



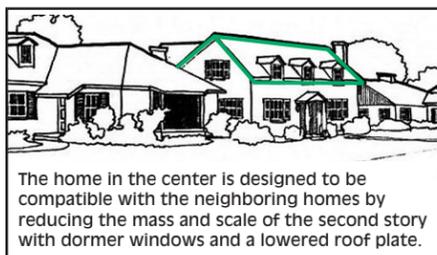
CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER • 30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275 • WEBSITE: WWW.PALOSVERDES.COM/RPV • (310) 377-0360

HOUSING: MAKING THE NEW COMPATIBLE WITH THE OLD

MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF AN AGING HOUSING STOCK

The approval of Proposition M by the voters of Rancho Palos Verdes in 1989 not only approved the preservation and restoration of views, but it also insured "...that the development of each parcel of land or additions to residences or structures occurs in a manner that is harmonious and maintains neighborhood compatibility..." In recent years, the City has received many applications from residents seeking to modernize their home either by constructing an addition, changing the floor plan or even demolishing the structure entirely. To address the issues that arise with these requested changes which are largely due to the City's aging housing stock, the City Council established a neighborhood compatibility subcommittee that consisted of two city council members, two planning commissioners and five residents of the city. That committee met for a year and forged a policy that allows for modernization while preserving the rural and semi-rural character of the City.



The home in the center is designed to be compatible with the neighboring homes by reducing the mass and scale of the second story with dormer windows and a lowered roof plate.

- Addition of a mezzanine to an existing structure that modifies the exterior of the structure.

If the Neighborhood Compatibility requirement is triggered, the analysis is based on the review of the residences within the immediate neighborhood. This is normally considered to be at least the twenty closest homes within the same zoning district.

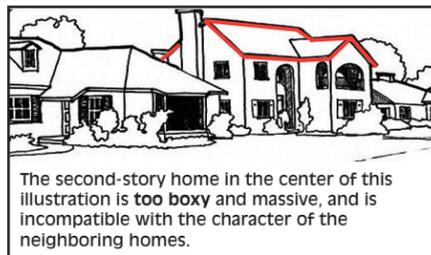
The following criteria are considered when analyzing a project for neighborhood compatibility:

- Scale of surrounding homes
- Architectural styles and building materials
- Front, side, and rear yard setbacks

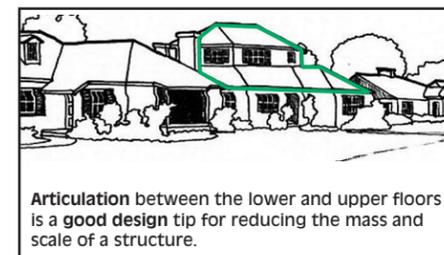
Neighborhood Compatibility Voluntary Pre-Application Step

If a project is required to go through this analysis, the City strongly encourages the property owner to complete a "pre-application step." This step is voluntary and has been found to be helpful in settling neighborhood issues that can cause delays. The pre-application step requires three actions on the part of the applicant:

- Notification of at least 20 of the closest project neighbors
- Holding a neighborhood meeting to review preliminary plans
- Document attendance at the meeting



The second-story home in the center of this illustration is **too bulky** and massive, and is incompatible with the character of the neighboring homes.



Articulation between the lower and upper floors is a **good design tip** for reducing the mass and scale of a structure.

Silhouette Construction

If an analysis is required, the applicant has to construct a silhouette that depicts the proposed project. This silhouette must be certified by a licensed engineer or architect,

Neighborhood Compatibility Handbook

A handbook detailing the process, including suggested design tips for preparing architectural plans, is available at City Hall. For more information regarding on this matter contact the Planning Department at 310-544-5228 or visit the City's Website at www.palosverdes.com/rpv.

Projects That Trigger A Neighborhood Compatibility Review

- Building a home on a vacant lot.
- Replacing an existing residence.
- Remodeling fifty percent or greater of an existing residence.
- Adding or constructing a 750 sq. ft. structure.
- The construction of a second story, or the addition to an existing second story.
- Projects that result in lot coverage exceeding the maximum allowed per the Development Code.
- Addition of a deck, balcony or roof deck to a second story or higher story that is eighty square feet or larger, or projects more than six feet from the existing building.

CLEAN SWEEP!

CITY HAS NEW STREET SWEEPER

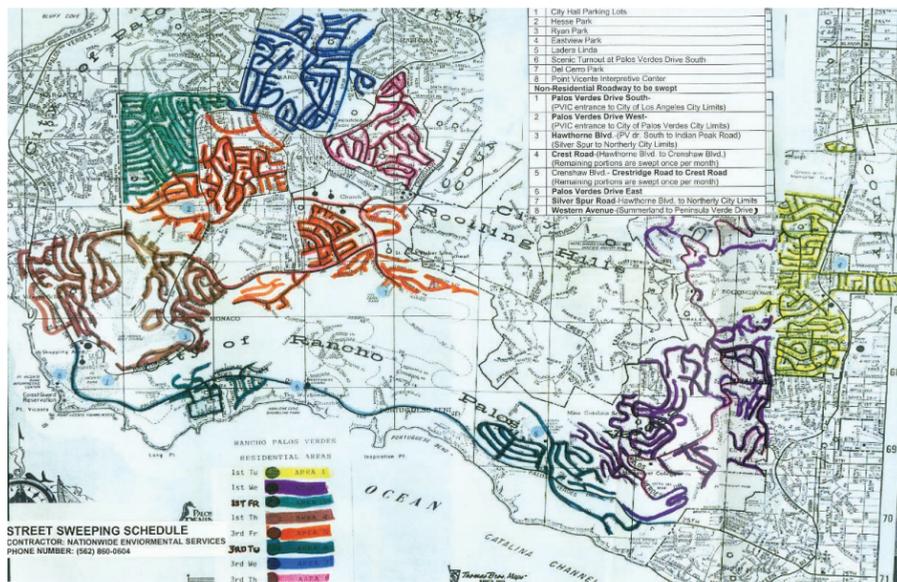
In July the City's new street sweeping contractor, National Environmental Service (NES), started sweeping our streets. NES provides quality service by using alternative fuel and by driving "PM-10" compliant street sweepers that are designed to reduce air pollution.

These sweepers use a combination of mechanical and air sweeper features that pick up debris, and, with its internal system of dry

filters, retains all dust particles larger than 10 micrometers (about one-seventh the width of a human hair) within its hopper. No water is used for dust control.

Even with the current budget restrictions, the City's street sweeping schedule has not been cut back, and last year the City's street sweeping activities prevented more than a half million pounds of trash from entering into the ocean.

Residential streets are swept once a month and arterials twice a month. Check out your day on the map insert or call the Public Works Department at (310) 544-5252.



LOCAL ELECTIONS ON NOVEMBER 4

CITY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL DISTRICT SEATS UP FOR ELECTION

The Registrar Recorder/County Clerk's Office will be mailing the Official Sample Ballot booklets to registered voters starting September 25 through October 14. This red, white and blue trimmed booklet contains useful information for the November 4th Municipal Election: the location of your polling place, an application to vote by mail, and the statements of those candidates running for the City Council and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District. There are three seats open on the City Council and two on the School Board.

On November 4th the polls will open at 7:00 A.M. and remain open until 8:00 P.M. If you are unsure about your registered status, check out the County Clerk's website at www.lavote.net.

Be an informed voter and read your sample ballot booklet.

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MANAGING YOUR TAX DOLLAR

CITY MANAGER TELLS HOW

Have you ever wondered how the property tax you pay relates to the services you receive from the City of Rancho Palos Verdes? For every \$100 you pay in property taxes to the Los Angeles County Tax Collector, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes receives approximately \$6. The other \$94 goes to the School District, the Community Colleges, the Fire District, the County of Los Angeles and other special districts.

The City has a general fund budget of about \$12 million and nearly 16,000 households. From that general fund, the City spends about \$750 per household on services such as public safety, public works, parks and recreation, planning and code enforcement, and building and safety.

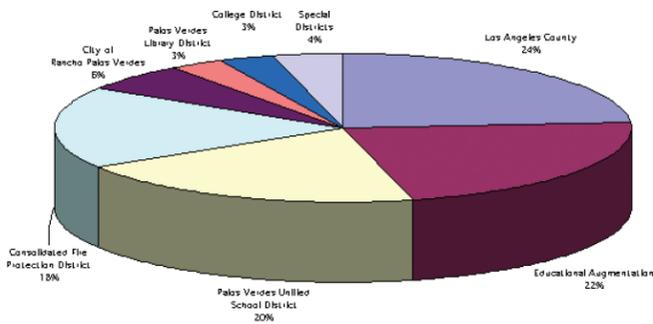
The average amount of property tax the City receives from each household is less than \$250 and is insufficient to support the services received. To make up the difference, the City relies heavily on other

sources of revenue such as motor vehicle license fees, the utility user tax, sales tax and business license, permit and franchise fees.

Getting the public interested in how the City balances its budget has always proved to be a challenge: keep it simple and make it brief. Rather than having to wade through three hundred pages of the budget document, the City has prepared a "Budget in Brief." This "Brief" shows the allocation of the City's property tax revenue, and lists the accomplishments in Fiscal Years 2002 - 2003 and the Council's objectives for Fiscal Year 2003-2004. We hope you will agree that the City has been both prudent and responsible in the management of your money. Copies of the Budget in Brief are available at the reception desk at City Hall, or on the City's website www.palosverdes.com/rpv and click on the Finance Department, under the City Departments and Services tab.

HOW YOUR PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS ARE ALLOCATED

Annual property taxes are based on 1% of the assessed value of your property. Therefore, a homeowner with an assessed property value of \$600,000 pays property tax of \$6,000 annually. Of this amount, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes receives \$360.



YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL SPRING

NEW WASTE COLLECTION CENTER ESTABLISHED IN SAN PEDRO



If you missed the annual roundup this spring, don't fret—now there's a permanent household hazardous and e-waste collection center in San Pedro! Open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the center is located at 1400 N. Gaffey St. (off Capital Drive, close to the Harbor freeway).

The center accepts computers, monitors, printers, network equipment, cables, telephones, televisions, video games, cell phones, radios, stereos, VCRs, and electronic toys. They also accept paint and solvents; used motor oil and filters, anti-freeze, and other automotive fluids; cleaning products; pool and garden chemicals, aerosol cans; all medicine; auto batteries; and household batteries.

Funded by both the City and County of Los Angeles, there is no charge to

LA County residents for dropping off their unwanted electronic equipment or household hazardous waste material.

Spring Roundup Nets A Lot of Bad Stuff

The household hazardous roundup that was held this past Spring at the City Hall yard netted the following: 1000 gallons of used motor, 7,800 gallons of used paint, 211 used car batteries, 597 CRT units, 8,500 pounds of miscellaneous e-waste, and 120 drums of other miscellaneous wastes such as pesticides and pool chemicals.

About 80% of this material will be recycled and reused, and the remaining 20% will be either incinerated or treated at a legal disposal facility.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH TACKLES EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

BOTH PROGRAMS CAN USE THE SAME NETWORK

The events of September 11th have shown the need for emergency preparedness from the national level down to individual citizens. Because the Peninsula appears to be an unlikely target, some people may question why a small community like Rancho Palos Verdes should be concerned with emergency preparedness. We are, however, situated between Los Angeles International Airport and the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, as well as five oil refineries. These could be considered targets for terrorists.

Rancho Palos Verdes is a residential area and it may be some time before emergency response agencies can come to our assistance. Many residents have to travel off the Peninsula on a daily basis, thus increasing the likelihood that they will be away from home if a disaster strikes. Past experience shows us that we are vulnerable to natural disasters such as brush fires, landslides, flooding and earthquakes.

What does a person do when disaster strikes? What would you do if you were at home, at work, or traveling in your car? How would you contact your loved ones, or take care of yourself or your family until help arrived? Rancho Palos Verdes is very fortunate to have a volunteer Neighborhood Watch programs that can help residents answer these questions. L. A. County law enforcement officials have cited our program as the best one currently operating in the Los Angeles area.

Sharing the Network

While the primary objective of Neighborhood Watch is to reduce crime, it has also developed a

communication network that fosters cooperation and the sharing of information among its membership that naturally lends itself to emergency preparedness. By using the same networking, it can also play a big role in emergency preparedness.

Neighborhood Watch members know their neighbors, know whether they are on vacation, if they are disabled, and know the layout of their house. After the Northridge earthquake, the Los Angeles Times reported that areas with Neighborhood Watch reacted much better than those areas without such organization. Neighborhood Watch areas worked and communicated through one person, they had plans in place, knew what to do, and knew who needed immediate help. Their established communications network was a great help to fire and law enforcement personnel when they arrived on the scene.

Using The Neighborhood Watch Pattern

This new emergency preparedness program is patterned after the current Neighborhood Watch network system that has existed in the City since 1991 and is under the direction of Volunteer Coordinator Gail Lorenzen. Individual blocks and areas throughout the City are currently setting up emergency plans with guidance from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's and Fire Departments. Neighbors hold a short meeting that covers such matters as arranging for a neighborhood assembly area to organizing individual response teams with specific duties.

Residents fill out a Household Disaster Preparedness Survey that is used to inventory the skills and resources of each person in a participating block and identify residents with special needs or problems that may arise during an emergency. The information is also used to set up a communications network, and if phone service is down, residents will know where their nearest amateur radio and emergency personnel are located. This can be an easy job if it is a shared effort.

Voluntary Membership

Like Neighborhood Watch, membership in emergency preparedness is voluntary. Before you decide that you are too busy, too tired or just plain disinterested, think about the possible consequences of not joining. Your participation greatly enhances our community's response to a disaster. Whether your neighborhood is already active in Neighborhood Watch and would like to expand their program to include emergency preparedness, or if you are interested in starting Neighborhood Watch in your area, contact Gail Lorenzen at City Hall, telephone number 310 377-0360, or go to the City's website www.palosverdes.com/rpv under the News, Information & Other heading and browse down to the Civic Organizations tab for a link to the Neighborhood Watch website.

(Ed. Note: This article is an extract of one written by Volunteer Coordinator Gail Lorenzen which appeared in the latest edition of the Neighborhood Watch Newsletter. The City feels that Neighborhood Watch's new emergency preparedness program is so important to our residents that it deserves broader circulation.)

HOME IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

GRANTS AND DEFERRED INTEREST LOANS AVAILABLE

If your home is in need of a new roof or window replacements, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes may be able to provide some assistance. Through the use of federal Community Development Block Grant funds, the City offers grants up to \$5,000 and/or deferred zero percent loans up to \$10,000 to low and moderate income residents. The loan is payable upon the sale of the home, transfer of title, or if the home is refinanced.

Since its inception in early 1999, the Home Improvement Program has had significant response. Several homeowners have benefited from the program and have been able to make much needed home improvements such as interior and exterior painting. Currently, applications are being accepted as a result of additional funding earmarked for the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

To be eligible for a grant and/or loan, you must be the owner and occupant of a single family detached dwelling, be a resident of the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, and meet certain income requirements. Persons whose income is less than \$31,600 for a one-person household and \$36,100 for a two-person household are eligible.

For income limits of larger households, additional information or an application, contact Esther Portillo, Program Consultant in the Public Works Department on Wednesdays, at (310) 544-5252.

GET OUT YOUR TUX!

RPV IS TURNING 30



Brush off the tux and get ready to attend the City's 30th Anniversary dinner dance at the Los Verdes Country Club on October 17. The theme for the evening will be "Rancho Palos Verdes: The Land and the Sea." For more information, please call the City Manager's Office at 544-5203.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS

Over the past year and a half we have changed the format and appearance of the City's Newsletter. The City's colored logo has been incorporated into the banner, and we have changed the print color and font size to make the text more readable. With the Summer 2003 edition, we changed the paper to a matte finish to reduce the glare that some readers may have experienced and, of course, with the aide of electronics, we are incorporating more pictures into our news articles.

Tell us how you feel about these changes and let us know if we could be doing better. Resident feedback is important to the City. Send your comments to www.palosverdes.com/rpv/newslettereditor.

VITAL RECORDS

NEW STATE RULES TO PROTECT PRIVACY

Anybody who needs to get a copy of a vital record such as a birth or death certificate from the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, must now submit a sworn statement that they are an "authorized person." Authorized persons include:

- The registrant or a parent or legal guardian of the registrant;
- A party entitled to receive the record as a result of a court order, or an attorney or a licensed adoption agency seeking the birth record in order to comply with certain sections of the Family Code;
- A member of a law enforcement agency or a representative of another governmental agency, as provided by law, who is conducting official business;
- A child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse or domestic partner of the registrant;
- An attorney representing the registrant or the registrant's estate, or any person or agency empowered by statute or appointed by a court to act on behalf of the registrant or the registrant's estate; and
- Any funeral director that orders certified copies of a death certificate on behalf of any individual specified in certain sections of the Health and Safety Code.

The California legislature identified the release of birth and death records as a vulnerable point in the rise of identify theft. This new legislation helps protect birth and death records from misuse by allowing only specified authorized individuals to receive a certified copy of a birth or death record.

More information on this matter is available on the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's automated phone system at (562) 462-2137 or by visiting the County Clerk's website www.lavote.net.

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes wishes to recognize the generous contributions of the following local businesses and organizations that made the 28th Annual Fourth of July Celebration possible.

Fourth of July Donors

Platinum Patrons

Charles Abbott Associates, Inc.
Waste Management
PV News

Gold Star Sponsors

Coach USA

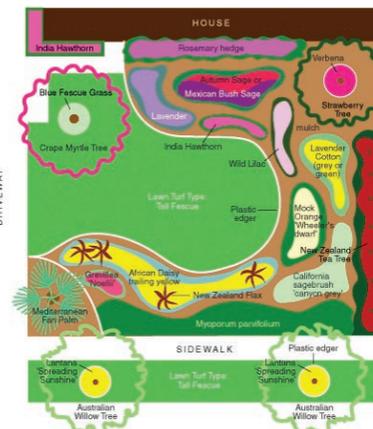
Star Supporters

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|-----------------------------------|--|---|
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| Allied Homecare Providers Network | Kolibri Art Gallery | R.B. Zack & Associates, Inc. |
| Borders | L & R Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc. | Red Onion |
| Bouchard Communications, Inc | La Cresta Homeowners Association | Rolling Hills Nursery, Inc. |
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| Coastal Pacific Roofing, Inc. | Mediterranea Homeowners Association | S & H Disposal Company |
| Domino's Pizza | Miraleste Hills Community Association | SA Associates |
| Dove Enterprises | Nantucket Crossing | Seaview Residents Association |
| ExperNet Systems, Inc. | Pacific View Homeowners Association | Small Wonders |
| Felines & Flowers | Palos Verdes Art Center | Sun Electric |
| Frances P. Stammreich | | Sun Shower Body Care |
| George Bender Plumbing | | The Katherman Company |
| Giorgio's | | Torrentera Landscape (aka Ruben's Lawn Service) |
| Golden Cove Center | | Tseng-Yao Sun |
| Golden Lotus | | |

WATER WISE LANDSCAPING

MORE COLOR WITH LESS WATER

For gardeners who are torn between having a colorful garden and feeling guilty about water usage, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) has solved their dilemma. For Internet users, check out the MWD website at www.mwdh20.com for "Water-Wise Landscaping." For those gardeners who still like to research the old fashioned way by paging through their copy of the Western Garden Book, check out the species list:



Click here to view Water Wise Landscaping PDF

- | | |
|--|--|
| Arbutus unedo (Strawberry Tree) | Leptospermum scoparium (New Zealand Tea shrub) |
| Artemisia 'canyon grey' (California Sagebrush) | Myoporum parvifolium (no common name) |
| Ceanothus 'concha' (Wild Lilac) | Pittosporum tobira (Mock Orange) |
| Chamaerops humilis (Mediterranean Fan Palm) | P. 'Atropurpureum' (New Zealand Flax) |
| Festuca Arundinacea (Tall Fescue) | Rhaphiolepis indica (India Hawthorn) |
| Festuca ovina glauca (Blue Fescue Grass) | Rosmarinus officinalis (Rosemary) |
| Gazania (African Daisies) | Salvia greggii (Autumn Sage) |
| Geijera parviflora (Australian Willow Tree) | Salvia leucantha (Mexican Sage Brush) |
| Grevillea 'Noellii' (no common name) | Santolina chamaecyparissus (Lavender Cotton, Grey) |
| Lagerstroemia 'tuscatorora' (Crape Myrtle) | Santolina virens (Lavender Cotton, Green) |
| Lantana montevidensis ('Spreading Sunshine') | Verbena peruviana (Scarlet Verbena) |
| Lavandulas (Lavender) | |

(Ed. Note: Published with the permission of the Metropolitan Water District of So. California.)

You're Invited...

What: Breakfast with Santa!

Who: Santa and his elves

When: Saturday, December 13, 2003
9:00am - 10:30am

Where: Hesse Park Community Center
29301 Hawthorne Blvd., RPV

Why: Enjoy breakfast, crafts, holiday carols, and photos with Santa! Proceeds benefit the RPV REACH Program for young adults with developmental disabilities.

RSVP: Children & adults, \$6 each.

Registration forms at Hesse Park.

Call the North Pole at 541-8114 for more information.

Bring: Your camera, for photos with Santa!



STILL LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN!

NEW FALL LOS SERENOS DOCENT TRAINING CLASS

Tidepool Exploration! Nature Hikes! Educational Opportunities! Conservation! Community Events! Social Activities! Los Serenos de Point Vicente docents are a dynamic group of trained volunteers with a variety of skills and talents. To become a trained docent, join the classes that will start on September 20.

The docent training will prepare you to share the unique history and features of the Peninsula with individuals and groups. The

curriculum includes in-depth information on the natural, cultural and geological history of the Palos Verdes Peninsula, as well as the surrounding marine and terrestrial habitats. Field trips, local walks and guest speakers enhance this learning experience. For more information, call (310) 544-5264 or visit the docent website at www.rpv.com/rpv. Become a Los Serenos de Point Vicente docent and make new friends while you making a difference.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

YEAR-ROUND / PART-TIME RECREATION LEADER

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes Recreation and Parks Department is accepting applications for the position of Recreation Leader, with a pay range of \$7.99 - \$10.38 per hour.

Applicant must be a high school graduate, have a valid California Driver's License, and be at least 18 years old.

Call 310-377-0360 for City application

If you enjoy working with the public in a variety of park settings, learning about the daily operations of local government, and maintaining a flexible work schedule, apply NOW!

HOLIDAY PICKUP SCHEDULE

WASTE MANAGEMENT

October: No Changes

November:

Thanksgiving Holiday:

Monday and Thursday routes will be picked-up on Monday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 28. Tuesday-Friday routes will be picked-up on Tuesday, Nov. 25 and Saturday, Nov. 29.

August: No Changes

December:

Christmas Holiday:

Thursday and Friday routes will be picked-up on Friday, Dec. 26 and Saturday, Dec. 27. There is no change in the Monday and Tuesday collection.

IVY RUBBISH DISPOSAL

October: No Changes

November: Trash will be collected on Thursday, Nov. 27. Recycling will be picked-up the following week.

December: No trash or recycling collection on Thursday, Dec. 25. Trash and recycling will be collected on Saturday, December 27.

DON'T BE A MISSED PICK-UP!

Leave your cans out at the curb by 7 a.m.

ATTENTION SENIORS! If you are 65 years or older, contact your waste hauler and apply for a senior citizen discount.

NOW THEY COME WITH WHEELS!

GETTING GREEN WASTE TO THE CURB JUST GOT EASIER

The City's waste hauler, Waste Management, will now be making available 32 gallon Rubbermaid "wheeled" green waste containers. These wheeled containers are in addition to the regular non-wheeled green waste containers that have

been in use now for the past few years. The containers are free and will be made available to customers upon request. Residents should call Waste Management at 310-830-7100 or at 1-800-774-0222.

CITY HALL PHONE NUMBERS

City Manager's Office	310 544-5205
City Clerk's Office	310 544-5208
Finance Dept.	310 377-0360
Planning Dept.	310 544-5228
Public Works Dept.	310 544-5252
Recreation and Parks Dept.	310 544-5260
Building & Safety Dept.	310 541-7702

CITY COUNCIL

Douglas W. Stern, Mayor
E-Mail: douglasstern@cox.net

Barbara Ferraro, Mayor Pro Tem
E-Mail: mrsrpv@aol.com

Larry Clark, Councilmember
E-Mail: clark@palosverdes.com

Peter Gardiner, Councilmember
E-Mail: peter.gardiner@rpv.com

John C. McTaggart, Councilmember
E-Mail: mrrpv@palosverdes.com

CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES NEWSLETTER

Editor: Jo Purcell

Fall 2003 Contributing Writers:

Les Evans, Nicole Jules, Ara Mihanian, Gina Park, Carolyn Petru, Esther Portillo, Jo Purcell, Lauren Ramezani, Joel Rojas, Nancie Silver, Bindu Vaish and Matt Waters,

FALL 2003

RECREATION CLASSES OFFERED AT CITY PARKS

School is back in session, so take some time for yourself. Get in shape for the holidays, or sign up a loved one for classes they're sure to enjoy! To register, call the instructor at the phone number below or pick up registration information at Hesse Park Community Center, located at 29301 Hawthorne Boulevard in Rancho Palos Verdes.

Miss Cherie's Dance School (310) 547-5073

Tap Dancing for Adults (Adult)
Jazz, Ballet, Tap, Tumble, Combo Dance (Ages 3 - Teen)

Michael Berger (323) 842-0701

Traditional Japanese Style Karate (Ages 4-Adult)

Ann Bosma (310) 375-2064

Aerobic Dancing: Lite Impact (Adult)

Jacquelyn Fernandez (310) 377-2965

Exercise & Fitness (Adult)

Fit N Fun Sports (310) 625-6044

Tiny Tot Soccer, T-Ball or Basketball (Ages 3-5)
Tiny Tot Golf Ages (4-6)

Gaylen Johnson (310) 377-0721

Self Defense for Children (Youth)

Karin Koralek (310) 374-6612

Yoga (Adult)

Etsuko Kimura (310) 544-1738

Ki-energy Healing & Workshop (Adult)

Jensu Mark (310) 397- 6275

Tai Chi Chuan (Adult)

Mary Lyn Miller (310) 378-4417

Life & Career Workshops (Adult)

Jeanne Murphy (310) 377-8507

Ladies Exercise (Adult)

Move To Health (Sachiye Nakano) (310) 544-1624

Bones for Life (Adult)

Michele Nardone (310) 374-7385

Suzuki Violin Group classes (Youth, Adults)

Walt Ordway (310) 541-4007

Amateur Radio classes (Teen, Adult)

Pintsize Sports (310) 787-9916

Soccer, Hockey, Basketball & T-ball (Ages 4-5)
Parent & Me Pintsize Sports (Ages 2-1/2 - 3-1/2)

P.V. Youth Athletics (Barry Sacks) (310) 519-4622

Mommy & Me (Ages 18 - 30 months)
Wee Tots (Ages 2 - 4)
Outdoor Adventures (Ages 5 -10)

Suika Education, Inc. (310) 323-5221

Suika Baby Club (Ages Newborn - 3)
Suika Toddlers Club (Ages 3 - 5)

If you are interested in teaching at one of the City park sites, please call the Recreation Supervisor at (310) 544-5268.

RPV CITY PARK HOURS

Abalone Cove Shoreline Park

Mon. - Fri. 12:00 noon - 4:00p.m.
Sat. & Sun. 9:00a.m. - 4:00p.m.

Fred Hesse Community Park

Mon. - Fri. 9:00a.m. - dusk
Sat. & Sun. 10:00a.m. - dusk

Ladera Linda Community Center

Mon., Wed., Fri. 1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.
Sat. & Sun. 1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Point Vicente Interpretive Center

Mon. - Fri. 1:00p.m. - dusk
Sat. & Sun. 10:00a.m. - dusk

Robert E. Ryan Community Park

Mon. - Fri. 12:00 noon - dusk
Sat. & Sun. 10:00a.m. - dusk

All parks in the City may be enjoyed by the public from dawn to dusk.

The leash law is enforced at all City parks.

