



# City of Highland Weekly Report

November 20, 2009

## Annual Tree Trimming & Street Striping Underway

### Engineering

**Tree Trimming Underway.** The City's annual tree trimming operation is underway. Currently, trees are being trimmed in the area located between Sterling Avenue and Victoria Avenue. Not all trees will be trimmed; only those located within City right-of-way that need trimming to maintain the health of the tree and to maintain safety. Work is scheduled to be completed by November 30<sup>th</sup>.



**Street Striping also Underway.** Annual street striping is also underway. Striping along segments of Greenspot Road, Sterling Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Del Rosa Drive has been repainted. In addition, the parking lot for the Community Park and the Community Center has been repainted. This work takes place at night to reduce impacts to the traveling public. Repainting of stop bars and legends at various locations will also be underway soon.

### Public Services



### REPETE'S WISDOM OF THE WEEK - Tips on Greening



**Your Turkey Day!** The holiday season is officially in full-swing, and Thanksgiving marks the beginning of big family dinners, extensive gift shopping and elaborate decorations. But the season isn't all turkey, stuffing and pie. According to RecycleWorks, from Thanksgiving to New Years Day, household waste increases by more than 25 percent. So, start off your holiday season on the green foot by making a few small, eco-friendly changes this Turkey Day. It's easy to get the entire family involved, have fun and decrease the burden on the environment and your wallet as well.

**Shopping for Food** - Before you rush to eat yourself into a Tryptophan-induced coma, take a minute to think about where your food comes from. When shopping for your holiday meal, keep two words in mind: **organic** and **local**. These keywords will guarantee a fresher, more nutritious meal.

If you buy local, not only can you enjoy fresh food, but you will also support your local economy. Check for farmers' markets, family farms, community-supported agriculture programs and U-Pick options in your area for the

freshest produce, eggs, dairy and grass-fed meat. Also, don't forget the vegetarians at your table. It is estimated that 3 percent of Americans, between 6 million and 8 million adults, are vegetarians. If you're going to have a large crowd, buy food in bulk to reduce packaging waste and save money. And of course, bring your own reusable shopping bags to the grocery store.

**Portion Control** -At least 28 billion pounds of edible food is wasted each year - more than 100 pounds per person. One of the best ways to reduce your waste this Thanksgiving is to plan ahead for the meal and practicing portion control. Here is a handy list of approximate per person food portions:

- Turkey- 1 pound
- Stuffing- ¼ pound
- Sweet potato casserole- ¼ pound
- Green beans- ¼ pound
- Cranberry relish- 3 tablespoons
- Pumpkin pie- 1/8 of a 9 inch pie

After the meal, evaluate how many people were present and how much of each dish was consumed. By keeping track each year, you can make a more efficient, less wasteful holiday meal in the future.

**Do Something Fun!** - Instead of firmly planting yourself in front of the TV for the day, consider getting some fresh air or playing a board game. Take advantage of the time together with friends and family while decreasing your energy usage. Try bundling up and playing some football outside instead of watching it. Split the whole family into teams and get everyone involved. Make sure the winners get to go through the pie line first! While you are outside be sure and turn down the thermostat and turn off lights to save energy.

**Traveling Tips** - If traveling is part of your holiday plans be sure your tires are properly inflated before hitting the road. The U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the average driver can improve their mileage by

3.3% simply by maintaining proper tire pressure. While this may not sound like much it means an eleven cent savings per gallon which could add up quickly during a road trip. If each family reduced holiday gasoline consumption by 1 gallon (about 20 miles), we would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1 million tons. To minimize vehicle pollution, carpool with family and friends to your holiday destination.

**Setting the Table** - There are many options when it comes to table setting, all dependent upon how many guests will be present at your Thanksgiving celebration. If it is going to be a small gathering, get out your nice china for the occasion. Cloth napkins are also a plus.



If you're expecting a big crowd, organize it like a potluck and ask your guests to bring dishes and silverware for themselves. If disposable place settings are your only choice, opt for biodegradable and compostable utensils, napkins and plates, such as those from Biodegradable Store.com.

**Crafty Decorations (Yes, You Can Do It!)** - Add a little extra elegance to your table with homemade decorations. Most materials can be found in your craft cupboard or backyard. Have the kids chip in with a pre-holiday craft day. Here are some ideas to get your creative juices flowing:

- Acorn napkin ties
  - Dried leaf place cards
  - Corn or leaf print place mats
  - Pinecone turkeys
  - Painted gourds
  - Festive fall arrangements of pumpkins or corn cobs
  - Make your own cornucopia
- If there is a tablecloth or other decorative item you've been eying, make sure it's a purchase you'll be happy to reuse in the future. Some decorations can even become new family traditions.

**Recycling Isn't a Chore** - Last, but not least, get back to the basics and recycle. Encourage your guests to pitch in and clearly mark recycling

bins. Recycling all packaging, as well as any beverage containers, will significantly reduce the number of times you have to take the trash out, as well as the amount of garbage you send to the landfill.

## Volunteer Services

**Hit Clean-Up Saturday!** The Volunteer Services Division is hard at work planning the next Highland Improvement Team clean up project. The project is scheduled for Saturday, November 21, 2009 and will primarily consist of yard work at a residential property. We will meet at Highland City Hall, 27215 Baseline at 8:00am. There will be a light breakfast consisting of pastries and juice before we depart for the clean up destination at 8:15am.



Please remember to join us back at City Hall following the clean up for a barbeque, held as a token of appreciation to all those volunteering their time to this clean up.

The Highland Improvement Team looks forward to seeing you there!

If you are interested in scheduling a cleanup specifically for your community group or club or would like more information regarding the Highland Improvement Team and how you can help, please contact the Volunteer Services Division at 909-864-8732 at extension 203.

**Blood Drive Monday!** Join the City of Highland and LifeStream on November 23, 2009 at the Jerry Lewis Community located at 7793 Central Ave, between 1:30pm and 6:30pm as we host our final Community Blood Drive of the year.

The demand for blood never stops. LifeStream must collect at least 400 donations a day to ensure that our local hospitals get the lifesaving treatments they need. Giving blood provides community members with the opportunity to contribute a live saving

donation.

To thank our donors for their lifesaving donations, you will receive a free slice of pie in the canteen. LifeStream is teaming up with I-10 Toyota to make one lucky blood donor the owner of a new, fuel efficient Toyota Prius. Donate during the November Blood Drive and be entered to win!

The first community Blood Drive of 2010 will take place on January 25, 2010. So make your New Year's resolution to donate blood at least one time during 2010. Let's help Highland increase its lifesaving donations. Hope to see you all there!

Should you have any questions or would like to volunteer your time, please contact Volunteer Services Coordinator, Denise Garnsey at 909 864-8732 at extension 203.

## Community Development

**Planning Commission determination:** At its November 17, 2009, Meeting, the Commission considered the following item:

1. Appointment of two (2) Members of the Planning Commission to a City Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee to review and recommend suggested Amendments to the City's Sign Regulations (Municipal Code Amendment-009-005).

The Planning Commission appointed Commissioner Randall Hamerly and Commissioner Michael Stoffel to a City Council Ad Hoc Subcommittee to review and recommend suggested Amendments to the City's Sign Regulations, Chapter 16.56 of the Highland Land Use and Development Code (MCA-009-005). There will be a six member, membership for the Ad Hoc Subcommittee that consists of two City Council Members who are Jody Scott and John Timmer, two Planning Commissioners who are Randall Hamerly and Michael Stoffel and two (2) Members of the Highland Area Chamber of Commerce who are Rich Blanco and Jeff Stoffel. Congratulations to all!

## Public Works

**What's New in Public Works?** The following activities were completed by Public Works Crew between 11/2 - 11/17/09: Did inventory of red curbing; picked-up trash at City parks; did repairs on Greenspot Bridge, including road closure for asphalt repair; did vehicle checks on City vehicles at City Hall; cleaned various storm drains; did landscape maintenance/irrigation checks at landscape maintenance districts, parks, Sheriff Station; checked USA tickets, responded to service requests; started work on landscape project at City Hall (involving concrete and boulders); repaired rail fence section on Bacon Ln. (Shelton Horse Trail) n/o Highland Ave.; checked erosion areas on trail along Cloverhill Dr./Emmerton Ln; put-up banner over Base Line; asphalt repair on 3<sup>rd</sup> St. w/o Palm, 3<sup>rd</sup> St./Marilyn, Pacific w/o Colwyn; trimmed tree at Streater/Glenheather; inspected janitorial contract work at City Hall, and made assorted maintenance repairs; cleaned graffiti & power-washed gazebos, sidewalks, tables, trash cans, building structures, bleachers, benches, etc. at Community Park; irrigation walk-thru at Lowes frontage landscape; picked-up furniture/trash/debris at various locations; checked-out "dangling shoe" reports; located and marked misc. drains throughout Highland; marked street for striping at 27600 Atlantic; removed swings for adjustment/repair at Community Park; installed new pet waste station in dog park at Aurantia Park; ordered repair of surveillance system at Canyon Oaks Park; PARSAC training; asphalt patching on Greenspot Rd. and on Highland Ave. at American Legion; cleaned/sealed roof at Fire Station #2; cleaned large paint spills/vandalism damage and repaired sink faucet handles at Community Park in mens restroom; made copies of surveillance cds on taggers at Community Park concession bldg./restrooms; dug sign post hole on Shelton on Cloverhill by EVWD pump station; repaired broken sprinkler risers in orange grove in Aurantia Park; checked drain inlet at south end of Aloe Ct.; cleaned Via Deldene drain traps;

concrete-posted base for "no inlet" sign at Water/North Fork; removed tree stump at Glenheather/Streater; attended work release supervision class at Glen Helen; replaced island sign at Greenspot/Valencia; painted red curb at Cypress, Lankershim and Warm Springs Schools.

## Mark Your Calendar

### Saturday, November 21, 2009

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Highland Improvement Team Clean Up, Meet at City Hall 27215 Baseline

### Saturday, November 23, 2009

1:30 pm to 6:30 pm - Community Blood Drive  
Jerry Lewis Community Center  
7793 Central Ave

### Tuesday, November 24, 2009

6pm - City Council Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

### November 26 - 27, 2009

Thanksgiving Holiday - City Offices are closed



### Tuesday, December 1, 2009

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

### Wednesday, December 2, 2009

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

### Thursday, December 3, 2009

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

### Tuesday, December 08, 2009

6pm - City Council Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

### Thursday, December 10, 2009

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

### Tuesday, December 15, 2009

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

**Friday, December 25, 2009**

Holiday - City Offices are closed

**Friday, January 1, 2010**

Holiday - City Offices are closed

**Tuesday, January 5, 2010**

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting,  
Donahue Council Chambers

**Thursday, January 7, 2010**

5:30pm - Joint Study Session with the HCPB  
and Chamber of Commerce in the Upright  
Conference Room

**Friday, January 8, 2010**

COPS Meeting at Kay's Cafe at 7:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, January 12, 2010**

6pm - City Council Regular Meeting, Donahue  
Council Chambers

**Thursday, January 14, 2010**

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

**Tuesday, January 19, 2010**

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting,  
Donahue Council Chambers

**Tuesday, January 26, 2010**

6pm - City Council Regular Meeting, Donahue  
Council Chambers

*Assembled by: Elena Rodrigues*

*Happy Holidays*

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