

# POWAY Today

A Quarterly Municipal Newsletter for the Residents of Poway, California

Fall 2011

## Poway Pension Reform

The City Council recently reached two-year agreements with its employees for pay and benefits from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013, completing the City Council's pension reform goals.

Poway employees began paying part of their pension costs in 2009, and increased their share last year. For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011, employees have agreed to pay the full employee share of CalPERS pension costs (7% of salary for non-Safety employees and 9% of salary for Fire). City Council members will also pay the full 7% employee pension contribution beginning in July 2011. This means that City employees are now paying the maximum allowed by CalPERS and will be contributing over \$1 million per year toward their pensions.

The second major front in pension reform in the City of Poway is the process of changing the structure and terms of the pensions themselves. Some critics have said that public pensions are too generous or too expensive. A number of cities in San Diego County, including Poway, are well on their way to reforming local government pensions to address this concern. In fact, a recent

*"The employees of the City of Poway recently agreed that all employees hired after January 1, 2012 will be enrolled in "second-tier" retirement plans that provide a smaller retirement benefit and require them to work five years longer before they are eligible for full benefits."*

– Penny Riley, City Manager

survey revealed that seven of San Diego County's nineteen cities are moving toward changing their employee pension plans. These reformed plans lower long-term costs by reducing the pension benefits, or raising the retirement age, or both.

This collaboration between the City and its employees brings immediate budgetary savings with employees paying the full employee share of the CalPERS pension, and additional long-term savings from the second-tier pension for new employees. Both are significant achievements.

## Continued Water Conservation Needed this Year – Even after plenty of rain this spring

A wet winter and cooler spring temperatures mean mandatory water restrictions and assigned irrigation days have ended in Poway.

Thanks to an improved water supply outlook for the region, Poway's wholesale water suppliers ended mandatory water cutbacks that started July 1, 2009. At its May 17, 2011 meeting, the City Council voted to immediately discontinue the Level 2 water shortage condition, ending mandatory water-use restrictions and assigned days for outdoor irrigation.

### Good Landscaping Water-Efficiency Habits

- 1) Limit watering to three days per week.
- 2) Minimize sprinkler runoff and overspray.
- 3) Fix sprinkler heads that have too much pressure, causing them to blow water into the wind.
- 4) Replace traditional pop-up sprinkler heads with rotating nozzles.
- 5) Consider replacing lawn with water-wise plants.



Poway residents and businesses responded noticeably to the call for water efficiency. Between 2006 (record high water use for Poway) and 2010, total water use in Poway decreased by 38%.

Maintaining the water-wise habits practiced in recent years will continue to be extremely important for Poway.

Since Poway imports all of its drinking water (about half from the Colorado River and half from Northern California), local water supply is affected by conditions hundreds of miles away. While wet weather ended California's "drought," restrictions on the amount of water that can be pumped from Northern California remain due to environmental concerns.

Other factors driving the need for permanent water-efficiency in Poway include:

- The City's cost to buy imported raw water is expected to steadily increase for the next decade, mainly due to energy costs and maintenance of the network of pipes, pumps, and storage reservoirs that bring the water to Poway.
- Recent California legislation requires that water agencies curb water use by 20% by 2020. Reduced water use in recent years will help achieve and maintain Poway's 2020 target, which means the community needs to voluntarily keep water use at the same levels as 2009 and 2010. If water use returns to the level of 2006, 2007, or 2008, Poway will not meet the reduction.

Though the "drought" may be over, efficient water use is still important. Visit [www.poway.org/waterconservation](http://www.poway.org/waterconservation) for resources, such as information on rebate programs, a sprinkler tune-up checklist, water-wise plant lists, and a landscape water-use calculator.



*Rotating sprinklers use about 20% less water than regular pop-up spray heads.*



When you think of the term "Farmers Market," everything from a flea market to a grocery store comes to mind. But if you're looking for some of the finest fresh fruits and vegetables, then the City of Poway Farmers Market is for you! Join us at Old Poway Park on Saturday mornings year-round from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and the newly-added Wednesday evenings from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. through September 21.

The Farmers Market, managed by Outback Farms, is certified by the County Agricultural Commission, meaning every product is grown locally by a San Diego County farmer and sold fresh to the consumer. Many farmers offer certified organic produce – free from pesticides,



herbicides, or chemical fertilizers. During the summer months, it is not uncommon to find ripe melons, pears, sweet corn, figs, and more.

The Poway Farmers Market not only offers healthy and fresh produce, but also has vendors who offer a variety of other items. You will find flowers, fresh bakery items, unique jams and jellies, cheeses, eggs, seafood, and Mediterranean fare. It is a great opportunity to sample products, share information, and receive recipes and tips on food preparation. Some of the vendors have participated in the market for almost 20 years and price their goods competitively due to the reduction in packaging, shipping, and "middleman" costs.

Come support regional, family-owned farms, and experience the sights and sounds of your Poway Farmers Market – it's more than just fruits and veggies!

### This Issue:



#### Sheriff's Volunteers Wanted

Are you ready to help your community? Find out how... **pg. 2**



#### Household Hazardous Waste

Proper disposal and loading tips for delivering HHW to the Poway collection center **pg. 2**

#### Start Smart Teen Driving Safety Program



Teaching young drivers how not to get distracted when behind the wheel. **pg. 15**

#### Get your dog licensed

Be a responsible dog owner and protect your pet. **pg. 16**



# Household Hazardous Waste Tips

## Load size and type affects City's cost for disposal of HHW!

Hazardous materials are contained in many common household products such as cleaners, paints, pool supplies and pesticides. Improper disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) in the trash, in a storm drain, or down the sewer system is dangerous and harmful to the environment.

We thank Poway residents for disposing of HHW responsibly and safely at the Poway HHW collection facility located at 12325 Crosthwaite Circle (in the City's materials handling yard).

The City is committed to making HHW disposal convenient for residents by being open most Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. with no appointment necessary.

Although a direct fee is not collected from residents when dropping off HHW, City revenues collected on your trash bill are used to pay the contractor to properly store and dispose of HHW at this facility.

### Examples of Household Hazardous Waste include:



- Aerosol cans, non-empty
- All Purpose Cleaners
- Antifreeze
- Auto Batteries
- Auto Fluids, Oil & Filters
- Batteries
- Cooking Oil, Residential
- Disinfectants
- Drain Opener
- Electronic Devices: TVs, Monitors, VCRs, Stereo Equipment, Computers, Wireless Phones, Microwave Ovens, etc.
- Fertilizers
- Fluorescent Tubes/Bulbs & other Mercury-Containing Lamps
- Furniture Polish
- Gasoline (w/ container)
- Latex (water based) Paint
- Lighter Fluid
- Oil-Based Paint
- Oven Cleaner
- Pesticides
- Pool Chemicals
- Propane Canisters
- Sharps (Medical needles & blades)
- Smoke Detectors
- Solvents & Thinners
- Thermometers
- Thermostats
- Varnishes

### Plan your next trip to the Poway HHW collection facility & help stretch City's budget for disposal:

- If you combine several types of household hazardous waste into one load, make it a FULL load to make the most of the per load charge the City pays.
- Every time electronic waste, batteries and sharps are brought to the facility "mixed" together with other types of HHW, the City is charged a flat disposal fee per vehicle, regardless of the load size.
- To help the City contain costs, bring one single-type of HHW load at a time to save charges to the City:
  - Electronic Waste ONLY (computer, monitor, TV)
  - Batteries ONLY (household alkaline batteries)
  - Sharps ONLY
- The legal transportation limit is up to 125 pounds, so make your trip count by bringing in a FULL load. A typical 125-pound load is equal to 15 gallons of liquids (paint, oil, or gasoline), or a 30-33 gallon trash can full of dry items (pesticides, aerosol cans, fertilizer).

For more information go to [www.poway.org/hazardous](http://www.poway.org/hazardous) or contact Annette Gonzalez at 858-668-4702, [agonzalez@poway.org](mailto:agonzalez@poway.org).

## Are you ready to give back to your community?

### Sheriff's Senior Volunteers Wanted



The Poway Sheriff's Senior Volunteers are looking for a few good men and women to join them to help keep Poway safe and secure. Volunteers must be at least fifty years old, in good physical health, and pass a background check. Applicants will attend a two week academy and then be assigned at least one six hour patrol per week. Scheduling is flexible to accommodate active lifestyles. Patrol duties include conducting home security checks, visiting

homebound seniors, enforcing disabled parking regulations, and traffic control at accidents, special events, and disaster situations. If you want to do something meaningful with your spare time and have fun doing it, then please call the volunteer administrator, Pete Babich, at 858-232-8000 or [Peter.Babich@sdsheriff.org](mailto:Peter.Babich@sdsheriff.org) for more information or to request an application.

# Tell US how It is?

The City of Poway would like to hear from you. What do you think about the services and facilities provided in the community? What could we do to better serve you?

This cutout form is provided twice a year for comments, suggestions, and service requests. Clip out the form, and mail it or deliver it in person to City Hall at: 13325 Civic Center Drive.

All comments will be reviewed by the City Manager's Office and referred to the appropriate City department. Please be specific with your comments and the location of services, so that we can better serve you.

I have the following comments  suggestions  service requested

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

You may also e-mail your comments to  
Eric Heidemann: [eheidemann@poway.org](mailto:eheidemann@poway.org)

## Orange Gardens PROJECT UPDATE

### Apartments Remodel Scheduled For 2012

The City's Housing Authority has partnered with Affirmed Housing Group to rehabilitate Orange Gardens Apartments located at 12510 Oak Knoll Road. Once the rehabilitation is complete, the 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartments will convert to affordable rental rates which will be determined based upon qualifying residents' income levels. Construction will start this fall, with the rehabilitation scheduled to be complete in early 2012. This project is part of the City's ongoing efforts to revitalize the Oak Knoll corridor which has included significant streetscape and public infrastructure improvements, along with the recently completed renovation of Oak Knoll Villas. To place your name on the interest list to live in the Orange Gardens Apartments, please call Solari Enterprises at (714) 282-2520, ext. 215.

*Conceptual Drawing of the New Orange Gardens Apartments*

# Start Smart!

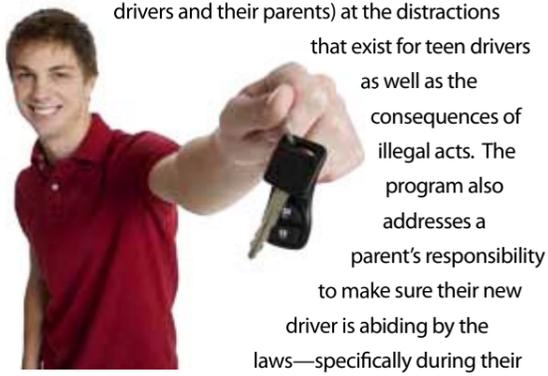


## Don't be a Distracted Driver

### The Poway Sheriff's Offer "Start Smart" Safety Classes for Teen Drivers

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the California Office of Traffic Safety released statistics indicating the number of teen drivers involved in collisions is on the rise. In most cases, a "distraction" in the vehicle being driven by the teen driver was documented. Distractions can be anything from another occupant, the radio, a cell phone, or other multitasking acts such as eating or applying make-up while driving.

In an effort to warn teen drivers of these risk factors, the Poway Sheriff's Station Traffic Unit began offering a Start Smart program in September 2009. The Start Smart program is an "in your face" look (for both teen drivers and their parents) at the distractions



**Distracted driving is as dangerous as impaired driving**  
According to [www.distraction.gov](http://www.distraction.gov):

- 📞 In 2008, nearly 6,000 people died in vehicle accidents involving a distracted or inattentive driver, and more than half a million people were injured. (NHTSA)
- 📞 The worst offenders are the youngest and least-experienced drivers—men and women under 20 years old. (NHTSA)
- 📞 Drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into vehicle accidents serious enough to injure themselves. (Source: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety)

probationary license period. Since beginning the program, 419 teens and their parents have attended.

Start Smart classes are scheduled at the Poway Sheriff's Station on Thursday, August 11, and Monday, September 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. Additional classes will be scheduled for the coming months. If you have a new teen driver and would like to attend, please call 858-513-2800 and ask to be scheduled for the Start Smart class.

The Poway Sheriffs encourage you and your teen to attend this important class.

### Captain's Corner

## New Captain at the Poway Sheriff's Station!

In May 2011, the City of Poway welcomed Captain Mike Hernandez to the Poway Sheriff's Station to replace Captain Mark Elvin, who was promoted to the position of Commander.

Captain Hernandez has worked for the San Diego County Sheriff's Department for 27 years in a variety of assignments including investigations, patrol, traffic, internal affairs, and specialized investigations. His most recent assignment was with the East County Regional Gang Task Force. Captain Hernandez, who was raised in Poway, and is a graduate of Poway High School, is happy to return to the City.

The City is fortunate to have another experienced, veteran officer in charge of the Poway Sheriff's Station. Welcome Captain Hernandez!



## Poway's Crime Rate Continues to be the Lowest in San Diego County

The City of Poway ended 2010 with a crime rate of 11.8 – the lowest of all cities in San Diego County. This means that less than 12 of the FBI Type 1 crimes (homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, auto theft, and arson) occurred for every 1,000 residents. Of the 615 crimes in Poway:

- 90 were violent crimes (homicide, rape, robbery or aggravated assault)
- 525 were property crimes (burglary, theft, and auto theft)

Burglary and theft (such as shoplifting, purse snatching, and thefts from vehicles, excluding auto theft) represented the largest portion of total crime in Poway in 2010.

- There were a total of 157 burglaries
- There were 328 thefts

Achieving and maintaining a low crime rate begins, in many respects, with prevention. The Sheriff's Department provides many crime prevention resources including a Crime Prevention Specialist who can be reached at (858) 513-2807. In addition, the Sheriff Department's website, [www.sdsheriff.net](http://www.sdsheriff.net), is a valuable source of helpful information.



## SEPTEMBER IS National Emergency Preparedness Month

Poway is considered by many to be the best place to live, work, visit, and raise a family in San Diego County. The joy, peace, and security of residing in the "City in the Country" resonate throughout the community. Each year, however, Poway's tranquility is marred by the arrival of high temperatures, low humidity, and Santa Ana winds. The arrival of these weather conditions and the long-lasting memories of the 2003 and 2007 wildfires serve as a steadfast reminder that simple planning and preparation is necessary.

The potential for large wildfires to cause huge losses and require unmanageable demands on firefighting resources is real. Every task you can do in advance of a wildfire reduces the risk to you, your family, your property, and your business.

For more information on some simple planning and preparation ideas, please visit [www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org) or call (858) 668-4460.



### Are You Prepared?

- **CREATE A DEFENSIBLE SPACE** around your home or business and maintain fire-resistive landscaping.
- **CREATE A DEFENSIBLE HOME** or business by using fire-resistive construction techniques and practices.
- **PREPARE A KIT** of emergency supplies, medications, special documents, and "important stuff."
- **HAVE ENOUGH DRINKING WATER** to last for three-days: one gallon, per person, per day.
- **DESIGN AN EVACUATION PLAN** that includes alternate routes and a common meeting place.
- **GET NOTIFIED** by registering your mobile phone with [AlertSanDiego.org](http://AlertSanDiego.org).
- **DECIDE EARLY TO STAY OR GO** following your own initiative or recommendations by authorities.



# Why License Your Dog?

**It's one way to show that you're a responsible pet owner – and it's the law**

*Dog licenses make a difference for you and your four-legged friend! You might be surprised at some of the good reasons to license your pet:*

**Lost Animals** – The Escondido Humane Society, who manages our animal control contract, impounds hundreds of lost or abandoned dogs from Poway each year. Only 37% are reunited with their families. A tag with a current license can be a ticket home for your dog.

**Injured Animals** – Your dog's license will make it possible to contact you if your dog is injured. It could mean the difference between life and death for your companion.

**Dog Bite and Rabies Prevention** – Your dog's license is proof that your pet has been vaccinated against rabies. The rabies vaccination protects your pet and your family from a potentially-deadly disease.

**Cost Savings** – Every dog who has reached the age of four months requires a license. If your dog is unlicensed, you can be cited and fined. It's far less expensive to license your dog.

**For more information** on where to license your dog, please contact the Department of Animal Control at (760) 746-7307.



**Don't let excuses stand between you and your pet!**

**"My dog hates to wear a collar..."** Your dog would also hate to be lost without a license; he or she may never come home to you. With a bit of training, any dog can wear a collar and license without discomfort.

**"My dog never leaves the yard..."** If that were always true, the Humane Society wouldn't take in such a large number of dogs each year. It only takes one time for a gate not to latch properly, an unexpected trauma to send a dog bolting in fear, or a curious child to let your dog come out for playtime.

**"If my dog gets lost, I'll find her at the shelter..."** A licensed dog has a much better chance of getting home than one without a license. What if your dog is hit by a car and not taken to a shelter? An injured or stray dog may be taken to a veterinarian who can contact you if there is a license.

**"I can't afford a license..."** The cost of a license is minimal: \$14/year if your dog has been spayed or neutered. That is far less than the cost of a citation and less than the cost of impound fees to reclaim an unlicensed dog.



## Poway Pet Policies

*Do you know how many dogs and cats are allowed on your property?*

*According to the Poway Municipal Code (Section 17.08.110 F), you may keep up to three dogs and up to three cats in all residential zones; and up to six dogs and up to six cats in a large lot residential zone (RR-A through RR-C, RS-1 and RS-2)*

*Be sure to check with your apartment or condominium complex as they may have more restrictive regulations. For more information or the complete animal guidelines, please visit our website at: [www.poway.org](http://www.poway.org).*



automatically be provided with a reduced rate when you book your reservation. For reservations call (800) 974-8885, or visit the SuperShuttle website at [www.cloud9shuttle.com](http://www.cloud9shuttle.com).

The City is pleased to continue its partnership with Cloud 9 SuperShuttle, which enables Poway residents and business travelers to enjoy discounted rates between the San Diego Airport and the 92064 zip code.

There is no need to request a special rate. By providing the 92064 zip code as your pick-up or drop-off location, you will

## Special Rates for Poway residents!

Number of Passengers	One-Way Fare
1	\$36
2	\$43
3	\$50
4	\$57
5	\$64
6	\$71
7	\$78

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### Summer Concert in the Park Series

July 31 - August 14, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm | Various Parks

### Fun Flicks Movie in the Park Series

August 20, September 3, at Sunset | Community Park

### Rendezvous in Poway

September 17, 10:00 am-4:00 pm | Old Poway Park  
September 18, 10:00 am-2:00 pm | Old Poway Park

### Poway Days Heritage Parade

September 10, 9:00am | Poway Road

### Folk Concerts in the Park

November 5, December 3, at 7:00 pm | Old Poway Park

### Once Upon a Hallowe'en

October 30, 5:00-8:00 pm | Old Poway Park

### Christmas in the Park

December 10, 3:30-8:30pm | Old Poway Park



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- Councilmember Merrilee Boyack
- Councilmember Dave Grosch
- Councilmember John Mullin