

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



BUILD A KIT



BE INFORMED

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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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



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.

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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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 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.

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

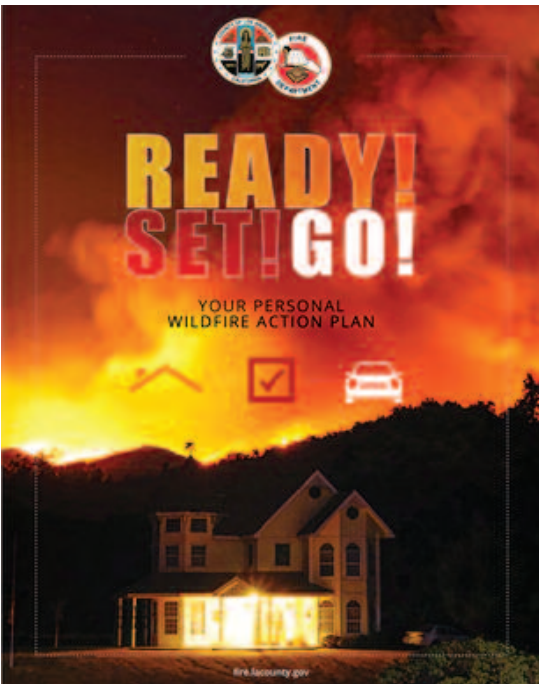
notified of their award status on June 8, 2022.

For program details and to download an application packet, visit rpvca.gov/NBG.

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 wildlife 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-complaint 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 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. Orders ship free, usually in 7-12 days. Learn more at: 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.

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 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. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

WORK IT OUT!

If you’re looking to start a career in public sector, the City of Rancho Palos Verdes is hiring and interested in hearing from you! To view our current job opportunities, visit our careers page at www.governmentjobs.com/careers/rpvca



If we aren’t currently recruiting for a position that fits your career path, click on Menu located in the top left hand corner of our careers page, and complete a Job Interest Card. You’ll receive an email notification each time a position opens with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes whose category matches one of the categories you’ve chosen. Thank you for your interest in employment with the City of Rancho Palos Verdes.

HOUSING QUESTIONS?
WE’VE GOT HOUSING ANSWERS!
RPV HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE
AND Q&A

Last year, the City embarked on a comprehensive process to update its state-mandated Housing Element for the 6th Cycle, which covers the 2021-2029 housing period. Below is a shortlist of frequently asked questions collected as part of the City’s public outreach efforts along with staff responses:



Q: What is a Housing Element and why is it important?

A: All California cities are required to adopt a comprehensive General Plan to guide land-use planning decisions. The Housing Element is a key component that provides an analysis of a community’s housing needs for all income levels.

Q: How much new housing is needed and where will it be constructed?

A: The Housing Element serves as a framework for the City to determine how to meet its state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) allocation of zoning for 647 new housing units through 2029. A list of 43 potential housing sites was included in the initial draft of the housing element. The vacant and non-vacant sites are located throughout the City’s commercial corridors and residential areas.

Q: What is the status of the RPV Housing Element Update?

A: City Staff is working with representatives from the State of California’s Housing Community Development Department (HCD) to prepare a final draft of the housing element to present to appointed and elected officials as well as interested parties and members of the public. The final draft will include provisions to address HCD comments of their initial review of the draft document. As part of this action, City Staff will also present findings associated with the environmental review analysis of the proposed update.

Q: Will there be more opportunities for participation?

A: Yes, public participation is always welcome. The City’s Planning Commission and City Council will consider a final draft of the document at duly noticed public hearings tentatively scheduled for early Spring 2022. A virtual town-hall meeting is also planned to answer questions and receive comments from the public regarding the final draft.

To learn more about the Housing Element, locations of proposed housing sites, upcoming meetings, participation options, and how to sign up to receive more information; please visit the Housing Element Update homepage at: rpvca.gov/housingelement.

CIVIC CENTER PROJECT
(UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT)



New project management that is! After a thorough search, Griffin Structures (Griffin) was selected as the Civic Center Project Manager on February 15. While the intent is to have Griffin onboard until the end of construction, the initial focus is on Phase 1 of the project: Project Feasibility and Preliminary Site Planning. Using the City Council-approved Program Document that lists potential site components and approximate square footage, Griffin will work with Staff, the Civic Center Advisory Committee and the public to perform the following key Phase 1 steps:

- Initial Project Document Review
 - Preliminary Site Planning
 - Geotechnical Investigation
- Delivery Analysis
 - Project Schedule
 - Project Budget

The City also entered into an agreement with the renowned architecture firm Gensler to work on site planning. Gensler has an in-depth understanding of the site due to its facilitation of the program document process.

Want to learn more and get involved?

Go to rpvca.gov/civiccenter to see Civic Center documents and be linked to CCAC reports. Go to rpvca.gov/notify to receive official notifications and updates or contact mattw@rpvca.gov for more information.

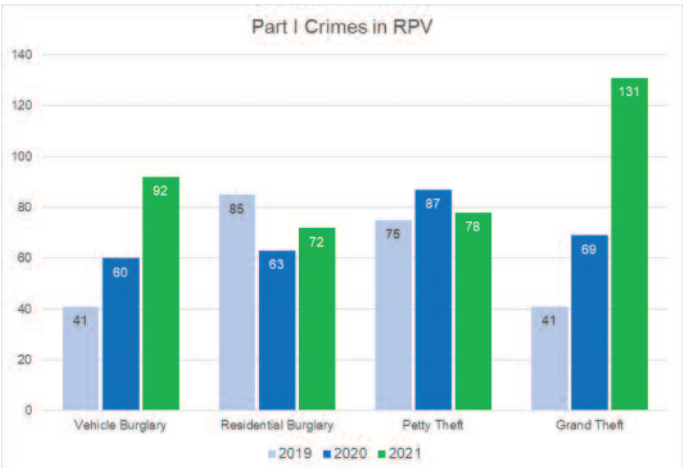
SPRING CRIME CORNER



Public safety is a top City priority. Protecting yourself and those around you begins with learning what to do, how to prepare and react, and becoming connected in your community.

Fourth Quarter Crime Report: Focus on Thefts and Burglaries

From January-December 2021, there were 400 Part I Crimes in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. Part I Crimes are classified by the FBI and fall into two categories: violent crimes and property crimes, which include burglaries, thefts, and arson. Residential burglaries and petty thefts remained relatively constant compared to previous years, but there has been an increase in vehicle burglaries and grand thefts. Many of the vehicle burglaries involved items left behind in visible places, while many of the grand thefts were the result of valuables being left in unlocked vehicles. Remember to always lock your car and bring your valuables with you or lock them in your trunk.



To view weekly crime reports and an interactive map of crimes in the City, visit rpvca.gov. Sign up to receive notifications when weekly crime reports are released via the City’s [Nextdoor](#) page or sign up for email notification at rpvca.gov/notify.

If you see something suspicious, say something! Always be aware of your surroundings. Get to know your neighbors and be on the lookout for things that seem out of place. **Report suspicious activity in RPV to the Lomita Sheriff’s Station at 310.539.1661, or call 911 in an emergency.**

MAKE TAXES LESS TAXING

FREE TAX PREP HELP AT HESSE PARK

Do tax documents make you break out into a cold sweat? Well, gather those forms with confidence, because help is available! AARP Foundation Tax-Aide South Bay is offering FREE federal and state income tax preparation services to low-to moderate-income taxpayers in RPV.



In-person appointments with IRS-trained and certified volunteers at Hesse Park are available on Fridays through April 15, 2022, from 9 am to 2:30 pm. **Appointments are required. No walk-ins will be accepted.** AARP membership is not required.

To make an appointment and learn more about this service, visit taxaide-southbay.org or call 310.544.5260.

DISASTERS

(Continued from page 1)

Create a plan by discussing the following questions with your family, friends, or household to kick-start your emergency preparedness:

- What is my shelter plan?
- What is my evacuation route?
- What is my family/household communication plan?
- Do I need to update my emergency preparedness disaster supply kit?

BE INFORMED

It is important to know what disasters and hazards could affect your area, how to get emergency alerts, and where you would go if you and your family need to evacuate. Make sure your family has a plan and practices it often.

- ☐ Get Alert SouthBay alerts by texting "alerts" to 888-777.
- ☐ Download the MyRPV App to your devices to stay connected and get updates from the City by following RPV on [Nextdoor](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



For additional information and resources, please contact Jesse Villalpando, Emergency Services Coordinator at JVillalpando@rpvca.gov or 310.544.5209.

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.

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

EDCO 310.540.2977, 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. 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

Barbara Ferraro, Mayor Pro Tem
Email: barbara.ferraro@rpvca.gov

Eric Alegria, Councilmember
Email: eric.alegria@rpvca.gov

John Cruikshank, Councilmember
Email: johncruikshank@rpvca.gov

Ken Dyda, Councilmember
Email: ken.dyda@rpvca.gov

Email cc@rpvca.gov to contact the entire City Council

CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES
NEWSLETTER



Editors: Matt Waters and Karina Bañales

Spring 2022 Newsletter and
Recreation Insert Contributors:

Karina Bañales, Megan Barnes, McKenzie Bright, Julie DeZiel, Katie Lozano, Rudy Monroy, Karen Okstad, Lauren Ramezani, Emily Rodin, Ken Rukavina, Norma Saldana, Octavio Silva, Jesse Villalpando, Matt Waters,

Comments? Contact Matt Waters at mattw@rpvca.gov or 310.544.5218

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 or visit 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-OH MY!



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 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. Prior to the City's implementation of organics waste collection, a robust outreach campaign will be conducted. Please stay tuned for updates.

