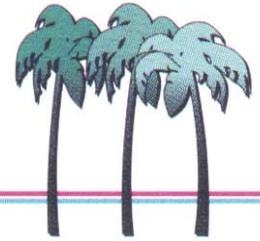


City of Chowchilla City Spotlight



September 2009 Volume 1, Issue 9

Upcoming Events

Sept. 7 - Labor Day Holiday -
City Offices Closed

Sept. 12 - Fall Rabies Clinic -
see *article this page*

Sept. 12 - Chamber of
Commerce Classic Car Show,
Veterans Park, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Call 665-5603 for information.

Sept. 14 - City Council
Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Sept. 16 - Planning
Commission Meeting,
Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Sept. 17 - Heritage
Preservation Commission
Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Sept. 18 - Chamber of
Commerce Golf Tournament,
Pheasant Run, 1 p.m. start,
Call 665-5603 for information.

Sept. 19 - City-Wide Annual
Curbside Clean-Up Day.
See enclosed flier for info.

Sept. 21 - Airport Advisory
Meeting, Civic Center, 4 p.m.

Sept. 21 - First 5 Family
Resource Center Grand
Opening, 9-11 a.m.

Sept. 28 - City Council
Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Mark your calendars now:

October 5-9 - Fire Prevention
Week School Assemblies
October 6 - Free Drive-Thru
Flu Shot Clinic
October 29 - Parks &
Recreation Halloween Event

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

City Budget Status



The 2009-2010 fiscal year is going to be a difficult one for many cities, including the City of Chowchilla. In the budget presentation at the August 24th City Council meeting, a number of reasons were given as to why budgets across the states are so tight for municipal and county governments. Some of these reasons include lack of state funding, changes in property

value assessments, and slowdown of local construction project revenues. The City Council and City staff are currently working on various cost saving ideas, some brought forward by the employee bargaining groups. Regrettably, the City is facing layoff notifications, position eliminations and voluntary furloughs for some City of Chowchilla employees.

Some City services may be affected by staffing changes or funding cuts but during these difficult times City staff will do their best to offer the highest quality service while keeping costs within their budgetary guidelines. To view the entire recent budget presentation, visit our City website at www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us and click on the Finance page under City Departments.

Rabies Clinic



The Animal Control Division of the Chowchilla Police Department will hold their annual fall

Rabies Clinic on Saturday, September 12, 2009 at the police station located at 122 Trinity Avenue.

The clinic runs from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. for senior citizens and people with special needs. From 10:00

a.m. to 12:00 noon, the clinic is open to the general public. Please make sure all animals are on leashes or in carriers.

The cost is \$6.00 per shot. The 7 in 1 puppy shot will also be available for \$20 which does not include the rabies vaccination. Three types of cat vaccines will be offered. For more information, contact the Chowchilla Police Department's Animal Control Division at (559) 665-8600, ext. 535.

Owners Take Note!

A word of caution from the Contractors State License Board

Anyone who talks you into being your own general contractor or "owner/builder" may be doing you no favor.

"Owner/builder" describes a situation in which the homeowner becomes the general contractor. As an owner/builder, you (not the person you hire) assume responsibility for the overall job.

You responsibilities may include such things as state and federal taxes, workers' compensation insurance, and

other legal liabilities. You may be required to hire various subcontractors for your project, scheduling their work and supervising their job. If a worker is injured while working on your property, you could be asked to pay for injuries and rehabilitation through your homeowner's insurance policy.

By signing a building permit application as an owner/builder, you assume full responsibility for all phases of your project and its integrity.

Hiring an unlicensed "consultant" to manage the project does not save money in the long run. By hiring a licensed, experienced contractor for your project to hire licensed knowledgeable trade persons, the contractor becomes responsible for all phases of construction.

Unless you are extremely experienced in construction, it is best to leave these matters to your licensed contractor.

*Information provided by the
Contractors State License Board*

PARKS & REC MOVE

The City's Parks, Recreation and Community Services office has moved over to the Chowchilla Civic Center.

Their new location is 135 S. Third Street on the back side of the Civic Center. Their mailing address remains the same at 130 S. Second Street, Civic Center Plaza.

The Public Services Projects Planning Division has also moved their office to the same location.

Call (559) 665-8615 for info!





City of Chowchilla

130 S. Second Street
Civic Center Plaza
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Telephone: (559) 665-8615
Fax: (559) 665-7418
Email: generalinfo@ci.chowchilla.ca.us
Website:
www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us

Chowchilla City Council

Justin White, Mayor
Jim Kopshever, Mayor Pro Tem
David Alexander, Council Member
John Chavez, Council Member
Dennis Haworth, Council Member

Jay Varney, Acting City Administrator

City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are held 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
Asst. City Administrator	ext. 101
City Clerk	ext. 105
RDA/CDBG	ext. 107
Public Information	ext. 110
Human Resources	ext. 154
Airport Contact	ext. 322
Planning	ext. 402
Inspections	ext. 406
Building	ext. 410
Code Enforcement	ext. 412
Fire	ext. 600
Utilities	ext. 783
Finance	ext. 784
Parks & Recreation	ext. 788
Public Services	ext. 789
Operator	ext. 0

Direct Numbers

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

Emergency - Call 911

Contacting Us

To contact the newsletter editor, send email or mail to addresses listed above or call the Public Information Office at (559) 665-8615, extension 110.

Visa and MasterCard credit cards are now accepted for in-person payments at the Finance Department. The City will soon offer an online utility payment option.



Ask the City: Flu Shots



Ask the City is a feature column answering questions submitted to us by email, mail or phone.

Are there going to be free flu shots in our area this fall?
N.A., Chowchilla

Yes, there are drive-through flu clinics scheduled all over Madera

County during the month of October. These clinics will offer free seasonal flu shots (H1N1 vaccine is **not** available at this time) for county residents 12 years of age and older.

Chowchilla's Flu Clinic is set for October 6 at the

Chowchilla Fairgrounds from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. There will be two clinics in Madera at the fairgrounds on October 1 and October 17 (Saturday clinic). Both times are 9:30 to 11 a.m. For more information, call Madera County Public Health at (559) 675-7893.

PAL Swim Day Fun

The Chowchilla Police Activities League (PAL) sponsored three free swim days for the youth in the community this summer.



Along with a free day of swimming, the children

were treated to a sack lunch, games, and more! Volunteers from the Chowchilla Police Department have been hosting these fun-filled days for years. The next Chowchilla PAL event is their annual Motor-cycle Toy Run scheduled for October 17. Watch for more information on this coming event next month.

CPR Training

The Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept. is compiling a list of persons interested in learning CPR. Once there are enough participants, arrangements will be made with the Fresno-Madera Red Cross to conduct a class here in Chowchilla.

The class will give individuals the knowledge and skills necessary to recognize and provide basic care for

breathing, cardiac emergencies, injuries and sudden illnesses until medical personnel arrive and take over. There are no prerequisites for the class and all who successfully complete the class will be certified in CPR/AED - Adult plus Child and Infant CPR and Standard First Aid. Call the PR&CS office at 665-8640 or send an e-mail to: parksrec@ci.chowchilla.ca.us to be put on the interest list.

Water is Precious...Don't Waste it!

With today's current water crisis, we can't afford to waste a drop. Here are some simple steps to help you reduce consumption.

- ◆ **Water your lawn only when it needs it.** Step on your grass. If it springs back, it doesn't need water.
- ◆ **Fix those leaky faucets.** It will save 20 gallons per day for every leak stopped.
- ◆ **Use water-saving showerheads.** If you don't already have a flow restrictor, install one and save 500

- to 800 gallons per month.
- ◆ **Run only full loads.** Don't run the washer or dishwasher unless there is a full load and save 300 to 800 gallons per month.
- ◆ **Shorten your showers.** Even a one or two minute reduction can save up to 700 gallons per month.
- ◆ Use a broom instead of a hose. When cleaning your driveway or sidewalk, using a broom can save more than 600 gallons per month.
- ◆ **Don't use the toilet as**

- a wastebasket or ashtray.** Flushing for sanitation & not for convenience can save 400 to 600 gallons monthly.
- ◆ **Capture tap water.** While waiting for hot water to flow down the pipes, catch the flow in a watering can to use on houseplants or in your garden.
- ◆ **Don't water the sidewalks.** Adjust your sprinklers so that water lands on your lawn where it belongs - not on sidewalks or driveways. Saves 500 gallons monthly!

Looking for Local Disaster Volunteers

In an emergency, can you be counted on to assist in your community? Are you licensed in the medical field or do you have special skills that would make you an asset in times of need? The Madera County Public Health Department is seeking individuals who would be willing to volunteer during times of a crisis. There is a need for volunteer roles in medical, non-medical, and site support services. Bilingual services are also needed.

To sign up as a disaster response volunteer, simply go to www.madera-county.com/publichealth/ and fill out the Volunteer Form at the top of the page. No internet? No problem! Call (559) 675-7893 and they'll send you a form. *YOU are needed!*