. Check the SCAQMD Air Quality Index in your local newspaper or visit www.aqmd.gov to monitor when the air quality is poor to avoid burning wood on these days. Pay close attention during wood-burning season - November to February - to ensure you are not burning wood when a mandatory no-burn alert has been issued for your area. Save energy and reduce pollution during these months by wearing a sweater on chilly nights.
2. Reduce your need for fuel. Make your home more energy-efficient by installing ceiling insulation, weather stripping or caulking windows and doors. Close off unused rooms if you don't have central heating.

3. Have your chimney professionally cleaned. Keep your chimney swept and ash area clean to improve air flow and reduce emissions. According to the California Air Resources Board, chimneys should be professionally cleaned periodically to prevent creosote buildup and reduce the potential for chimney fires. Store wood outdoors, off the ground and with the top covered.



4. If you do burn wood, start fires with softwood kindling such as pine or fir. Always burn "seasoned" or dry wood. These woods are generally low in density, ignite easily, burn fast and hot and will heat the firebox and flue quickly. Hardwoods such as oak can take longer to ignite, but they burn slower and produce less smoke. Remember to use smaller fires in mild weather.
5. Never burn garbage and other materials. It can cause toxic smoke that can be extremely harmful to you and your neighbors.
6. Watch chimney for smoke. Properly burning fires should give off only a wisp of white steam. The darker and thicker the smoke, the more

pollution the fire emits, and the more fuel it wastes.

7. Beware of overnight heating. Do not leave open fires unattended or let them burn overnight. This can lead to a back draft of smoke in your home, causing hazardous indoor air pollution. Build a small, hot fire and let it burn out completely, closing the damper when finished.

8. For heating, switch to a cleaner wood-burning alternative. An EPA-certified wood stove emits up to 70 percent less particulate emissions and uses 30 percent less fuel.

9. Replace your wood-burning fireplace with a natural gas insert. The inhalable particle pollution from one wood stove is equivalent to the particle pollution emitted from 3,000 gas furnaces producing the same amount of heat per unit.

10. Remember... If you can smell smoke, you are breathing smoke!

For further information on Check Before You Burn and alternatives to wood burning, see www.healthyhearths.org.

America Recycles Day - Nov. 15. Since 1997, communities across the country have come together on November 15 to celebrate America Recycles Day. More than a celebration, America Recycles Day is the only nationally recognized day dedicated to raising awareness about the benefits of recycling and buying products made with recycled materials. Buying recycled is the step that "closes the recycling loop."



This is one day to inform and educate. One day to get our neighbors, friends and community leaders excited about what can be accomplished when we all work together. One day to make recycling bigger and better 365 days a year.

Join the City of Highland Public Services Division and Re-Pete in celebrating America Recycles Day.

From November 4, 2013 thru November 14, 2013, there will be a display in the lobby of City Hall (27215 Baseline). Guess how many recyclable items are inside and the (5) five participants who are the closest without going over will win a ClearStream Portable Recycling Container.

You may pick up your entry form from the receptionist at City Hall. Entries will be accepted until 5pm on November 14th. Each participant will receive a special prize for participating.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Public Services Coordinator, Andrea Saavedra at 909-864-8732 ext. 271.

Volunteer Services

Blood Drive - Highland's next Blood Drive is Monday, November 25, 2013. There is always an increase in demand for blood during the holidays. What better way to give back to others during this Thanksgiving season than by donating blood in your community. Please consider joining us to donate the "Gift of Life". All donors will receive a slice of pie to celebrate the season and also receive points to be used at LifeStream's online store.

The blood drive is scheduled for Monday, November 25, 2013 from 1:30pm to 6:30pm at the Highland Police Station, 26985 Base Line. For more information contact Volunteer Services at 909-864-6861 extension 203.

2013 Thanksgiving Food Drive - It's that time again...a time of giving and sharing. The Highland Police Department is once again hosting a Thanksgiving Food Drive. The food drive will run from Monday, October 28, 2013

through Friday, November 22, 2013. There are always families in need, especially during the holidays. We hope that the community and businesses of Highland will contribute to make this a successful food drive.

The donation boxes are for NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS ONLY and are now available at the following locations:

- Highland Police Station: 26985 Base Line
- Highland City Hall: 27215 Base Line
- Highland YMCA: 7793 Central Ave
- Highland Community News: 27000 Base Line St., Suite G

If you would like your business to be a designated food drop off location, please contact Volunteer Services Coordinator, Denise Moreno, at 909-864-6861 extension 203.

Anyone wishing to donate PERISHABLE ITEMS or GIFT CARDS please contact Lisa Henley at the Highland Police Station at 909-425-9793.

Highland Improvement Team November Cleanup...The HIT Cleanup for November will take place on Saturday, November 16, 2013. Volunteers are asked to meet at Highland City Hall (27215 Baseline) from 7:30am to 8:00am to sign in. Volunteers will leave City Hall for the cleanup site at 8:00am. Please remember that each volunteer must provide their own transportation to and from the cleanup site. As a token of appreciation, the City will provide lunch following the cleanup. Please contact Volunteer Services at 909-864-6861 ext. 203 with any questions or to sign up for the November cleanup project.

Attention!! Homes Wanted... The Highland Improvement Team needs your help. We are searching for Highland homeowners who need help with yard cleanup and minor landscaping. There are no income eligibility requirements and absolutely no charge to the

homeowner. A fabulous team of volunteers completes all work and repair at H.I.T. cleanups.

Here are the few qualifications:

- Must be 55 years and older or disabled
- Must own and reside in your home

The Highland Improvement Team schedules one cleanup per month. Each cleanup requires enough work to fill the allotted four-hour period, usually from 8:00am to noon.

Please contact Volunteer Services at 909-864-6861 ext. 203 if you qualify or know someone who may qualify for a HIT cleanup.

Administration

West Nile Virus Update - As of October 30, 2013, there have been 2,059 human cases of West Nile Virus (WNV) (including 83 fatalities) reported nationally to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Approximately 49% of the human cases were classified as West Nile neuroinvasive disease (i.e. meningitis or encephalitis). The remaining cases (51%) are the less severe form of the disease, West Nile fever. Human cases of WNV were reported from states nationwide. States with the highest number of human cases of WNV include California, Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Illinois. So far this year, California has had 319 human cases of WNV. Eleven of those were in San Bernardino County, one of which resulted in a fatality. Human cases in San Bernardino County have remained low compared to the state average.



West Nile Virus Dead Bird Hotline Update. Live operators no longer answer the WNV Dead Bird Hotline. As of October 19, 2013, calls made to the WNV Dead Bird Hotline

will be directed to [report dead birds online](#). Those not able to enter a report online will be given the option to enter their zip code and be referred to their local vector control agency. Vector control staff can assist entering the dead bird report. Please visit the [California West Nile Virus](#) website for more information.

New Mosquito Species Documented -

Two new types of mosquito have been found in California. The Asian Tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) has been found in Los Angeles County, and the Yellow Fever mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*) has been found in Fresno, Madera and San Mateo Counties. Though common in other parts of the world, they had previously not been identified here. These mosquitoes were probably introduced by hitchhiking in freight containers on cargo ships or by air. Both types of mosquitoes can carry WNV but can also spread diseases such as dengue, yellow fever, and Chikungunya. Most mosquitoes in San Bernardino County bite at dawn and dusk, but the Asian Tiger mosquito and Yellow Fever mosquito can bite at any time of day.



Yellow Fever mosquito. Photo courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control.



Asian Tiger mosquito. Photo courtesy of the Centers for Disease Control.

For the first time in San Bernardino County, the Dark Rice Field mosquito (*Psorophora columbiae*) was identified in Needles after the monsoon rains that occurred this summer. When flooded, large numbers of these mosquitoes develop quickly and can resemble a dark cloud. The Dark Rice Field mosquito is distinguished by its dark and silver coloring and can be found in fields, yards, and some wooded areas. Similar to the Asian Tiger mosquito and Yellow Fever mosquito, the Dark Rice Field mosquito can bite at any time of day, but prefers the early morning and late afternoon.



Dark Rice Field mosquito.

If you or anyone you know are being bitten during the daytime please report it to your local vector control agency and save the specimen for identification if possible. You can find your local vector control agency [here](#).

How Can I Help Prevent West Nile Virus? To aid in the prevention of WNV, it is very important that property owners remove all sources of stagnant water from their property. San Bernardino County residents with pools are urged to keep them properly maintained. Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water and green pools in very large numbers.

[Click here](#) to download a brochure with more important facts on WNV prevention. If you're a senior, [click here](#) to download a brochure with information about how to keep yourself safe from WNV.



You can report dead birds or squirrels to the California West Nile Virus website at, www.westnile.ca.gov. For more information or to report a green pool or mosquito breeding source, contact the Division of Environmental Health Services at (800) 442-2283 or visit our website at www.sbcounty.gov/dph/dehs.

Stay Connected to DEHS with Social Media - Follow our social media sites to get the latest news on mosquito and vector control, food safety and foodborne illness prevention, pool safety and drowning prevention, and more! We are now on [Facebook](#), [Pinterest](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Facebook en Español](#), [Pinterest en Español](#), [Twitter en Español](#), and [YouTube en Español](#).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Lana Cao, Health Education Specialist I, at 800-442-2283 or Lana.Cao@dph.sbcounty.gov.

The San Bernardino National Forest is waiving fees at its day-use recreation sites over the Veteran's Day holiday weekend, Nov. 9-11. Visitors will not need to provide the normally required National Forest Adventure Pass.

The fee waivers - the fourth this year - are offered in cooperation with other federal agencies under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. Day-use fees will be waived at all standard amenity fee sites operated by the U.S. Forest Service.



Visitors who inadvertently use a Daily Adventure Pass this weekend can have it replaced free of charge. Though the Adventure Pass fee will be waived, campground, reservation, group-site, and concession fees will still be in effect.

Those interested may contact their local Ranger Station for more information:

- Big Bear Ranger Station & Discovery Center - 909-382-2790
- Idyllwild Ranger Station - 909-382-2922
- Lytle Creek Ranger Station - 909-382-2852
- Mill Creek Ranger Station - 909-382-2882
- Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument - 760-862-9984

The fee waiver days support the goals of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors initiative, which encourages all Americans to connect with the outdoors, and First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move Outside," which encourages children to get out and get active to be healthy.

The Forest Service also honors active duty military members year-round with the free Interagency Annual Military Pass honored at all Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service sites charging entrance or standard amenity fees.

The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S., of which 100 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

Community Development

Planning Commission determination: At its November 5, 2013, Regular Meeting, the Commission approved the Municipal Code Amendment (MCA 013-005) temporarily suspending the City's Inclusionary Housing requirements described in Ordinance No. 306. The Municipal Code Amendment may now proceed forward in the process and the Application will be scheduled for a future City Council Meeting.

Public Works



Public Works Report - Oct 2013

Total Man-hours	1,052
Compensated Man-hours	1,001
Un-compensated Man-hours	51
Man-Hours per Activity	
General Clean-up	70.25
Parkway Maintenance	13.5
Potholes	22.75
Sidewalk	2
Storm Drains	63
Signs/Traffic Control	54.5

Trees Trimmed	25.25
Vehicle/Tool Maintenance	39.25
Building/Grounds Maintenance	189
Landscape Maintenance District	20.25
Park Maintenance	159.5
Trail Maintenance	27.5
Special Maintenance	60.5
Crack Sealing	0
Graffiti	137
USA Markings	20.8
Weed Spraying	1.5
Staff Meetings	102
Safety Training	36.75
Personal Time Off	4.25

SPECIAL: Dug trench and installed silt fence at 6th/Victoria; prepared to start annual storm drain inspections; delivered tables/chairs to Fire Station #3; pressure-washed sidewalk at Cram School; met with inspector at Cloverhill/Elder Creek regarding pcc work and tree root grinding, and contacted East Highlands Ranch regarding this work; made repairs to Greenspot Rd. Bridge; attended training at Household Hazardous Waste.

Finance

Commercial	Business	License
Applications - There were no new commercial business licenses for the week of 11/04 to 11/08/13.		



Mark Your Calendar

Monday, Oct 28 to Friday, Nov 22, 2013 - Thanksgiving Food Drive Food Drop Off
Locations:

- Highland Police Station
- Highland City Hall
- Highland YMCA
- Highland Community News

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

8:30am - Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting, Upright Conference Room

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

5:30pm - Finance Subcommittee Meeting, Upright Conference Room
6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Thursday, November 14, 2013

3:30pm - Community Trails Committee Special Meeting, On-site Location at Seven Oaks Dam, 32220 Santa Ana Canyon Road, Highland
Community Trails Committee Regular Meeting has been cancelled

Saturday, November 16, 2013

8am to 12 Noon - Highland Improvement Team Cleanup Meet @ Highland City Hall - 27215 Base Line

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Thursday, November 21, 2013

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

Monday, November 25, 2013

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

Tuesday, November 26, 2013

6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Thursday / Friday, November 28-29, 2013

Thanksgiving Holiday - City Offices are closed

Tuesday, December 3, 2013

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Wednesday, December 4, 2013

4pm - Public Nuisance Hearing Board Special Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

Thursday, December 5, 2013

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

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue
Council Chambers

Thursday, December 12, 2013

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

Tuesday, December 17, 2013

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting,
Donahue Council Chambers

Wednesday, December 25, 2013

Christmas Holiday - City Offices are closed

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

New Year's Day Holiday - City Offices are closed

Tuesday, January 7, 2014

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting,
Donahue Council Chambers

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Community Trails Committee Regular Meeting is
cancelled

Tuesday, January 14, 2014

6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue
Council Chambers

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting,
Donahue Council Chambers

Tuesday, January 28, 2014

6pm - Regular City Council Meeting, Donahue
Council Chambers

Assembled by: Elena Rodrigues



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