



# POWAY Today



A Quarterly Municipal Newsletter for the Residents of Poway, California

Summer 2012



## State Raises the Bar on Recycling

### New Mandates for Multi-Family and Commercial Sectors

The Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB 939) was landmark legislation that set recycling programs in motion by requiring cities to track the quantity of solid waste generated, and reduce total amounts going into landfills by 50%.

In order to meet the 50% waste reduction requirement, the City of Poway requires the weekly collection of recyclables, green waste and other compostable materials which are diverted from the landfill. The City submits an Annual Report to CalRecycle (formerly the California Integrated Waste Management Board)

which includes waste collection data and the community's waste diversion rate. Since annual reporting began in 1995, the City of Poway has exceeded the 50% waste diversion goal mandated by AB 939.

On October 6, 2011 new legislation was signed that expands upon the objectives of AB 939. Assembly Bill 341 sets a statewide goal to divert 75% of solid waste generated by the year 2020. To accomplish this, all businesses, institutions and apartment buildings in California will be required to recycle as of July 1, 2012.

#### What will change as a result of AB 341?

##### The City will:

- Expand public education and outreach efforts.
- Identify customers that are not recycling and inform them of the requirement to recycle.
- Report details and progress regarding multi-family and commercial recycling efforts in the City's Annual Report to CalRecycle.

#### What will NOT change as a result of AB 341?

- The City's mandatory waste diversion rate will not change from 50%. The 75% waste diversion rate has been set for the state as a whole, and is contingent upon the collective success of each city's programs.
- Poway has required all multi-family and commercial properties in Poway to recycle since 1995, so this is not a change from current requirements.

## Take a (Summer) Hike!

### Enjoy Two More of Poway's Popular Trails

#### Lake Poway Loop Trail

One of the more popular trail destinations within Poway's 56 miles of recreational trails lies within the 60+ acres of the Lake Poway Recreation Area. The Lake Poway Loop Trail offers hikers a variety of options and claims some of the most scenic views within the City. This 3.2 mile loop runs counterclockwise around the lake, beginning at the grassy top of Lake Poway and returning near the boat dock and concession area. Start your hike uphill along the southern side of the lake, and you will be rewarded with a breathtaking panoramic view to the north. As you continue around the east side of the lake, take some time to experience the wide variety of native plants and the abundant wildlife that call this large, hilly open-space their home. You will then begin the final quarter of your hike, where you will meander down a winding series of switchbacks to the base of the Lake Poway dam. Once you reach the bottom, take the small detour to the north for a short break into the primitive campground hidden within the large, majestic grove of oak trees. You're now ready to complete your hike by climbing up the much steeper series of switchbacks to the west. As you reach the top, you will be just a short distance from the lake's concession or lower parking area and will have completed one of the most significant hikes within the City's 56 miles of recreational trails.



#### Mount Woodson Trail

For those hikers up for a bit more of a challenge, the 4.4 mile hike from Lake Poway Park to the peak of Mount Woodson might be just what you're looking for. You enter the Mount Woodson Trail at the mid-point of the Lake Poway Loop Trail and immediately begin with a steady climb to the east. Once you have reached the summit, you will hike a short, flat transition to the east that gives the feeling of being out in the middle of nowhere. After this short jaunt east, you will have the choice to continue southeast into the rugged, undeveloped Warren Canyon area or veering to the left and continuing up the Mount Woodson Trail. For those challenging Mount Woodson for the first time, veering to the left is highly



suggested. As you continue winding up through the magnificent and seemingly endless line of majestic

boulders, you will be offered one more choice: the Mount Woodson Trail to the top or the Fry-Koegle Trail to Ramona. If you don't have time for both, a re-visit might be your best option. If you choose the Fry-Koegle Trail, you will be enveloped by some of the City's most picturesque native landscaping as the trail leads you along the northern side of Mount Woodson and ends shortly after reaching Ramona. If you choose to continue up the Mount Woodson Trail, you will be entranced by a 360 degree view of San Diego County and one of the most picturesque sights in the region.

## The Dangers of Synthetic Drugs: Educating Our Community

Synthetic drugs pose a serious health risk to our community. Commonly referred to as Spice, K2, Bath Salts, or glass cleaner —synthetic drugs are marketed under many different names. All contain a dangerous mix of chemicals that, when consumed, produce an altered state of mind. Depending on the mix or the dose, the results vary by the individual user—from a mild "high" to death. The drug can increase heart rates and blood pressure, cause cold sweats and hallucinations, and increase paranoia to the extreme, similar to methamphetamine use. To protect our community, particularly our children, it is important to know how to identify these drugs.

Spice is a liquid chemical that is sprayed on a mixture of herbs and spices, which can then be smoked. It is also referred to as synthetic marijuana, and is extremely dangerous. Spice is

commonly sold as incense.

Bath Salts are a mixture of various chemicals, usually a dry crystalline powder with the texture of bath salts that can be smoked, snorted, injected, or swallowed. Both Spice and Bath Salts are typically labeled "Not for Human Consumption."

Initially these items were sold over-the-counter at many local stores, but are now sold more prominently through the internet. In October, 2011, California banned the sale of Bath Salts. More recently, the selling of Spice was also outlawed. Both laws made it a misdemeanor to sell, dispense, distribute, furnish, administer, or possess for sale these items. Although the laws currently do not ban personal possession of these products, a bill was recently introduced to the State legislature to make it unlawful to possess synthetic drugs.

There are an alarming number of calls to poison control centers and emergency room visits that are directly linked to synthetic drugs, particularly Bath Salts. Raising public awareness is a critical first step in combatting these drugs. These drugs seem to make users violent, aggressive, and easily addicted. Our best defense is public education and prevention. Store owners need to be aware of the new laws that make selling these items a crime, punishable by up to six months in jail and/or a fine of up to \$1,000.

Anyone finding these banned items being offered for sale at local Poway stores should notify the Sheriff's Department immediately at

(858) 513-2800. For further information on this subject please go to: [www.sdsheriff.net/BathSalts](http://www.sdsheriff.net/BathSalts)

If you or someone you know needs help, please call the San Diego County Drug and Crisis helpline at (888) 724-7240.



### This Issue:



#### Poway Housing Update

More affordable housing options are planned for Poway. **pg. 2**



#### Take a Hike!

It's summertime and Poway's hiking trails are beckoning you to put on your boots and get outside. **pg. 1**

#### Cutting through the F.O.G.

Fats, Oils and Grease can cause major problems for the City's wastewater system. Learn the best way to fight FOG. **pg. 15**



#### Spring Cleaning Coupons

EDCO is offering bulky item disposal services through June 30. **pg. 16**



## Poway's Newest Affordable Housing Opportunities



**Brighton Place is Poway's newest affordable housing community**

In February 2012, Poway's newest affordable rental development, Brighton Place, provided 77 families with a place to call home. Owned and managed by San Diego Interfaith Housing Foundation, Brighton Place provides two- and three-bedroom affordable rental townhomes for low-income residents in the Old Poway area. The craftsman style architecture enhanced this historic area of Poway and revitalized a previously under-utilized property.

In addition to providing homes for working families, the Brighton Place townhomes are designed to save water and energy with solar technology, energy saving appliances, drought tolerant landscaping, tankless water heaters, rain harvesting systems, and well water for landscaping. The development's two tot lots and fully staffed learning center within the community make Brighton Place a great home for families with children. Programs including homework assistance and home-buyer education classes will support resident families.

In addition to Brighton Place, another affordable housing opportunity will soon be available to the community. The existing 52-unit Orange Gardens apartment complex on Oak Knoll Road is currently undergoing major renovation. Owned by Affirmed Housing Group, Orange Gardens will provide one-, two- and three-bedroom affordable apartments along with a staffed learning center and enrichment services for residents. Renovation is expected to be complete in summer 2012, with lease-up of the units to immediately follow.

These affordable housing developments were made possible with assistance from the former Redevelopment Agency. For more information on Poway's affordable housing, please visit [www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org) or to be placed on the waiting list for Orange Gardens, please call (858) 748-9090.

## Housing Plan Update: Housing Element 2013-2020

The City of Poway recently began the process to update its Housing Element, an integral piece of the City's General Plan. The Housing Element identifies the current housing inventory and future housing needs for the City in all income categories. The Update is a "blueprint" for housing in Poway and will cover the timeframe of January 1, 2013, through December 31, 2020. The City's current Housing Element was adopted by the City Council in 2008. The City must have a certified Housing Element Update completed by April, 2013.

The Housing Element Update is required to look at the current demographics of the community such as population, household income, employment trends, etc., and identify locations for new affordable housing development within the City. The document also recommends a set of programs that will assist in developing housing sites over the next several years. Like all cities in California, state law requires Poway to provide its "fair share" of affordable housing for all income categories. The state does not require that the City of Poway (or other local jurisdictions) build these housing units, but rather, identify where housing could be located to meet the estimated need. State law also requires periodic updates to Housing Elements in order to address the changing housing needs.

The City of Poway faces challenges in its planning to identify and provide for sufficient housing and obtaining financial resources for the development of housing programs for its residents. Those challenges include available funding resources, lack of available land for housing, increased housing costs, creating employment opportunities, and maintaining a good balance of housing and jobs.

The City's residents are encouraged to get involved in the process. The City anticipates conducting a series of public meetings and workshops with the City Council to gather public input in the summer and fall. The City's website will also contain helpful information on the process including news and events on the Housing Element Update.

**For more information on the process to update the Housing Element, or to find out how to get involved, contact Rich Whipple, City Planner, at [rwhipple@poway.org](mailto:rwhipple@poway.org) or by phone at (858) 668-4604.**



## Economic Development Project Underway

**Toyota of Poway is expanding its current dealership which will boost economic activity along Poway Road**

In March 2012, Toyota of Poway began construction of an expanded dealership on the corner of Midland and Poway Roads. With completion expected by the end of the year, the expanded dealership will include new and used vehicles, as well as the Scion brand. Once development of the new site is complete, Toyota will have invested over \$10 million in the project.

In an effort to revitalize the auto district located at the east end of Poway Road, the City of Poway's former Redevelopment Agency purchased one of the three parcels being used for this project. The parcel had been vacated by Chrysler Corporation, and was a growing concern due to lack of site security and increased vandalism. After buying the parcel, the City entered into a long-term ground lease with Toyota. The lease gives Toyota the opportunity to purchase the property for a pre-agreed price of \$3 million once all of the lease terms have been met. Over time, this purchase price is reduced by sales tax generated from increased car sales.

Toyota's move created an opportunity for the reuse of the former Chevrolet site, combined with the old Toyota site. Lowe's Home

Improvement Store purchased the current Toyota of Poway and vacant Poway Chevrolet sites in September 2010. In September 2011, the Poway City Council approved the development of a 152,500-square-foot Lowe's Home Improvement Store on the 11.5-acre site. Construction is expected to begin in early 2013. There will be no City or redevelopment funds used for this project. Once complete, the total private investment will total well over \$30 million.

Before its statewide elimination in February 2012, a primary goal of redevelopment was to

stimulate private investment in the community. Upon completion of the Toyota and Lowe's projects, the former Redevelopment Agency's investment of \$3 million will have spurred private investment of over \$40 million in the community, significantly improving the long-term viability of the business community at the eastern end of Poway Road. In addition, both of these projects will benefit the local economy through increased sales tax revenue, job creation, and the use of local services and suppliers during and after construction.



**Artist Rendering of the new dealership building**

## PLAY BALL!

**Arbolitos Sports Field Renovation is Nearly Complete**

Major renovations to the sports fields at Arbolitos Park, located east of Pomerado Road and south of Ted Williams Parkway, are complete. The hybrid Bermuda sod was placed in January and received its final top-dressing in April. This renovation occurred in the winter months with a goal of having the fields playable by fall 2012.

Field lighting has been installed with a state-of-the-art system for the option of field play until 8 p.m. The equipment provides shielded protection when the fields are used after daylight, and the design of the light shields enables light to be focused on the field and minimizes light spill over. In addition to lighting, the renovations included the installation of an upgraded water efficient irrigation controller, a complete reconfiguration of the irrigation system, and a major re-contouring of the fields to allow for optimum drainage.

Numerous Poway youth and adult sports organizations are anxiously awaiting the opening of the renovated Arbolitos Sports Field. Watch for a grand re-opening ceremony coming soon!



## Penny Taylor: Poway's Newest Librarian

Meet Poway's newest librarian, Penny Taylor. Penny has worked for the San Diego County Library system for six years at the Santee branch and prior to that with the San Diego Public Library system for three years.

As a young girl growing up on a farm in Indiana, Taylor often thought about becoming a librarian. For her, going to the library each week was a treat. But by the time she was accepted to Indiana University, Penny had a change of heart and pursued a degree in business administration.

After years of social work, fundraising, and administration in the arts, Penny felt the need to make a change. She attended San Jose State where she completed her master's in Library Science.

Penny appreciates the larger space, existing programs, loyal patrons, and dedicated volunteers at the Poway Library. "I also love the community room, a place where groups can listen to a speaker or have other activities."

Penny would like to add a few adult reading programs, such as Breakfast and Books, or a book group, which reads

a suggested title, then watches and compares the film of the same name. "I'd really like to connect with the Poway Senior Center, which is practically around the corner from the library," Penny said.

When Penny is asked about the advances in technology, such as e-books and other devices, she states, "As long as vibrant library programs are offered and patrons value the free access to books and computers; libraries will exist. Make it a place people want to come to, make it a destination."



### Captain's Corner

## Juvenile Laws: Drinking, Driving & Curfew



With summer fast approaching, parents and teenagers should be aware of two important laws. One is often forgotten and commonly violated. That is curfew. The other is very serious and often deadly. That is drinking and driving by a minor. In the U.S., an estimated 5,000 people under age 21 die each year from injuries caused by underage drinking.

Minors (people under the legal drinking age of 21) and alcohol do not mix. It is illegal for minors to possess alcohol on their person or in a vehicle, or drive while having any alcohol in their systems. A violation will result in criminal prosecution and an automatic suspension of the minor's driving privilege.

Poway Municipal Code sets curfew for juveniles between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. San Diego County differs from Poway Code, and sets curfew between 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Curfew exceptions are 1) attending or going to and from a school or religious function, 2) emergencies, 3) inside a privately owned establishment, 4) with a guardian or parent or by a parent's or guardian's permission, or 5) in the company of a responsible adult over 21 years old.

A violation of either law will result in the minor being taken into custody. Those under 18 will be released to a parent or guardian. Those over 18 will be booked into custody. It would be very worthwhile for parents to have a discussion with their teenagers at this time of year about the seriousness of the curfew laws and the consequences of underage drinking.

## Cutting Through the F.O.G.

### City Teams Up with Local Eateries to Optimize Wastewater System

Every year, about 1.1 billion gallons of wastewater and sewage moves through Poway's 185 miles of collection pipelines and five sewage lift stations. On a daily basis, most customers don't think much about the system that ensures wastewater leaves our homes and businesses efficiently and uneventfully. Those who have experienced a sewer back-up, though, may have a special appreciation for a working wastewater system.

In spite of the City's comprehensive, proactive maintenance program, grease-related sewer blockages occur every year. A Fat, Oil or Grease (FOG) blockage usually starts in the sewer pipeline owned by customers and can lead to a blockage in the City-maintained sewer system. A rapid response is necessary to prevent property damage and sewer spills that can cause environmental damage and result in expensive fines from regulatory agencies.

One common cause of spills is FOG disposed down the drain both in commercial establishments and private residences. FOG items that should never be put down the drain include:

- Frying oil
- Salad oil
- Meat drippings
- Bacon fat
- Greasy leftovers

All improperly disposed cooking oils can cause problems in the sewer system. Cooking grease coats pipelines just like fatty foods can clog human arteries. The grease clings to the inside of the pipelines, eventually causing complete blockage.



Staff undertakes special inspections when a sewer spill caused by grease occurs. Once the cause of the spill is determined, recommendations are developed to address the cause. Solutions can involve changes to the piping system and/or more aggressive maintenance. The City currently has over 50 locations that require high frequency maintenance to address FOG build-ups.

The City appreciates the assistance of residents and businesses to eliminate grease in the sewer system. This optimization will help manage maintenance costs and decrease the frequency of spills that can cause expensive damage to property and the environment. Please contact Public Works at 858-668-4700 if you would like to know more about the program or visit the City's website at [www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org), search word: FOG.

### It's Up to All of Us to Help Prevent Sewer Blockages Caused by FOG

Everyone can help prevent costly sewer spills. At home, a few simple steps can help avert a sewage disaster:

1. All cooking oil should be poured into a non-recyclable container (e.g. old milk carton) and placed in the trash.
2. Dishes and pots that are coated with greasy leftovers should be wiped clean with a disposable towel prior to washing or putting in the dishwasher and the towel should be placed in the trash.
3. Don't place fat trimmings from meat in the garbage disposal, put them in the garbage.



## Fire & Life Safety: Poway's Business Self-Inspection Program

In January 2010, professional and business service offices (low-hazard occupancies) were selected for a new self-inspection program that will help augment the City's longstanding company fire inspection program. The program was designed to increase fire prevention effectiveness by partnering with business owners to address common fire and life safety concerns in the workplace.

Here's how it works. Every two years, professional and business service offices will receive a self-inspection form by mail that identifies common fire hazards and explains how to eliminate them from the workplace. Once the self-inspection and documentation are completed, the business owner retains the report as part of their records. Self-inspections of these occupancies typically take no more than one half hour to complete.

During the alternate year, fire company personnel will perform a fire and life safety inspection and will update contact information and records.

There is no charge to business owners for either the inspections performed by the fire companies or their self-inspection. The goal is to make everyone and every business more fire safe through a more comprehensive, interactive, and educational approach to fire prevention and life safety.



## Don't Break the Bank: Make the Most of your Household Hazardous Waste Fees with Larger but Fewer Loads

Proper Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) disposal is expensive but necessary to protect the public and the environment. Please help us use the limited funds collected for this service in a cost-effective manner.

**\$63.75 per Load!**

### Plan Your HHW Drop-off

Did you know that \$1.20 a month of your monthly residential trash bill goes to finance the HHW collection site at 12325 Crosthwaite Circle? In order to make those dollars stretch so that the City can continue to provide free, uninterrupted HHW collection year-round for residents, please keep these tips in mind when planning your next visit:

### Mixed Loads: Cost \$63.75

Whether you bring in a pound or 125 pounds (which is the maximum weight per load), the City pays \$63.75 per vehicle for a mixed load of HHW products. Plan to maximize your HHW trip by bringing all your HHW disposal items in one large load rather than many small loads throughout the year.

Poway's facility is very popular, serving over 4,000 vehicles a year. Of those visitors, 83% are repeat customers bringing loads that weigh less than the 125 pound limit.

### Single Type Load: Cost FREE

Transport a single type of the items listed below and the City is not charged. The items that can be dropped off free of charge include:

- E-waste-computers, monitors, televisions
- Household batteries
- Sharps Only

The City of Poway's HHW collection facility is open most Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. For closed days and more information about this program, please visit the City's web site at [www.poway.org/hazardous](http://www.poway.org/hazardous).



**Spring Community Clean Up Coupon Valid Until June 30**

The first of two annual clean-up coupons have been mailed to EDCO Waste and Recycling Services' residential customers in Poway. The spring cleaning coupon is good for FREE disposal of one load of household bulky items until June 30 at either the Ramona Transfer Station or the Escondido Transfer Station. The transfer stations are open every day between 7:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Ramona transfer station is closed on Sundays).

Directions and more information are provided on the coupon. Customers must present their coupon and a picture I.D. with the current address (or a copy of an EDCO trash bill that corresponds to the service address listed on the reverse side of the coupon) to qualify for FREE disposal.

**Items NOT ACCEPTED:** hazardous waste, tires, computer monitors, televisions, contractor waste, large trailer loads, and

commercial truckloads of debris.

Residents and contractors performing a major renovation or property cleanup may contact EDCO at 858-748-7769 to request temporary bin service.

### Items Accepted:

- Furniture
- Appliances (charges apply for appliances containing freon)
- Residential wood waste
- Yard waste
- Scrap metal



## What's Inside:

### PAGE 1

New State Recycling Mandate  
Take a (Summer) Hike  
Synthetic Drugs

### PAGE 2

Affordable Housing Opportunities  
Poway Housing Update  
Economic Development Project  
Arbolitos Fields Renovation Nearly Complete

### PAGE 15

Meet Poway's New Librarian  
Cutting Through the F.O.G.  
Drinking, Driving & Curfew Laws  
Business Fire Safety Inspections

### PAGE 16

Save Money by Planning Your HHW Dropoffs  
Spring Cleaning Coupons



### Old-Fashioned Fourth of July

July 4th, 10:00am-4:00pm | Old Poway Park

### July 4th Fireworks

July 4th, 7:00-10:00pm | Poway High School Stadium

### Swim-in Movie

August 4 at sundown | Poway Community Swim Center

### Summer Concert in the Park Series

June 24-August 12, 5:30-7:00pm | Lake Poway & Old Poway Park

### Movie in the Park Series

July 21, August 18, September 1, Sunset | Poway Community Park



Lake Poway Summer Sunshine

Published by Poway Today Inc.

PRSR-STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 1942  
San Diego, CA

POSTAL CUSTOMER

City of Poway  
Poway, CA 92064

ECR-WSS



### City Council

- Mayor Don Higginson
- Deputy Mayor Jim Cunningham
- Councilmember Merrilee Boyack
- Councilmember Dave Grosch
- Councilmember John Mullin