



# City of Highland Weekly Report

December 03, 2010

## Important Safety Shopping Tips From Highland Sheriff's Department

### Administration

**Holiday Shopping Tips.** San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Holiday Shopping Safety Tips. The holiday season is a time when busy people can become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. The following tips from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department can help you be more careful, prepared and aware during the holiday season.



- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your California Driver License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about

a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.

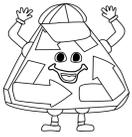
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses and other rapid transit.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Store your shopping bags and personal property in the trunk of your car. Criminals will break into your car if valuables are visible.

•Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

From the staff here at the Highland Station, we wish all of you a happy and safe Holiday Season.

## Public Services

**Landscaping For the Winter.** In the past, the typical - almost expected - look of the American front yard was a large swath of grass. And that grass needed constant mowing, watering and a lot of maintenance.



Well, no more. Landscapes today come in all sorts of shapes, sizes and styles, with different levels of maintenance requirements. There are countless alternatives to turf grass, depending on where you live.

Hardscapes in the landscape - A common thread for these alternative landscapes is the incorporation of hardscape. These designs can brighten a dead, barren landscape in the winter, as well as lend a helping growing hand in the spring.

Hardscapes add aesthetic value, as well as day-to-day functionality to a landscape. Because they do not change with the season as most plants do, hardscapes can give your landscape a crisp, bright look year round. For example, a dark blue wall can be painted over when winter sets in. To fight off the drab and cloudy weather outside, refresh and repaint the walls with a bright color to achieve an immediate makeover.

Container gardening - For those willing to put in a little extra work, container gardening provides a stylish, easy-to-replant way of preventing a yard from a case of the

blahs. The unlikeliest of materials can be turned into a planter, reducing the need to go out and buy brand new pots. For instance, a cinder block turned on its side and placed on the ground can be filled with soil and planted with flowers and herbs.

Given the various hardscape elements that one can employ in a landscape, the potential for incorporating recycled materials into hardscape construction is both plentiful and diverse.

No-fuss native vegetation - Adding variety to traditional turf with some hardscape elements and native vegetation can also benefit wildlife. The most important thing when selecting alternatives to turf grass is to choose plants that are suited for the climate and region in which you live. Plant a bed of Magnolias in the arid climate and salty soils of the desert southwest.

When selecting plants to add to your yard, make sure to consult a local water agency, nearby botanical garden or public library for books on the native plants in your area in order to select the right plants for the region in which you live.

Reusing, recycling and promoting biodiversity... who would have thought so much could be done in your own front (and back) yard?

## Volunteer Services

**Community Blood Drive.** November Blood Drive... Tuesday, November 23, marked our last Highland blood drive of the year. Donor traffic was a little slow due to it being so close to the Thanksgiving holiday. We still fared well with 27 donors registering, bringing us very close to goal.

As an extra incentive, each donor received a piece of pie along with some other goodies such as brownies and lemon bars. Thank you to all those who donated blood and a special thanks to LifeStream



personnel and the Blood Drive Committee for all their hard work and for donating the wonderful pies and treats. Your generosity to the community is greatly appreciated, especially during the holiday season.

Remember our community needs and uses approximately 500 units of blood per day. All blood received and used in our community comes from volunteer blood donors. We can all be proactive in our quest to increase Highland's blood donations by spreading the word to family, friends and co-workers. Our next blood drive is on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 from 1:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Jerry Lewis Community Center, 7793 Central Avenue.

For more information, please contact Volunteer Services Coordinator, Denise Garnsey at (909) 864-6861 extension 203.

**Highland Improvement Team.** Cleanups wanted...The Highland Improvement Team needs your help. We are searching for Highland homeowners who need help with yard cleanup and minor landscaping. The Highland Improvement Team's first priority is to aid residents in need. 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. projects.



Here are the few qualifications:

1. Must be 55 years and older **or** disabled
2. 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 8:00 am to noon.

Does this sound like you? Please contact Volunteer Services at 909-864-6861 extension 203 to find out if you could be our next HIT

Cleanup!

**Volunteers Wanted...**Calling all volunteers to join in on the last cleanup of 2010.

The Highland Improvement Team will have its last cleanup this year on Saturday, December 18, 2010. Our project this month will be weed abatement. To be on the safe side, wear long pants and closed toe shoes. The City will provide all tools and equipment needed for the cleanup, including gloves. Please plan on meeting at City at 27215 Baseline, Suite G by 8:00 am. The cleanup will take place from 8 am to noon. Volunteers must provide their own transportation to and from the cleanup site. Remember, there is a BBQ sponsored by the City after each cleanup for all those volunteering their time.



If you should have further questions or need more information, please contact Volunteer Services at 909-864-6861 extension 203.

## Library News

**Adult Craft Turns Cereal Boxes into Gift Bags for the Holidays!** Tired of boring old gift bags? Then turn an empty cereal box into an attractive gift bag with a little time, imagination and fun accessories. The Highland Environmental Education Coalition (HEEC) and the Highland Environmental Learning Center are pleased to present Creative Crafts for Adults, "Cereal Box, Gift Bag" on Saturday, December 04, 2010 at 10:00 am in the Community Room. With a few well chosen newspaper, magazine pages or scrap fabric, a cereal box, and string or ribbon you can put together a sturdy, environmentally friendly, virtually free gift bag for the holidays or other special occasions. Patrons are encouraged to bring in cereal boxes and any embellishments to use.

For more information, please contact Lauren Bergh, Environmental Program Specialist at the

Highland Sam J. Racadio Library and Environmental Learning Center at (909) 425-4706 or [HGLENV@lib.sbcounty.gov](mailto:HGLENV@lib.sbcounty.gov).

**Highland Presents Very Merry Library Party!** Join the Highland Library and Environmental Learning Center for the third annual Very Merry Library Party on Wednesday, December 08, 2010 from 5:00-7:00 pm. Enjoy music and movies in the Community Room, stories and crafts in the Children's Area, and don't forget to say "Hi" to Santa in the Children's Program Room. Patrons can pick up a ticket for children 0-11 years old to visit Santa at the Children's Reference desk (first come, first served) and are encouraged to bring their own cameras for photos. This event is free and open to the public; children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

For more information about the Very Merry Library Party, please contact Liz Smith, Children's Specialist at the Highland Library and Environmental Learning Center at (909) 425-1715 or [lsmith@lib.sbcounty.gov](mailto:lsmith@lib.sbcounty.gov).

**Eco-Friendly Gift Wrap Keeps the Holidays GREEN.** As we lighten our footprint on the planet we now substitute imagination for store bought supplies. We are constantly discovering environmentally friendly techniques to make gifts; tabletops and special occasions look inviting and beautiful using what we have on hand.



On Saturday, December 18, 2009 from 10-3:30 pm in the Community Room of the Highland Library and Environmental Learning Center; help the Highland Environmental Education Coalition promote re-use this holiday season by having your gifts wrapped with eco-friendly products such as: brown paper, newspaper, raffia, ribbon & more. While you wait, learn how to make your holidays even more eco-conscious with tips from HEEC or enjoy the many resources the Library and ELC have to offer.

Suggested donations per item are as follows:

- Small Gift—\$1.00
- Medium Gift—\$2.00
- Large—\$3.00

\*Boxes included while supplies last.

Proceeds from this fundraiser help fund programs & workshops offered by the Highland Environmental Learning Center.

For more information regarding this fundraiser, please contact Lauren Bergh, Environmental Program Specialist at the Highland Sam J. Racadio Library and Environmental Learning Center at 909-425-4706 or [HGLENV@lib.sbcounty.gov](mailto:HGLENV@lib.sbcounty.gov).



## Mark Your Calendar

### Tuesday, December 7, 2010

5pm - Joint Study Session with the Planning Commission and Historic and Cultural Preservation Board, Donahue Council Chambers  
6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting

### Thursday, December 9, 2010

Community Trails Committee Regular Meeting is canceled

### Tuesday, December 14, 2010

6pm - City Council Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

### Saturday, December 18, 2010

8am to Noon - Highland Improvement Team Cleanup, Meet @ City Hall - 27215 Baseline - Highland

### Tuesday, December 21, 2010

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

### Tuesday, December 28, 2010

City Council Meeting - Canceled

### Monday, January 3, 2011

4pm to 5pm - Blood Drive Recruitment  
Meeting - Jerry Lewis Community Center  
7793 Central Avenue - Highland

**Tuesday, January 4, 2011**

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting,  
Donahue Council Chambers

**Thursday, January 6, 2011**

5:30pm - Joint Study Session with the  
Historic and Cultural Preservation Board and  
Highland Area Chamber of Commerce,  
Upright Conference Room

**Tuesday, January 11, 2010**

6pm - City Council Regular Meeting, Donahue  
Council Chambers

**Thursday, January 13, 2011**

Community Trails Committee Regular Meeting  
is canceled

**Tuesday, January 18, 2011**

6pm - Planning Commission Regular Meeting,  
Donahue Council Chambers

**Tuesday, January 25, 2011**

6pm - City Council Regular Meeting, Donahue  
Council Chambers

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

*Assembled by: Elena Rodrigues*

*December 2010*

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