

NEWSLETTER • 30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275 • WEBSITE: WWW.RPVCA.GOV • 310.544.5200

## DISASTERS DON'T PLAN AHEAD - YOU CAN

Disaster can happen at any time, often with little to no warning. The widespread devastation caused by a catastrophic disaster has the potential to cut you off from the rest of the world for several days. Following a disaster, emergency rescuers will arrive on the scene as soon as possible to assist you, but it may take some time.

The time to start thinking about what to do in an emergency is before it happens. By following some simple guidelines, you can help prepare your family, neighborhood, business, or school to be better prepared and self-sufficient after the next disaster.



### MAKE A PLAN

Making a family emergency plan is a good place to start. Because your family may not be together when a disaster strikes, it is critical to plan communication strategies with your friends and family before, during, and after a disaster. Your plan should include every member of your household, including pets, and should take into account the specific needs of your household. Fill out a family emergency plan or use it as a guide to create your own plan today.

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## LADERA LINDA COMMUNITY PARK: THE FUTURE IS NEAR



It's not every day that a new RPV park is built; heck, it's not even every decade. Eight years of planning, dozens of large and small community meetings, multiple design iterations, numerous City Council meetings, and 1,001 details and decisions have led Ladera Linda Community Park to the edge of construction. Forty years after the former school site became a City park, the City Council approved a construction contract on March 1 for the demolition of the existing buildings, and the construction of a new Community Center and improved amenities including trails and walking paths, paddle tennis and basketball courts, a naturalistic playground, and grass fields.

The general contractor is expected to mobilize in late March to early April 2022. The contract requires construction to be completed within approximately 15 months of commencement. However, unforeseen conditions and weather may be encountered during the course of construction, so the project may extend beyond this duration. When completed, the RPV community and park visitors will have a park they can enjoy for another 40 years or more. Kudos to all the residents who participated so patiently in this complex and lengthy process; we hope you enjoy the end result!

Go to <https://www.rpvca.gov/982/Ladera-Linda-Park-Master-Plan> to learn more.

Go to the City's Notify Me page at [rpvca.gov/notify](http://rpvca.gov/notify) to sign up for future updates and meeting notifications.

## LA COUNTY FIREFIGHTER JONATHAN FLAGLER: IN MEMORIAM



On January 6, 2022, Los Angeles County Firefighter Jonathan Flagler tragically lost his life while bravely battling a house fire in Rancho Palos Verdes. Tributes have poured in for this devoted husband, father, uncle, friend, and hero who died serving the community that raised him. He was born at San Pedro Hospital, grew up in an unincorporated area that was later annexed to the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, and attended San Pedro High School. He lived in his childhood home in Eastview until 2009, when he moved to Orange County. Firefighter Flagler was a 21-year veteran firefighter who spent most of his career in the City of Vernon before he joined the Los Angeles County Fire Department in October 2020 and began working at Station 83 in Miraleste. The City is exploring options for a permanent memorial in RPV. His heroism and selfless devotion to others will not be forgotten.

## WHERE ARE THE WHALES?

In anticipation of the upcoming Whale of a Day, three hidden whales are swimming in this newsletter. Enjoy your search for miniature versions of the Earth's largest creatures.



## SPOTLIGHT ON NORMA SALDAÑA



Tell me a little about your work experience and education before coming to Rancho Palos Verdes.

I've been in the outdoor recreation sector for 11 years, having started as a volunteer with the U.S. Forest Service under the Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps conducting patrols along North Fork and East Fork in the San Gabriel Mountains, before its designation as a National Monument. Since then, I've served various positions across a variety of agencies including non-profit organizations and cities, all with an emphasis on natural resource protection, interpretation, and community engagement.

I obtained my bachelor of arts degree in science technology and society, with a minor in botany, and a master of science degree in regenerative studies from Cal Poly Pomona.

Open Space has been a major City priority for years but many of our readers may not know much about the City's relatively new Park Ranger Program.

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Norma Saldaña supervises Open Space Management staff and operations in her position as Recreation Supervisor. She has had a busy two years with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes from helping to kick-start the new Park Ranger Program to dealing with the challenges of operating City trails and beaches during a pandemic. Norma took time to talk about the many hats she wears at RPV.

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30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD  
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## NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION GRANT

APPLY TODAY FOR FUNDS TO BEAUTIFY YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!



The City Council has reinstated the Neighborhood Beautification Grant Program! Neighborhoods can submit an application for a beautification project visible from an arterial or collector street to receive a reimbursement of 50% of their project costs, up to \$5,000.

Does your entryway monument need some new paint or a landscape tune-up? Are your tract walls in need of repair? Apply today for the NBG Program!

Applications will be accepted through April 15, 2022 and neighborhoods will be

notified of their award status on June 8, 2022.

For program details and to download an application packet, visit [rpvca.gov/NBG](http://rpvca.gov/NBG).

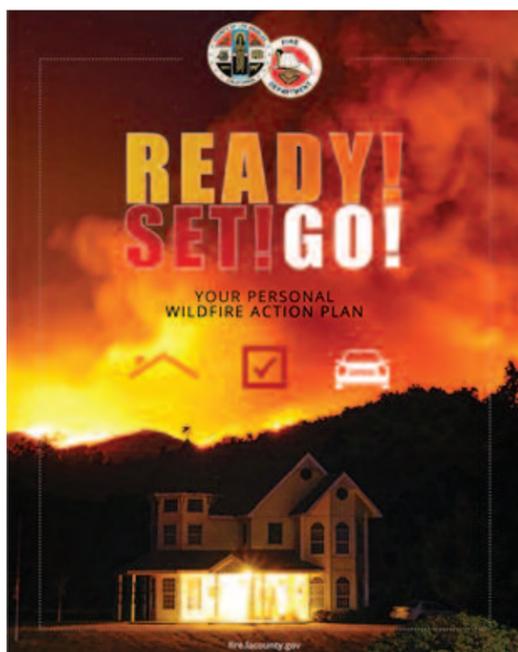
## FIRE SAFETY 101

Concerned about wildfire? You need to plan ahead. Create and maintain a defensible space around your home to increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire. This space is needed to slow the spread of wildfire and to help protect your home from catching fire—either from a direct flame contact or radiant heat.

Brush fires continue to be a threat to life and properties within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Property owners in high-risk wildfire zones are expected to maintain their properties free of hazardous or nuisance vegetation year-round, and properties shall have brush cleared by June 1, when LA County fire begins inspections. Owners found to be non-compliant will be assessed fines, and clearance costs performed by the County will be assessed to the parcel's property tax bill.

If property is found to be non-compliant, City staff will strive to gain voluntary compliance by working diligently with the property owner. A re-inspection of the property will occur after the 30-day compliance timeframe. If violation on the respective property continues with no attempt to correct the violation, owners can be subject to an administrative citation.

Go to [READY!SET!GO! - Fire Department lacounty.gov](http://READY!SET!GO! - Fire Department lacounty.gov) to see how to prepare and react to an approaching wildfire. To download the Ready! Set!Go! Brochure visit <http://fire.lacounty.gov/rsg>.



## COVID-19 UPDATE



The U.S. Postal Service is taking orders for free COVID-19 at-home tests. The federal government is offering American households four free rapid antigen tests via mail, which can be ordered online at [COVIDtests.gov](http://COVIDtests.gov). Orders ship free, usually in 7-12 days. Learn more at: [covidtests.gov/faq](http://covidtests.gov/faq).

If you have difficulty accessing the internet or need additional support placing an order, you can call 1.800.232.0233 (TTY 1.888.720.7489) to get help in English, Spanish, and more than 150 other languages – 8 am to midnight ET, 7 days a week.

The [Disability Information and Access Line https://acl.gov/DIAL](https://acl.gov/DIAL) (DIAL) is also available to specifically help people with disabilities place their orders. To get help, call 1.888.677.1199, Monday-Friday from 9 am to 8 pm ET, or email [DIAL@usaginganddisability.org](mailto:DIAL@usaginganddisability.org).

For more information on vaccine eligibility, including information on additional doses for immunocompromised persons, or to find a vaccination site, schedule an appointment, or request an at-home vaccination if you are home-bound, visit [VaccinateLACounty.com](http://VaccinateLACounty.com) or call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Vaccine Call Center at 833.540.0473, seven days a week from 8 am to 8:30 pm.

## WHAT'S THE 211?



211 LA CONNECTS RESIDENTS WITH COUNTY SERVICES

211 LA is the hub for residents looking for all types of health, human, and social services in Los Angeles County.

211 LA provides information and referrals to services that best meet individual needs, through a 24-hour 2-1-1 call line, and through website and chat services. It also provides an online community calendar, connecting people to local events that offer services and community connections.

Special programs provide outreach and education, service navigation, and care coordination to assist people with accessing and obtaining services.

211 LA maintains and updates LA County's official comprehensive database of over 50,000 health and human services, including mental health, older adult, disability, veteran, and youth services.

211 LA is available 24/7 by calling 2-1-1, or visiting [211la.org](http://211la.org). 211 LA's purpose is to link people to community services, so that everyone in LA County can survive, thrive, and be empowered, no matter their situation or background.



The City Council reviews bills pending in Congress and the California Legislature and takes positions on priority issues and matters that impact the City's ability to operate effectively, promote City interests and protect local authority.

On November 2, 2021, the City Council adopted the City's first annual Legislative Platform, outlining the City's positions on local land use and control, public safety, environmental quality, and more.

To view the City's 2022 Legislative Platform, for more information on the City's legislative advocacy efforts, and for updated information on pending bills, visit [rpvca.gov/legislationcorner](http://rpvca.gov/legislationcorner).

## NORMA SALDAÑA (Continued from page 1)

**Tell us about the Rangers and your role.**

In 2019, the City began its first Park Ranger Program after 10 years of contracting out enforcement services. Bringing the program into the Recreation and Parks Department allowed the City to more than double its presence on trails at a significant cost savings. We currently have four full-time Park Ranger positions and three part-time Parking Enforcement Rangers.

The City owns and manages an extensive trail network, including the 30 miles of trails within the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. Park Rangers patrol, educate, enforce, and provide public safety assistance on City trails. Education and rules enforcement is especially important in the Nature Preserve to protect the sensitive species and their habitats.

This is a lot of ground to cover! Park Rangers receive invaluable support from our management partners, partnering agencies, and a host of volunteers who build and repair our trails, serve as additional eyes and ears in the City's open space areas, and do so much more.

**You started in 2020 right before COVID shut down trails. Tell us how you and your team has dealt with that unexpected event and other challenges.**

It was a challenging start. The role of Park Rangers drastically changed gears from shaping behavior and preserving public safety within open space areas to keeping the public out of open space areas for public safety. Like most trail managers in Southern California, RPV experienced a surge of increased trail use when trails reopened in May 2021, with use doubling at popular trailheads, such as those near Del Cerro Park.

Rangers also increased public education and worked with the City's habitat manager, PVPLC, to monitor for damage to natural resources resulting from the increased use of the Nature Preserve.

**What do you see as the future of the Open Space Management Division in RPV? What are the management and operational goals you'd like to see put into action?**

I see continued popularity of the City's trails and natural areas, and the continued need for public education and enforcement to balance natural resource protection with public enjoyment of the City's amazing natural resources.

A goal I would like to put into action is increasing public involvement in management of the City's open space areas.

Another goal is increasing opportunities for local youth to learn about the City's natural resources. Park Rangers have had the opportunity to meet with Palos Verdes Boy Scout and Girl Scout Troops, and the Los Serenos de Point Vicente Docents offer public hikes throughout the City's trail system.

**How do you enjoy spending time away from work?**

When I'm away from work, I enjoy hiking and exploring local trails and learning the local history of the San Gabriel Mountains.

**Favorite book, movie, type of music/sport etc...?**

My favorite books are written by local historian, John W. Robinson, on the subject of the San Gabriels.



# KICK YOUR BRUSH TO THE CURB!

## SPRING BRUSH CLEARANCE

Lots of dried branches, twigs, and trees in your backyard or canyon? Worried about brush fires? Remember the county's June 1 property brush clearance deadline.

EDCO's spring season's free excess green waste collection service helps you remove excess vegetation growth, overgrown bushes and shrubbery, and trim trees in your backyard, canyon, and elsewhere on your property without having to rent bins or incur additional costs for hauling the green waste material away.

Find your regular collection day below and then see your brush clearance day. Plan to complete your brush clearing before your designated day.

Regular Trash Day	Brush Clearance Day
Monday	Saturday, April 16
Tuesday	Saturday, April 23
Wednesday	Saturday, April 30
Thursday	Saturday, May 7
Friday	Saturday, May 14



This service is offered exclusively to RPV/EDCO's residential customers. You will receive more information from EDCO in late March. If you have any questions call EDCO at 310.540.2977, or [www.rpvrecycles.com](http://www.rpvrecycles.com).

## TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

EDCO 310.540.2977, [www.rpvrecycles.com](http://www.rpvrecycles.com)

March and April 2022: No Changes.

May 2022: No service on Memorial Day-Monday, May 30, 2022. Services for all routes (Monday through Friday) will be delayed by one day.

June 2020: No changes.

**Regulations for Hours for Trash Cart/Can Placement:** The City's Municipal Code (Section 8.20.330) has regulations on when trash, recycling and green waste carts can be left at the curb for collection. Carts can be placed at the curb after 4 pm the day before collection day and empty carts must be removed no later than 10 pm on collection day. **Empty carts cannot be left on the street overnight.** Containers have to be stored on the side or back of the property, at a location that is substantially screened from view. Please help keep your neighborhood attractive and aesthetically pleasing.

**BACKYARD SERVICE:** EDCO provides backyard service to customers at an additional monthly charge. If you have temporary or permanent physical or medical limitations or travel frequently, call EDCO and inquire about this service.

Questions? Call EDCO at 310.540.2977 or [www.rpvrecycles.com](http://www.rpvrecycles.com). Leave all containers at the curb no later than 7 am on collection day.

## CITY HALL PHONE NUMBERS

### City Hall Main Line

City Manager's Office  
City Clerk's Office  
Finance  
Community Development  
Human Resources  
Public Works  
Recreation and Parks  
Building & Safety Division  
Code Enforcement



**310.544.5200**

310.544.5207  
310.544.5217  
310.544.5304  
310.544.5228  
310.544.5327  
310.544.5252  
310.544.5260  
310.544.5280  
310.544.5281

## CITY COUNCIL

**David Bradley, Mayor**  
Email: [david.bradley@rpvca.gov](mailto:david.bradley@rpvca.gov)

**Barbara Ferraro, Mayor Pro Tem**  
Email: [barbara.ferraro@rpvca.gov](mailto:barbara.ferraro@rpvca.gov)

**Eric Alegria, Councilmember**  
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**John Cruikshank, Councilmember**  
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**Ken Dyda, Councilmember**  
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Email [cc@rpvca.gov](mailto:cc@rpvca.gov) to contact the entire City Council

## CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES NEWSLETTER



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## BUS(T) A MOVE ON PV TRANSIT



Tired of \$5/per gallon gas and waiting for self-driving cars? Still want to get somewhere without driving yourself? PV Transit has the answer to your transportation conundrum. Keep public transit in mind the next time you plan a trip. Information about Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority (PVPTA) including

Dial-A-Ride, route maps, "TAP" pass cards, and trip planning assistance is available at <http://www.palosverdes.com/pvtransit/>.

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE: PALOS VERDES PENINSULA VILLAGE

2022 marks 20 years since the launch of Beacon Hill Village, the nation's first Village. Since then, the Village Movement has grown to become a vibrant network of over 300 Villages, each serving older adults so they may remain at home and connected to their communities.

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Village supports older adults in Palos Verdes through volunteer services, caring friendships, and fun and meaningful experiences. To learn more, contact Marianne Propst, Executive Director, at 310.991.3324 or email [peninsulavillagepvp@gmail.com](mailto:peninsulavillagepvp@gmail.com) or visit [www.peninsulavillage.net](http://www.peninsulavillage.net).



## GREEN CORNER



### Earth Day is April 22nd.

In celebration of Earth Day, the City is hosting recycling events celebrating reusing, reducing, recycling, and re-purposing. Let's make it easy being green!

## SHREDDING, E-WASTE, AND MULCH GIVEAWAY-OHMY!



The next shredding event is scheduled for April 30, 2022. Bring your personal and private documents such as draft or old tax returns, paycheck stubs, mortgage and medical files, and/or bank and credit card statements that you want confidentially shredded to RPV Civic Center (City Hall) in the overflow parking lot, 30940 Hawthorne Blvd.,

from 8-11 am. Certified shredding trucks will shred your documents confidentially on-site.

Additionally, bring your unwanted electronics such as TVs, computer monitors, CPUs, printers, fax machines, VCRs, DVD players, and answering machines. EDCO will collect and recycle them.

However, absolutely no household hazardous waste (HHW) material (e.g. no paint, no fluorescent light bulbs, etc.) will be accepted.

Love Gardening? Free mulch will be available to residents, while supplies last. This is a self-service and self-haul event. Please bring your own trashcans or sturdy yard bags, gloves and a shovel. Limit of 3 cans/bags per vehicle. If you plan to haul your compost in an open truck or trailer, please remember to bring a tarp to cover your material.

Please bring proof of RPV residency such as a recent utility bill.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND ELECTRONIC WASTE ROUNDUP

The PV Peninsula's Annual Household Hazardous Waste /Electronics Waste Roundup is on April 2, 2022 from 9 am to 3 pm at RPV Civic Center, 30940 Hawthorne Blvd. Clean out your garage and/or gardener's shed, and help the environment. Visit the County website [www.lacsd.org](http://www.lacsd.org) or call 1.888.CleanLA for a list of allowable items. This event is open to all Los Angeles County residents.



## THE (RE)CYCLE OF LIFE ORGANIC WASTE RECYCLING COMING SOON

You may have heard that effective January 1, 2022, Californians are now required to separate organics waste, such as leftover food and kitchen scraps, from their trash and place it in their green waste bins. SB 1383 aims to reduce methane emissions by diverting organics waste from landfills for other uses like compost, mulch, and renewable energy.



What does this mean for RPV? On January 18, 2022, the City Council approved an agreement with EDCO to provide organics waste collection to residential customers (single-family and multi-family dwellings) after April 1. A public hearing is scheduled for the March 15 City Council meeting. For more information on multi-family organic waste collection, please contact Lauren Ramezani, Public Works Senior Administrative Analyst, at [LaurenR@rpvca.gov](mailto:LaurenR@rpvca.gov). Prior to the City's implementation of organics waste collection, a robust outreach campaign will be conducted. Please stay tuned for updates.

