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Winter Classes & Programs
including Skating Rink



CITY OF

RANCHO PALOS VERDES

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

HERE’S TO THE NEXT 50 YEARS, RPV!

Over 300 guests danced the night away on September 9, 2023 at Terranea Resort for the City’s 50th Anniversary Gala! The black-tie affair was attended by a who’s who of RPV’s past, present, and future, including Councilmembers spanning all five decades of the City’s history.



The night featured musical performances by William “Billy” Hevener on ukulele, the Coast Jazz Band, MEGG & The Benedicts, and Hanatsuka Takashi, Mayor of RPV’s sister city, Sakura City, Japan, on a traditional taiko drum. RPV and Sakura City exchanged gifts and RPV founder Ken Dyda reflected on the fight for incorporation and the early days of cityhood before guests enjoyed cake and a celebratory toast to the next 50 years.

The City thanks everyone who helped us celebrate our golden anniversary over the past year, including special thanks to all the gala sponsors who helped make the evening possible.

Check out photo galleries from our year-long celebration and learn about the history of RPV’s cityhood at rpv50.com.



LADERA LINDA COMMUNITY PARK: SPREADING ITS BRANCHES



A Spring breeze is blowing
I’m bursting with laughter
---wishing for flowers

Matsuo Basho



Under the cherry blossoms
Strangers are not
really strangers

Kobayashi Issa

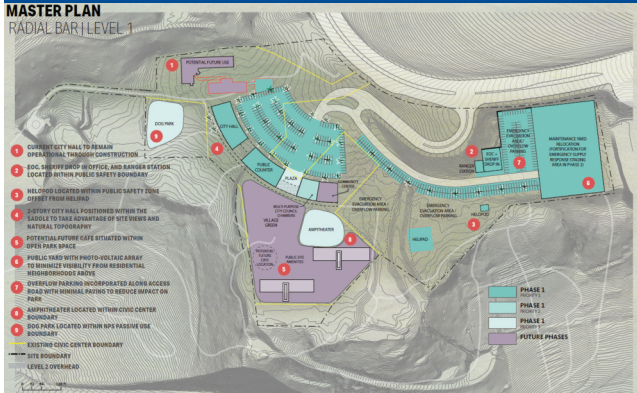
While the grand unveiling of the brand new Ladera Linda Community Park is about to come to fruition, several willowy additions have already taken root. Our Sister City in Japan, Sakura City, graciously donated three pink cherry blossom trees, also known as Sakura trees. The trees were planted in a scenic and prominent location near the flagpole in late October, where they can hopefully grow and bloom and greet visitors to the park for generations to come.

Get out the giant scissors because the much-anticipated ribbon cutting ceremony is coming soon- date to be determined! Residents and visitors will then be able to enjoy a brand new building, walking paths, paddle tennis and basketball courts, a naturalistic playground, and grass fields. Parks and trees aren’t fully formed for years; they take patience and care to fully mature. In time, visitors will enjoy the ethereal enchantment of Sakura blossoms drifting on the wind.

Go to rpvca.gov/LaderaLinda for updates, minute-by-minute close-ups of the evolving project’s progress, and perhaps a wavering glimpse of a cherry blossom tree or three waiting serenely for the first park visitor.

CIVIC CENTER CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

KEEPING CALM AND CARRYING ON



Winston Churchill famously said of the Battle of Britain, “Now this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.” Well, the end is a ways off for the Civic Center Campus Master Plan project, but the beginning is now well in the past.

Developing this beautiful 19-acre site with its incredible Pacific Ocean and Catalina views has been a City goal since its incorporation in 1973. There have been stops and starts over the decades, but steady progress is being made to turn that long-sought dream into a reality.

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SPOTLIGHT ON BRANDY FORBES: NEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR



Brandy Forbes took over the helm of Community Development Department (CDD) in 2023 after holding the same position in Redondo Beach. Brandy took some time to answer a few questions about being a CDD Director and some of the current and future issues and challenges facing the City of Rancho Palos Verdes.

Many residents may not know what CDD is and what a CDD Director does. How would you describe the Department and your role?

CDD addresses issues related to private property to ensure the orderly physical development of the community. This includes issuing land use entitlements and building permits for property improvements. CDD includes the Planning, Building, Code Enforcement, and View Restoration/Preservation Divisions.

CDD also manages larger planning

projects, such as updating the General Plan (including the Housing Element) and coordinating efforts on Citywide projects.

My role as Director is to foster a collaborative and team-oriented environment, where excellent customer service and problem solving are key components to providing services. Also, in working with the City Manager and other department heads, my responsibilities include managing major projects and conveying thorough information to the City Council and Planning

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LAND MOVEMENT UPDATE

On October 3, 2023, the City declared a state of local emergency due to accelerating land movement in the Portuguese Bend, Abalone Cove, and Klondike Canyon landslides. The City Council voted to take the proactive step of declaring a local emergency to bolster the City’s ongoing response and allow staff to request state and federal assistance to address the landslide activity, which has damaged infrastructure and homes.

Although neighborhoods in the landslide complex have historically experienced movement, a significant increase has been observed since early summer 2023, leading to the red-tagging of homes that became too dangerous to inhabit. The movement extends to the City’s nature preserve, including the Portuguese Bend Reserve, resulting in trail closures. All the

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Have questions about
land movement?

Find FAQs at: rpvca.gov/landmovement
Email us at: landmovement@rpvca.gov

JOIN THE RPV LEADERSHIP ACADEMY AND SHAPE YOUR CITY’S FUTURE!



SAVE THE DATE: APPLICATIONS OPEN IN JANUARY 2024

Take the lead and unlock the inner workings of Rancho Palos Verdes! The Rancho Palos Verdes Leadership Academy (RPVLA) is your opportunity to gain a unique, behind-the-scenes look at our City’s operations. Explore various departments, services, and facilities while connecting with fellow community members.

RPVLA SCHEDULE AND FOCUS AREAS

Four Wednesday-night sessions and one Saturday session in April and May. Limited enrollment on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participants will:

- Understand decision-making processes and City finances.
- Interact with city officials, including the Mayor, City Council, and Department Directors.
- Discuss vital community topics, such as planning, traffic, and City growth.
- Enhance neighborhood advocacy and leadership skills.

Eligibility: Participants must be at least 14 years old, Rancho Palos Verdes residents, and interested in becoming community leaders. Attend 4 out of 5 sessions to receive an RPVLA certificate.

Save the Date: Applications for the 2024 RPV Leadership Academy open in January. Don’t miss this opportunity to become a catalyst for positive change in our community. For inquiries, contact PublicSafety@rpvca.gov.

GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS: ANNUAL BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL AND UPDATES



What business is it of yours? Good question, but if it is your business and it’s in RPV, you need a business license.

Business License Renewal Process

Business license renewal applications are due prior to commencing operations and expire each December. In mid-December, City staff will send the 2024 business license renewal applications to all currently licensed businesses. This

application should be completed and returned with payment to City Hall by January 31, 2024.

HOW DO I COMPLETE A BUSINESS LICENSE RENEWAL?

The renewal application is easy, takes only minutes to finish, and can be completed in one of three ways:

1. **Online:** File on-line by going to the City’s website at <https://etrakit.rpvca.gov/eTRAKIT/>.
2. **By Mail:** Return the application and your check made payable to “City of Rancho Palos Verdes” to the following address:

City of Rancho Palos Verdes
Attention: Business License
30940 Hawthorne Blvd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
3. **In Person:** You can also pay your renewal in person at City Hall, within the Community Development Department.

Questions: Contact the Business License Coordinator at 310.544.5301. For additional information, please refer to Chapter 5.04 of the City’s Municipal Code or visit the City of Rancho Palos Verdes website.

PEDRO PET PALS - ADOPT YOUR NEW BEST FRIEND

Pedro Pet Pals hosts a monthly adoption at the Ken Dyda Civic Center parking lot. This South Bay non-profit organization is dedicated to saving homeless animals. Pedro Pet Pals raises funds to provide services and supplies for animals in local animal shelters and to the community-at-large, such as:

- vouchers for spaying and neutering dogs and cats
- taking shelter dogs to locations with unfilled adoption requests
- funds for low-cost, mobile vaccination clinics

Pedro Pets Pals works with the community to find foster and adoption homes for animals, especially those that are most at risk of being euthanized. For more information, go to pedropetpals.com.



PEDRO PET PALS, INC.
395 W. 7TH STREET, #A
SAN PEDRO, CA 90731





RPV is hiring!
*Where your job search ends
and your career begins!*

Visit our website to apply or
click on the QR code to see all
of our current openings



WE ARE HIRING PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/rpvca

VISIT THE PALOS VERDES LIBRARY DISTRICT: IT’S A PAGE TURNER!

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Nutcracker: a piano performance by Dr. James Lent
Saturday, December 16, 2023
1 PM - 2 PM ~ CENTER LIBRARY



TechKnows
Saturday, January 06, 2024
10 AM - 2 PM ~ PENINSULA CENTER LIBRARY
Drop in and TechKnows will assist with all your techy questions.

Art Exhibition featuring Mike Ishikawa
ENDS JANUARY 23 ~ MALAGA COVE LIBRARY GALLERY



Sushi Demonstration w/ Chef Andy Matsuda
Wednesday, January 17, 2024
4 PM - 5 PM ~ PENINSULA CENTER LIBRARY

PV Reads - Author Talk Alka Joshi
Friday, March 15, 2024
6 PM - 7 PM ~ PENINSULA CENTER LIBRARY
Meet the author of the "Henna Artist."



All events can be found at pvld.org/calendar.

Palos Verdes Peninsula Transit Authority



FREE NEW YEAR’S EVE BUS SERVICE !!
Call for Reservations and Pick-up (310) 544-3710
Remember, do not drink and drive. Plan ahead for a safe and Happy New Year!!

CIVIC CENTER CAMPUS

(Continued from page 1)

Some quick history: In 2015, the City Council approved a Parks Master Plan Update which included a recommendation for a separate Civic Center Master Plan. Following that direction, a survey went out to every RPV residence followed by the establishment of the Civic Center Advisory Committee (CCAC) in 2017. The intervening years included numerous meetings, public forums, Civic Center tours, and the creation of a program document that listed all the components and estimated square footage.

Churchill also spoke about “blood, tears, toil and sweat.” Well, no blood or tears have been shed, but in recent months, the City’s CCAC and Finance Advisory Committee have certainly toiled and sweated to analyze and put together recommendations on a preliminary conceptual site plan, a prioritized phasing approach to future construction, and financing/budget alternatives. Kudos to these two committees for their dedication to this important community project.

The Council received a detailed report on October 17, 2023. A financial plan of \$45.4 million was identified through a combination of cash on hand and a potential long-term loan while maintaining the City’s reserve policy. The total project cost is estimated at \$105 million with the prioritized elements of Phase 1, which include a new City Hall, public safety components, and needed parking improvements estimated at \$79 million. The City is looking at alternate financial options including grant opportunities, a capital campaign, and revenue opportunities.

The Council also directed Staff to come back with detailed information about moving into Stage 2 of the project “Master Plan Design Development” which may include a design competition. Cost estimates will be re-examined and firmed up during this process.

Want to learn more?

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.

LEGISLATIVE CORNER:
“WHERE THERE’S A
BILL THERE’S A WAY”

Whether you’re blue, red, green or a mix of all colors in-between, it behooves everyone to stay current. It’d be totally lawful and awful to be uninformed-being informed has my vote. Stay in the know with the RPV Legislative Corner, your one-stop destination for the latest news, developments, and updates on legislative matters in the City of RPV. We’re here to keep you informed and engaged in the decision-making process that shapes our community.



Join us on December 19, 2023, at the City Council meeting, where we will delve into our 2024 Legislative Platform and discuss the guidepost which shapes our legislative advocacy at the local, regional, state, and federal levels. Your voice matters, and we want to hear your thoughts and opinions.

BRANDY FORBES

(Continued from page 1)

Commission to aid them in their decision-making.

Please tell our readers about your background and what led you to the planning field.

I have served as a Community Development Director for 15 years and have worked in the field of urban planning for my entire career in the states of Iowa, Washington, New Jersey, and California.

When I was seeking my undergraduate degree in economics at the University of Iowa, I took some advanced economics classes related to transportation, planning, and geology. These courses sparked my interest in planning, as I could relate to the applicability of economics in this field. One of my professors encouraged me to apply to graduate school in urban and regional planning, and the rest is history.

What skills and personal qualities does a CDD Director need to be successful?

A successful CDD Director should have excellent communication skills, including public speaking, listening, and writing. Explaining the issue or project, conveying the research and information needed to make a decision, and being able to succinctly (yet responsively) answer questions in a public forum are important communication abilities to ensure that the decision-makers have the information they need to move the project forward.

Additionally, it is critical to seek innovative solutions in this position. CDD is always applying broader zoning and land use regulations to individual properties; so, when an individual property has very site-specific constraints, staff needs to be inventive in assisting applicants with a path forward. The CDD Director provides leadership and guidance to staff to implement that level of customer service.

What projects from your past experience stand out for you?

We had several unexpected projects arise in Hoboken, New Jersey including the collapse of a portion of our waterfront and the flooding caused by Superstorm Sandy, and found innovative ways to address these issues to eliminate or minimize future problems. I will be utilizing these problem-solving skills in RPV as we address the Landslide Complex issues.

How does CDD interact with other City departments?

I see the City as a greater team, where CDD is one of the players. When other departments need assistance with such tasks as mapping, overseeing a project, preparing a staff report, coordinating a community meeting, providing code enforcement, and looking at approvals needed for a capital improvement project, the CDD staff is here to help.

What are some of the biggest challenges and goals CDD is dealing with?

The biggest challenge right now is the land movement in the Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex. Addressing public safety and community needs is such a top priority, and CDD is working collaboratively with all of the City departments to ensure we are taking measures to protect the residents and public.

There are certainly other major projects, such as getting our Housing Element to completion, coordinating with UCLA on its campus plans, working on the next stage of the Civic Center Master Plan, and exploring Western Avenue revitalization, to name a few.

What would you like the residents of RPV to know about you?

I have dedicated my career to working in the public sector to help make cities a better place for those who live and work in the community. Although I have worked in a variety of municipalities throughout my career, they all have a special place in my heart. I look forward to having that same dedication and commitment to RPV.

What About When You're Not Working?

Having lived right across the Hudson River from Manhattan for 15 years, I loved going into NYC for Broadway shows. Since moving to California five years ago, and now that theaters are back in production, I am starting to explore different venues in Los Angeles. I also enjoy concerts and music festivals.

Finally, I went to the University of Iowa, so I am a huge Iowa Hawkeye fan! I can cheer (or grumble about) the Iowa football team in the fall, and I am looking forward to watching both men’s and women’s basketball teams in the coming months.

CRIME CORNER HOLIDAY SAFETY



Avoid the InSantaty Clause-keep your home and loved ones safe this season. Yule be glad you did!

As the days grow shorter and the holiday spirit shines bright, it's time to put on your Santa Claus hat and embrace the season with the wisdom of the jolly old man himself.

- B - Be Vigilant:** Stay alert in crowded places and be mindful of your surroundings. Keep an eye on your belongings to prevent theft or pickpocketing.
- A - Avoid Oversharing:** Resist the temptation to overshare your holiday plans on social media. Broadcasting your absence can make your home a target for burglars.
- H - Home Security:** Fortify your home's security by locking all doors and windows even if you are only stepping out for a few minutes.
- H - Hide Your Valuables:** Never leave valuable items and shopping bags in your vehicle to avoid attracting opportunistic thieves.
- U - Use Secure Online Practices:** When shopping online, utilize secure websites with “https” and a padlock symbol. Beware of phishing emails and scams seeking to exploit your holiday spirit.
- M - Monitor Your Financials:** Keep a close watch on your credit card and bank statements for any suspicious activity or unauthorized transactions.
- B - Be a Responsible Reveler:** If you plan on consuming alcohol at social gatherings, arrange for a designated driver or alternative transportation to get home safely.
- U - Unite with Neighbors:** Foster a strong sense of community by participating in or starting a neighborhood watch program. Look out for each other and report any suspicious activity to LASD at 310.539.1661.
- G - Get Emergency Ready:** Keep a list of emergency contacts handy and share your travel itinerary with a trusted friend or family member in case of unexpected events.



Embrace the "Bah Humbug" spirit and stay safe!

LAND MOVEMENT

(Continued from page 1)

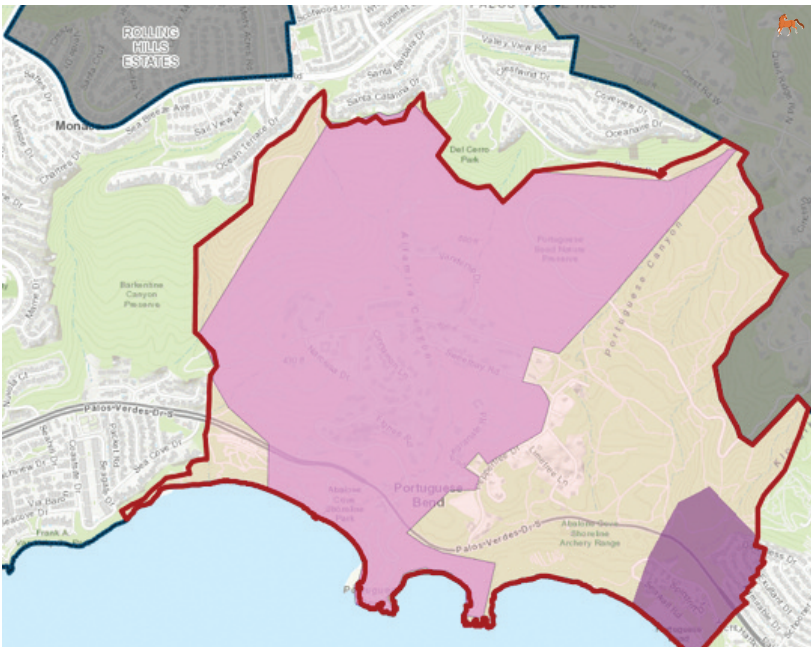
recent movement is believed to be primarily the result of last winter’s heavy rainfall resulting in surface water percolating into the ground and lubricating the bentonite soil, since it can take anywhere from a few weeks to a few months after the rainfall for the land to move. Water pipe leaks, especially when undetected for an extended period, may be exacerbating the accelerated movement.

The health and safety of the public and the protection of property, infrastructure, and the environment are the City’s top priorities. The City is committed to keeping the community informed and has created a dedicated webpage at rpvca.gov/landmovement with resident resources and answers to frequently asked questions, including information on how to request a property inspection by the Building and Safety Division or report a water leak to Cal Water.

Residents can send their questions to City staff by emailing landmovement@rpvca.gov and get email updates by subscribing to the Land Movement listserv at rpvca.gov/notify. In addition to geological monitoring, the City conducts regular street-level visual checks in the Seaview, Portuguese Bend Community Association, and Portuguese Bend Beach Club neighborhoods to monitor any new movement several days a week, as well as home inspections on request.

Staff has created a working group comprised of stakeholder representatives, including Abalone Cove Landslide Abatement District (ACLAD), and Klondike Canyon Landslide Abatement District (KCLAD), board members, homeowners associations, utility representatives, and residents to address issues related to the land movement and keep channels of communication open. Learn more at rpvca.gov/landmovement.

The City has created new interactive geographic information system (GIS) map with the boundaries of the Portuguese Bend Landslide Complex, the ACLAD, and the KCLAD. To view the map, visit: rpvca.gov/landslidemap.



HOLIDAY TRASH
COLLECTION SCHEDULE

December 2023: No service on Monday, December 25. There will be a one-day service delay all week for all routes.

January 2024: No service on Monday, January 1. There will be a one-day service delay all week for all routes.

Questions? Call EDCO at 310.540.2977 or www.rpvrecycles.com. Please place all containers at the curb no later than 7 am on your collection day.

Regulations for hours for trash containers placement and storage: Containers cannot be placed at the curb until after 4 pm the day before collection day. Empty carts must be removed no later than 10 pm on collection day.

Empty containers cannot be left on the curb overnight. Containers must be stored on the side or back of the property, at a location that is substantially screened from view. Proper care and placement of your container helps keep your neighborhood attractive and aesthetically pleasing. Contact EDCO about excess holiday trash collection: December 26, 2023 through January 15, 2024.



TIME FOR A CLEAN SWEEP!
MAKE BROOM FOR HOLIDAY STREET SWEEPING



Streets in RPV are swept twice a month. If your regular street sweeping day falls on December 25 or January 1 (1st and 4th Monday of each month), street sweeping will be delayed by one day due to the holidays. Sweeping will be performed on Tuesday, December 26 and January 2. On sweeping

days, please try to remove parked cars from the street to allow for optimal sweeping of your street. Help us to make your street clean!

A HORSE OF A DIFFERENT SIZE

Find the Four Hidden Miniature Horses

Horses have had a long and cherished presence in RPV and the entire Palos Verdes Peninsula. Look for four miniature (not Li'l Sebastian) horses hidden in the newsletter. Don't say neigh-the Mane thing is to keep trying.



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

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CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES
NEWSLETTER



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GREEN CORNER



TREE-CYCLING

If your Christmas tree is looking brown, do the green thing and recycle it properly.

Curbside tree collection will take place on your collection day from **December 26, 2023, through January 15, 2024.**

- Please remove all decorations including ornaments, tinsel, lights, and tree stand.
- Flocked trees are acceptable and will be recycled.
- Trees longer than 6 feet must be cut in half.

If you live in a multi-family complex, please contact your management company or HOA for the designated tree drop-off location.



SB 1383 MANDATORY ORGANIC WASTE
DISPOSAL REDUCTION



SB 1383 is a state law that requires every resident and business to recycle organic waste in an effort to reduce methane emissions.



What does SB 1383 mean for residents and multi-family complexes? Residents of single-family homes and multi-family complexes must recycle all organic waste, including paper, cardboard, yard materials, food scraps, and food-soiled paper by placing them in their organic (green) bin. Residents can request a Kitchen Caddy from EDCO to conveniently transfer food scraps from the

kitchen to their organics cart or compost pile. Multi-family complexes are also required to arrange for organic and recycling services (paper, bottle, aluminum, cardboard, etc.) If you are not recycling your organic or your other recyclable items, you must contact EDCO at 310.540.2977 to arrange for services now.

What does SB 1383 mean for businesses? All businesses are required to arrange for organic waste and recycling services. If you are an owner or manager of a business that is currently required to recycle organics, and do not do so, please contact your hauler immediately and/or your management company to arrange for organic waste recycling services. Go to <https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Recycle/Commercial/Organics/Business/> for more info. If you are an RPV business owner or manager, and are experiencing difficulties with your hauler in implementing this mandatory regulation, please contact RPV Public Works at 310.544.5252 or publicworks@rpvca.gov.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND
ELECTRONIC WASTE PROGRAM:
WASTE NOT/WANT NOT



L.A. County's household hazardous waste (HHW) and electronic waste collection program gives Rancho Palos Verdes residents a legal and cost-free way to dispose of unwanted household chemicals that cannot be disposed of via regular trash collection.

HHW can be disposed of at the Gaffey S.A.F.E. Center. It is open to LA County residents every Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 3 pm. To dispose of old paint, expired medicines, automotive oil, used electronics, and more, go to the Gaffey S.A.F.E. Center located at 1400 N. Gaffey, San Pedro. For more information please visit: https://www.lacsd.org/services/solidwaste/hhw_e_waste/default.asp.

FIRST FLUSH -
STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

As winter and the first storm of the year approaches, so does the risk of stormwater pollution. The first storm of the year is called the "first flush." The first flush will pick up all the trash, pesticides, oil, and other pollutants that have built up over the summer and carry the pollutants into our canyons, natural streams, channels, and oceans, leading to harmful consequences for aquatic life and even human health.

The good news is that we can take action at home to prevent stormwater pollution. Here are some simple things you can do to help keep our waterways clean:

1. Dispose of litter in the trash or recycling bins.
2. Dispose of household hazardous waste, such as cleaners, motor oil, and pesticides. Do not dump or throw away the chemicals. Visit <https://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/hhw/> for more information.
3. Pick up after your pet and dispose of the pet waste in the trash bin.
4. Water your lawn or garden efficiently and use dry cleaning methods for your driveway, such as sweeping with a broom.
5. Minimize your use of pesticides and fertilizers by only spot-treating the problem area, and following product directions. Do not treat if rain is predicted within 48 hours.
6. Volunteer at local cleanup events: participate in local cleanup events, and help raise awareness about stormwater pollution in your community.

These are just a few examples of simple steps we can take to prevent stormwater pollution. Let's work together to keep our waterways clean and healthy for generations to come.

