

RANCHO PALOS VERDES

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

STREET SMARTS

CITY COMMITTEE FOCUS: TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



The mission of the Traffic Safety Committee (TSC) is to advise the City Council on traffic issues, development proposals and special projects as assigned by the City Council. The TSC also reviews and advises on neighborhood traffic calming guidelines and proposed projects.

During Fiscal Year 2024-25, TSC provided feedback on the Electric Bike (E-Bike) Ordinance, created a framework for processing traffic requests and recommended the implementation of traffic calming solutions. Currently,

possible traffic calming measures for Palos Verdes Drive South between Forrestal Drive and Schooner Drive are being evaluated and will be presented to the TSC during FY2025-26.

TSC meets every other month at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Ken Dyda Civic Center (City Hall). TSC's next regular meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2025. Agendas are posted to the City website the Friday prior to the meeting at rpvca.gov/agendas.

TSC can be contacted at traffic@rpvca.gov or by calling Public Works at 310.544.5252. You may also visit the TSC webpage at rpvca.gov/165/Traffic-Safety-Committee.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

TAYLOR FOX AND ERIC WOLTERDING, OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS' ONE-TWO PUNCH



This edition spotlights two valuable members of the City's Open Space and Trails Division (OST): Administrative Analyst Eric Wolterding and Senior Park Ranger Taylor Fox.

First off, tell us about your respective roles in OST.

Eric:

I serve several roles in my position of Administrative Analyst with OST. I coordinate projects for the Division, help with financial analysis and processing, educate and train on trail and landscape maintenance, and coordinate with partnering agencies such as the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, federal and state wildlife agencies, and the California Coastal Commission.

Taylor:

I am the Senior Park Ranger with OST. I supervise three Full-time Park Rangers and coordinate projects for the Division, which include maintenance as well as enforcement efforts. I also educate and inform the public about the rules and regulations within the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve.

Tell our readers a little about your prior work experience and education. What led you to RPV and OST?

Taylor:

I've been fortunate to live in and around the Peninsula all of my life. I got my degree at Marymount College and started a part-time job as a Recreation Leader with the City in 2017. At the time, OST was composed of a small group of employees, and a lot of the maintenance duties included removal of discarded and illegally dumped items. I was promoted several times and became a Park Ranger in 2020.

Eric:

I grew up playing in the woods, hiking, swimming, camping, and gardening. Early on I knew that I needed to focus on a career working in, or for, the outdoors. I further developed my knowledge of parks and horticulture as a Gardener/Groundskeeper in Central Park. Upon moving to Southern California, I connected quickly with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy and worked as its Field Operations Specialist. Throughout my journey I

continued on page 3

PUBLIC WORKS IS WORKING FOR THE PUBLIC!



Greetings from the RPV Public Works Department! We're the part of your City team that provides leadership for the planning, engineering, construction, and operation of our community's physical infrastructure. Led by Director Ramzi Awwad, Public Works operates and maintains the City's network of streets, storm drains, sewers, and City buildings and facilities.

Public Works is also responsible for solid waste management, fuel modification (vegetation removal for fire season), public street beautification and tree maintenance, and environmental sustainability programs (i.e. street sweeping and stormwater pollution).

Have questions about coordinating utility services like gas, electricity, and water? Or maybe you need to do something that requires permitting and inspection services for activities in the public right-of-way? That's Public Works. The Department also works extensively with the Infrastructure Management Advisory Committee and the Traffic Safety Committee.

Below is some of the infrastructure we maintain and services we provide:

- Street network
 - 150 miles of public streets
 - 17 traffic signals, 7,000 traffic signs, and 1,750 streetlights
 - Traffic engineering
 - Transit coordination
 - Permit parking programs
- Stormwater runoff
 - 60 miles of storm drain pipes

continued on page 2

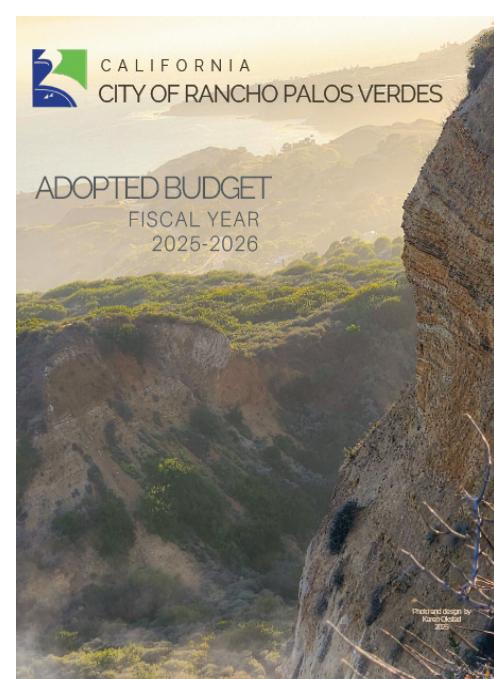
CITY KICKS OFF FY 2025-26 WITH ADOPTED BUDGET

July 1 marked the beginning of the new fiscal year for the City, which runs through June 30, 2026.

The City Council adopted this year's budget on June 17, 2025, following a series of public budget workshops and presentations to the Finance Advisory Committee that began in April.

The adopted General Fund operating budget includes \$41.5 million in revenues and \$37.3 million in expenditures, excluding transfers. Across all funds, total expenditures and transfers amount to \$79.2 million, supported by \$67.3 million in total revenues and transfers, with the remaining \$11.9 million covered by available fund balances.

The FY 2025-26 Budget in Brief and Adopted Budget are available for public viewing on the City's website under the Finance Department page at rpvca.gov/budget.



ECR-WSS

Permit # 194
Torrance
PAID
POSTAGE
U.S.
FIRST-CLASS
MAIL



CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES
30940 HAWTHORNE BOULEVARD
RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CA 90275

TAKE THE LEAD

RPV LEADERSHIP ACADEMY: TIME TO TAKE THE LEAD

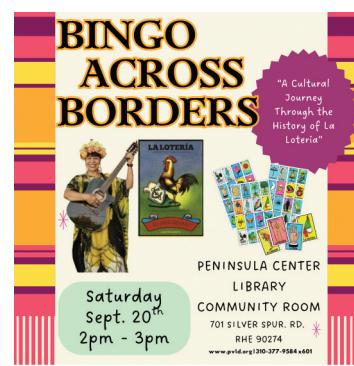
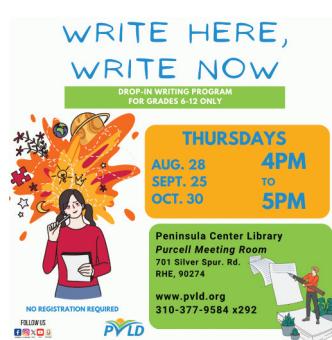


The City of Rancho Palos Verdes launched its 2025 Leadership Academy on September 3 with a cohort of 25 participants. This five-session civic engagement program is designed to give residents a behind-the-scenes look at how their local government operates. More information is available at www.rpvca.gov/leadershipacademy.

Since its launch, the Leadership Academy has offered community members an opportunity to interact directly with City staff, explore municipal services, and build a deeper understanding of the City's operations and decision-making processes. Participants tour city facilities, hear from department leaders, and engage in activities that encourage informed civic participation. Whether you're a long-time resident or newly curious about public service, the Academy offers hands-on experience in local leadership.

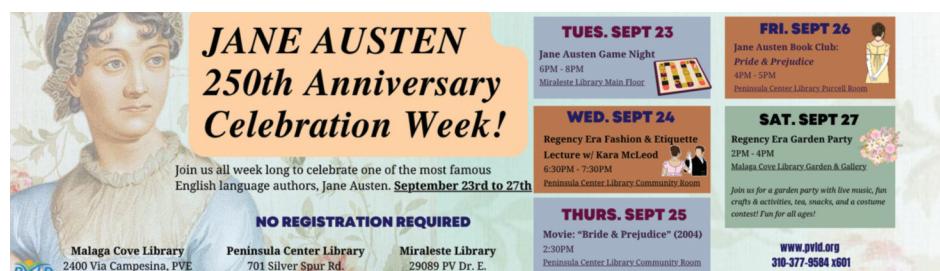
The Fall 2025 academy promises to be another dynamic mix of residents eager to connect with their community and gain a better grasp of city planning, public works, budgeting, recreation services, public safety, and more. Graduates of the program often go on to serve on City committees, participate in local projects, or become ambassadors for community engagement.

LET'S GET ON THE SAME PAGE! PALOS VERDES LIBRARY FALL PROGRAMS



Jane Austen Celebration Week: From "Emma" to "Pride and Prejudice"

This week is for Austen lovers of all ages!



Tai Chi @ Malaga Cove

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. @ 1pm

PV Writes Together Kick Off: Writing Programs

Friday, Oct. 3 @ 5pm - 6:30pm PC Community Room

PUBLIC WORKS

(Continued from page 1)

- 1,500 catch basins
- Stormwater quality management program
- Sanitary sewer collection for the Abalone Cove Sanitary Sewer District
 - 4 lift stations
 - 125 manhole structures
 - 50 grinder pumps
 - 4 miles of gravity pipes
 - 4 miles of low-pressure pipes
- Trash recycling, organic waste, and green waste management
- Landslide monitoring and remediation
- City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
- Coastal bluff fence maintenance
- City vehicle fleet maintenance

Have questions? Want to learn more? Public Works would love to talk to you about the many things it does to help make our community one of the best places in Southern California to live and raise a family. Staff is available Monday-Friday during business hours at 310.544.5292 and at publicworks@rpvca.gov. For after-hour emergencies, please call 310.544.5252.

PUBLIC SAFETY FOCUS

Crime in the City remains low, and we are generally a safe community. By taking simple precautions, we can keep our homes and neighborhoods safe and continue our positive trend in public safety.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS

Keep your home, family, and belongings safe with these easy and effective safety tips.

Lock it up!

1. Lock all exterior doors, windows, and garage doors, even when you're home.
2. Install extra security locks on sliding glass doors.



Make it look like someone's home!

1. Leave a light, TV, or radio on when you're away, especially at night.
2. Use timers on lights to turn them on/off automatically.
3. Don't let mail or packages pile up, have a trusted neighbor collect them or pause delivery.

Light up the outside

1. Install motion-sensor lights near all entry points and around dark areas.
2. Keep front and back entrances well-lit to deter intruders.

Use a security system

1. If you can, invest in a home security system with cameras and alarms.
2. Always keep the system activated, even when you're at home.
3. Do not write down or store the pin code near the keypad.
4. To learn more about the city's Security Camera Reimbursement Program visit: rpvca.gov/1329/Public-Safety-Reimbursement-Program.

Bonus tips:

1. Trim bushes and trees around windows to eliminate hiding spots.
2. Avoid publicly posting vacation plans or travel updates on social media.
3. Contact the Lomita Sheriff's Station and request a 'Vacation Home Check.' 310.539.1661.
4. Get to know your neighbors! They can help watch your home when you're away.

Stay safe. Stay aware. Stay protected. If you SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING! Contact the Lomita Sheriff's Station at 310.539.1661 if you see any suspicious activity, and call 9-1-1 immediately if you see a crime in progress.

Reported Incidents (March-July 2025)

Most incidents involve property crimes, particularly thefts from or involving vehicles, many of which occurred when vehicles were left unlocked

- Vehicle Burglary – 21%
- Residential Burglary – 15%
- Grand Theft Auto – 11%
- Grand Theft – 11%
- Petty Theft (Unlocked Vehicle) – 8%
- Shoplifting – 8%
- Petty Theft – 8%
- Grand Theft (Unlocked Vehicle) – 6%
- Robbery – 4%
- Assault – 2%
- Grand Theft (Catalytic Converter) – 2%
- Grand Theft (Trailer) – 2%
- Attempt Residential Burglary – 2%
- Attempt Grand Theft Auto – 2%



*Data above is time sensitive and subject to change.
Data provided by Lomita Sheriff's Station.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2025 - BUILDING BONDS, BUILDING SAFETY

National Night Out, a cornerstone event in community policing nationwide, came alive in RPV again this year. The event brought together residents and Sheriff personnel in an informal, welcoming environment—hosting neighborhood block parties, meet-and-greets, and safety demonstrations. These gatherings strengthen familiarity and trust between the community and law enforcement, key ingredients in preventing crime and improving collective vigilance.



National statistics show that such events impact community safety. Greater awareness leads to improved reporting, stronger neighborhood watches, and even a measurable dip in nuisance crimes.

For RPV, where prevention through community engagement is already proving effective, National Night Out reinforces the sense that crime prevention is a shared responsibility.

SAKURA CITY AND RANCHO PALOS VERDES: SISTER CITIES FOR 5 YEARS

*This Spring Night
Ending with dawn
And cherry blossoms*

-Matsuo Basho



Sakura have blossomed five times since Rancho Palos Verdes and Sakura City, Japan celebrated their fifth anniversary of becoming sister cities. On August 4, 2025, residents joined in festivities at Hesse Park for an evening of cross-cultural celebration. The hybrid event included remarks from City Councilmembers, a ceremonial cake cutting, and the virtual unveiling of a commemorative mile marker sign installed in Sakura City, symbolizing the enduring friendship between the two cities.

The partnership between Rancho Palos Verdes and Sakura City was formalized in 2020 establishing a collaborative relationship built on cultural exchange, friendship, and goodwill. Over the years, the partnership has grown through a series of virtual student exchanges, city-to-city correspondence, and cultural events that have helped foster mutual understanding and appreciation.

Most recently, the City sent a delegation of Councilmembers to visit Sakura City in March 2025 to celebrate its 20th anniversary. The program continues to serve as a bridge between communities, offering youth and residents alike an opportunity to experience international dialogue and connection.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

(Continued from page 1)

had a strong desire to become a Park Ranger! I jumped at the opportunity to further my skills and knowledge in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve, first as a Ranger and now and now as an Administrative Analyst.

The landslide continues to have a profound impact on RPV. How has this ongoing situation affected your work?

Eric:

The landslide has a big impact on my daily work and overall approach to our open spaces. Many of the trails I have worked on and maintained for years have been impacted and, in some cases, completely obliterated by the land movement. I do my best to stay positive and find comfort in the fact that I can still work toward providing solutions and making improvements.

Taylor:

The landslide has profoundly affected my daily work in RPV. Over half of the trails in the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve are temporarily closed, which means the public and Park Rangers are spending more time at other Reserves. However, Park Rangers do continue to frequent the temporarily closed sections, both for maintenance needs and enforcement purposes. At the end of the day, we want to keep everyone safe while providing access to these spaces.

What qualities are needed to be an effective OST staffer?

Eric:

Determination, passion, dedication, and curiosity, to name a few.

Taylor:

Also passion and curiosity—and adaptability, too. Every day can be

HONORING OUR VETERANS

Join the City of Rancho Palos Verdes as we honor and celebrate the brave men and women who have served our country at our annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Tuesday, November 11. The event will take place at the Ken Dyda Civic Center, with music from the Palos Verdes Symphonic Band setting a patriotic tone for the morning.

The program will include an introduction from the Mayor, who will welcome attendees and recognize the veterans in attendance, a formal Presentation of Colors by a local color guard, and a heartfelt performance of the National Anthem.

The event will conclude with closing remarks and an outdoor breakfast (free for RPV veterans), providing a chance for community connection and appreciation. We invite all community members to attend this meaningful tribute as we come together to honor the courage, dedication, and sacrifice of our nation's veterans. Go to rpvca.gov/parks for more details.



GIVE YOUR BRUSH THE BRUSH OFF

BRUSH CLEARANCE DAYS

Disposing of excess vegetation and tree trimming around your home helps reduce fuel load and prevent brush fires.



Fill your green carts, personal cans and/or tied bundles (no plastic bags) and leave them at the curb. Find your collection day and mark your calendars for the upcoming fall brush clearing!

Regular Trash Day	Brush Collection Day
Monday	Saturday, October 4
Tuesday	Saturday, October 11
Wednesday	Saturday, October 18
Thursday	Saturday, October 25
Friday	Saturday, November 1

Brush clearance will take place rain or shine. If you have any questions, call EDCO at 310.540.2977 or visit <https://rancho-palos-verdes.edcodisposal.com/events/rpv-brush-clearing-event-2/>. Please clear your brush before your designated day.

LAND MOVEMENT UPDATE

Get Land Movement Updates

rpvca.gov/landmovement



It's been one year since unprecedented land movement led to the abrupt shutoff of gas and electricity service to hundreds of homes in the Portuguese Bend Landslide area. As land movement peaked at 1 foot per week, national media descended on RPV, and Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency for the electricity shutoffs. The Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary Club, Palos Verdes Peninsula Association of Realtors, RPV Council of Homeowners' Associations, Seaview Residents Association, and other community groups pulled together to offer impacted residents weekly hot meals donated by local restaurants — known as Mend the Bend — plus laundry and shower facilities provided by Los Angeles County.

Today, the land movement has dramatically slowed to an average of 3.7 inches per week — or stopped in some areas — after a dry winter and the removal of over 300 million gallons of groundwater by the City's deep dewatering wells and dewatering efforts by the Abalone Cove and Klondike Canyon Landslide Abatement Districts. But the damage has taken a toll. At this time, 22 homes are red-tagged, and 37 are yellow-tagged. Power and gas have returned to some customers in Seaview and Portuguese Bend Beach Club but remain shut off in the Portuguese Bend Community Association neighborhood, with residents still utilizing alternative means of energy such as generators, solar, and propane. Please know that the City continues to urge SoCalGas and Southern California Edison to restore service when and where it is safe to do so.

The landslide emergency has heavily impacted the City's capital budget and other City resources. We are working as fast as we can with FEMA and Cal OES to administer the historic \$42 million voluntary property buyout program, and we are pursuing every potential avenue for financial assistance from all levels of government. The City has distributed \$2.2 million in financial assistance grants from L.A. County Supervisor Hahn to impacted residents. Recently, the City Council approved building regulations to help residents repair, restore, or replace their homes within their existing footprint, while preventing new development from contributing to land movement and to preserve the public's health, safety and welfare.

The past year was undoubtedly one of the most challenging in the City's 52 years. But make no mistake — the resilience and solidarity of the community, combined with the Herculean effort of our geologists, engineers and City Staff to slow the landslide in real time, and the tenacity of a small city responding to a major, long-term emergency, will go down in history as a moment of greatness. We are #RPVtogether.

For the latest landslide updates, visit rpvca.gov/landmovement. Get updates in your e-mail inbox by subscribing to the Land Movement E-Newsletter at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/s1/U6po6hW>.

DON'T BE TRASHY

TRASH/RECYCLING/ORGANICS PICKUP SCHEDULE

EDCO 310.540.2977,
www.rpvrecycles.com

August 2025: Regular schedule.
No changes.

September 2025: No trash/
recycling/organics service on Labor
Day, Monday, September 1. There
will be a one-day service delay all
week for all routes.

October 2025: Regular Schedule. No Changes.

November 2025: No trash/recycling/organics service on Thursday,
November 27, Thanksgiving Day. There will be a one-day service delay for
Thursday and Friday routes. There will be regular collection for the Monday,
Tuesday and Wednesday customers.

Discounts Available: EDCO offers various discounts to customers:
1) Customers 65 and older are eligible for a 10% senior citizen discount
(a one-time only application is needed for a new senior citizen customer).
2) If you pay for trash services a year in advance (discount available only with
the July-Sept invoice) you are eligible for a 5% annual pre-payment discount.
3) Low-income customers may qualify for a 5% discount (same household
income criteria as CARE). These discounts are not exclusive and may be
combined. For more information contact EDCO or check the City's website at:
rvca.gov/trash.



Need a Lift?

Dial-A-Ride services are available on
the Peninsula for seniors and people
with disabilities (residents only)



Palosverdes.com/pvtransit/
or call (310) 544-7108

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@rvca.gov

Paul Seo, Mayor Pro Tem
Email: paul.seo@rvca.gov

Barbara Ferraro, Councilmember
Email: barbara.ferraro@rvca.gov

George Lewis, Councilmember
Email: george.lewis@rvca.gov

Steve Perestam, Councilmember
Email: stephen.perestam@rvca.gov

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

CITY OF RANCHO PALOS VERDES NEWSLETTER



Editor: Matt Waters

Fall 2025 Newsletter and
Recreation Insert Contributors:

Ramzi Awwad, Megan Barnes, Noel Casil, David Copp, Brandy Forbes,
Taylor Fox, Vanessa Godinez, Martin Gombert, Vanessa Hevener,
Eileen Jacinto, Catherine Jun, Katie Lozano, Robert Moya, James O'Neill,
Karen Okstad, Letitia Polizzi, Vina Ramos, Jennifer Schmid, Octavio Silva,
Teri Takaoka, Matt Waters, Lisa Welstead, Eric Wolterding,

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

JOIN THE DOCENTS AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE



The nonprofit organization Los Serenos de Point Vicente has assisted the City of Rancho Palos Verdes by leading tours and educating the community for 42 years.

Interested in being a part of this vibrant organization? Docent training starts Wednesday, September 10 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the Point Vicente Interpretive Center (PVIC). Classes are every Wednesday through December. For more information call Ann Zellers at 310.544.5265 or go to www.losserenosrpv.org or www.facebook.com/LosSerenos.



GREEN CORNER



FREE DOCUMENT SHRED AND ELECTRONIC WASTE EVENT



Want to free up space in your garage? Bring your personal and private documents and unwanted electronics such as TVs, computer monitors, printers and DVD players to the upcoming Document Shred and E-waste Event on Saturday, October 25, 2025 at the Civic Center overflow parking lot, 30940 Hawthorne Blvd., from 8 to 11 a.m.

Certified shredding trucks will be on-site during this event from 8 to 11 a.m. No household hazardous waste 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.

USED OIL, OLD PAINT AND HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS?



If you have old paint (oil or water based) and household hazardous waste material or electronic waste, take it to the Gaffey SAFE Center located at 1400 N. Gaffey, San Pedro. The center is open to LA County residents every Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 3pm. Visit <https://www.lacsd.org/services/solid-waste/household-hazardous-waste-collection> for more information.

PLASTIC BAGS!

"Plastics" was the key word of advice in the 1967 classic, "The Graduate" but the 2025 advice is to be thoughtful when recycling plastic bags. Plastic bags are non-biodegradable and take hundreds of years to break down. Plastic accumulates in the environment, polluting waterways harming wildlife, and spreading dangerous toxins. Do your part by keeping all kinds of plastic bags (including plastic grocery bags, newspaper delivery bags, or chip/snack bags) out of blue recycling carts.

Take plastic grocery bags to designated drop-off locations for proper recycling and disposal. Newspaper delivery bags and chip/snack bags belong in your grey trash cart. **Please place all recyclable material loosely in your recycling cart, and DO NOT bag any recyclable material.**

Additionally, do not use plastic bags of any kind (including certified compostable or biodegradable) in your green organics cart. When mixed with organic materials, plastic bags contaminate the composting process and hinder the decomposition of organic waste. Use paper products such as paper bags, to wrap your food scraps. Paper products help control odor, absorb moisture and keep insects away from your organics cart.

FIRST FLUSH - STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

The first storm of the year is called the "first flush." The first flush will carry pollutants into our canyons' natural streams, channels, and oceans, leading to harmful consequences for aquatic life and even human health.

Here are some simple actions you can take 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 a 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 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. Participate in local cleanup events, and help raise awareness about stormwater pollution in your community.

Let's work together to keep our waterways clean and healthy for generations to come.

