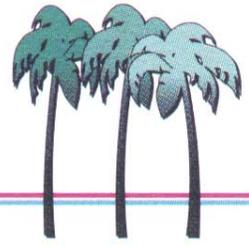




City of Chowchilla

City Spotlight



February 2009 Volume 1, Issue 2

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 6 – Chowchilla High School Blood Drive
- Until Feb. 7 – Little League Baseball Sign-ups; Fri & Sat; Comm Sports Ctr / Wilson Gym
- Feb. 9 @ 7 p.m. – City Council Meeting; Civic Center
- Until Feb. 13 – Girls Softball Sign-ups; Fri & Sat; Comm Sports Ctr / Wilson Gym
- Feb. 13 – Certainteed Corporation Blood Drive
- Feb. 14 – Valentine's Day
- Feb. 14-15 (all day) – Clean-up in the Clarke Auditorium; Chowchilla Fairgrounds
- Feb. 16 – Presidents' Day; City Offices Closed
- Feb. 17 @ 7 p.m. – Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting; Civic Center
- Feb. 18 @ 7 p.m. – Planning Commission Meeting; Civic Center
- Feb. 19 @ 7 p.m. – Heritage Preservation Commission Meeting; Civic Center
- Feb. 21-22 (all day) – Clean-up in the Clarke Auditorium; Chowchilla Fairgrounds
- Feb. 23 @ 7 p.m. – City Council Meeting; Civic Center

Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the City's website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us.

In early March a full events calendar will be viewable on the City's website.

City Council and RDA Streamline Meetings

Redevelopment is a process created by state law to assist city government to eliminate blight from a designated area, and to achieve desired development, reconstruction and rehabilitation including but not limited to residential, commercial, industrial and retail areas.

Chowchilla's Redevelopment Agency (RDA) is comprised of the Chowchilla City Council Members who serve as Board Members and the

City Administrator serves as the Executive Director. The City Council and the RDA are two separate legal entities but when making applicable redevelopment decisions that requires action by both entities the Council convenes and takes action as the RDA.

In an effort to streamline this process, the City Council will convene their meetings jointly with the RDA. Items needing decisions by the RDA will be separately noted

on the City Council meeting agenda. Meetings will be held on the second and fourth Mondays of the month starting at 7:00 p.m.

Questions or information pertaining to the meeting agenda should be directed to the Chief Deputy City Clerk at (559) 665-8615 x105. Questions or information pertaining to the RDA should be directed to the RDA Community Project Specialist at (559) 665-8615 x107.

Year-Round Water Restrictions

Watering restrictions are in effect year-round in the City of Chowchilla. To help maintain and conserve our precious area water resources city residents are required to follow these



watering regulations throughout the year.

Customers with addresses that end with an odd number may water on Mon., Wed., and Fri., and those that end with an even number may water on Tue., Thu. and Sat. **Watering is prohibited between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. on any day. SUNDAY is "NO WATERING DAY."** Violations will be issued for non-compliance of these regulations.

Dog Licenses

All dogs living within the City limits are required to be licensed at the age of four months. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required to obtain the license. Dog licenses are valid for the year in which they are issued and expire on December 31 of that year. Licenses issued after March 31 will be charged a \$20.00 late fee except for puppies that attain four months after that date.

Weed Abatement – Keep Chowchilla Clean and Safe

The City's Weed Abatement Program (CMC Section 8.12) enforced by Code Enforcement Division notifies property owners each year of dry grass, weeds, trash and debris that blight neighborhoods and pose a significant fire hazard during the March through September fire season. The Division strives to keep properties cleaned of debris and open grounds tilled to

minimize fire fuel. The City's proactive approach continues year-round so properties are safely maintained throughout the entire year.

Property owners are notified by mail if their properties are in violation. If no visible attempt is made to clean the property in a given timeline the property will be abated by the City and the owner charged for the cost of

abatement plus an administrative fee that can total more than \$300.00.

Fortunately the number of property owners who comply increases each year. Through their determined attention Chowchilla will remain clean and safe. For more information please contact the City's Code Enforcement Division at (559) 665-8615, ext. 412.

City of Chowchilla

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E-Mail:
generalinfo@ci.chowchilla.ca.us

Website:
www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us

Chowchilla City Council

Justin White, *Mayor*
Jim Kopshever, *Mayor Pro Tem*
David Alexander, *Councilman*
John Chavez, *Councilman*
Dennis Haworth, *Councilman*

Nancy Red, *City Administrator*

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are conducted on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Civic Center. The agenda is posted on the City website.

Call Us

Civic Center	(559) 665-8615
City Council	ext. 105
City Administrator	ext. 100
City Clerk	ext. 105
Public Information	ext. 110
Human Resources	ext. 154
Planning	ext. 402
Inspections	ext. 406
Building	ext. 410
Code Enforcement	ext. 412
Fire	ext. 600
Utilities	ext. 783
Finance	ext. 784
Police Dispatch	ext. 785
Parks & Recreation	ext. 788
Public Works	ext. 789
Operator	ext. 0

Direct Numbers

Police	665-8600
Fire	665-8626
Parks & Recreation	665-8640

Emergency - Call 911

Credit cards are now accepted for in-person payments at the Finance Department. The City will soon offer an online utility payments option.



Registrations for Youth Sports Programs

Registrations for the spring and summer youth sports programs in Chowchilla are now being accepted for the following activities.

The Chowchilla Little

League 2009 baseball season sign-ups continue through Saturday, Feb. 7. Registrations will be taken on Fridays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Community Sports Center/Wilson Gym. For more information contact Shawn Grissom, Little

League Vice President at (559) 285-3482.

Chowchilla Girls Softball

will accept registrations for players for the 2009 softball season on Fridays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Community Sports Center/Wilson Gym. Players need to sign-up through Friday, Feb. 13. For questions contact e-mail Girls Softball at ChowGSA@Hotmail.com.

The Chowchilla Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department is taking registrations for the 2009 **Tee-Ball** season in the month of February.

The **Redfins Swim Team** will be accepting new and returning swimmers to the competition team starting in early March.

Call Parks, Recreation & Community Services at (559) 665-8640 with questions on these programs.

Savemart SHARES Benefits Chowchilla PAL

The Chowchilla Police Activities League participates in the **Savemart SHARES Program**. Every time you shop at a Savemart store you can automatically benefit your local PAL program at no cost to you. All you need is a

CHOWCHILLA PAL SHARES CARD. At the time of checkout just swipe your **SHARES CARD** and Savemart will generously donate 3% of your total purchase, at no additional charge to you, to Chowchilla

PAL. Savemart will send a quarterly check to PAL. **PAL SHARES CARDS** can be picked up at the Chowchilla Civic Center, Parks, Recreation & Community Services office and the Police Department.

Old Tires Grant Softens Falls in City Playgrounds

The surfaces beneath the playground equipment in RC Wisener Park and Veterans Memorial Park have been improved with the addition of rubberized chips made from recycled tires. The City was awarded a \$57,000 grant for the project from the California Tire-Derived Product Grants Program

through the CA Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB).

The CIWMB's tire grant programs are designed to encourage activities that promote reducing the number of waste tires going to landfills for disposal and eliminating the stockpiling of

waste tires. Activities include tire pile cleanup and enforcement, market development, and demonstration projects. Revenue for the grants is generated from a tire fee on each new tire sold in California. Program details are available on the Internet at www.ciwmb.ca.gov.

Join the Merchants Association

The Chowchilla Community Merchants Association is pledged to equally represent the business merchants in Chowchilla with the common interest of coordinated marketing and promotional efforts for the benefit of the downtown businesses. The CCMA is a membership-

driven non-profit organization sharing common needs and business objectives. Businesses are encouraged to join the CCMA and participate in the process to bring shoppers to Downtown Chowchilla. Call Andrea Haze, President at (559) 665-4353 for information.



Sales Permits

To hold a Yard Sale in Chowchilla you need to obtain a Yard Sale Permit from the City's Finance/Utilities Department. No fee is required for the first three sales in a calendar year. For more than three yard sales a fee of \$15.00 is charged for each additional sale. The fee is payable at the time the permit application is submitted. Fees paid are not refundable. Call (559) 665-8615, ext. 783 for details.

Customer Service Academy

The Chowchilla District Chamber in partnership with the Merced College Customer Service Academy continues the customer service training classes with new sessions conducted on Monday evenings monthly.

The course fee is \$10 for three sessions and attendees can earn college credits.

For more information on program topics and/or to reserve a spot call Jacki at the Chamber of Commerce office at (559) 665-5603.