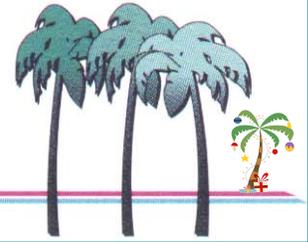


City of Chowchilla City Spotlight



December 2010 Volume 2, Issue 12

Upcoming Events

Dec 3 - City Offices Closed

Dec 4 - Chowchilla Lions Club 43rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. (See article to right.)

Dec 10 - Furlough Day - City Offices Closed

Dec 13 - City Council Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Dec 15 - Planning Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.

Dec 17 - City Offices Closed

Dec 22 - Furlough Day - City Offices Closed

Dec 23 & 24 - Christmas Holidays - City Offices Closed

Dec 31 - New Year's Holiday (Observed) - City Offices Closed

The City of Chowchilla wishes you a safe and...



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



Christmas Tree Lighting Chowchilla Lions Club 43rd Annual Event

On the evening of **Saturday, December 4**, the community will gather to herald in the Christmas holiday at the 43rd Annual Chowchilla Lions Club **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony**.

The program begins at 5:30 p.m. at the corner of Robertson Boulevard and Front Street. Everyone is invited to attend as we enjoy the tradi-

tion of lighting the Christmas tree on Robertson Boulevard to be seen by everyone as they drive into town. The Chowchilla Lioness Lions Club will offer refreshments and seasonal hot drinks to ease the chilly night air.

The night's ceremony will include entertainment, the arrival of the "jolly man" himself, Santa Claus, and the lighting of the official City Christmas Tree.

Thanks to a grant from PG&E, new energy efficient LED lights will now light up our holiday tree. PG&E Account Executive Mary Diebert is pictured above presenting the check to Chowchilla PAL Executive Director Tanya Riviere.



Leaves, Trash & Trees

LEAF CLEANUP:

Leaves should NOT be raked into piles in the street. All leaves should be placed in your GREEN waste container and put out for regular pickup service. The street sweeper will remove leaves that naturally fall in the street.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

There is no regularly scheduled garbage service on Christmas and New Year's Days which both fall on a Saturday. Customers with a Friday pickup day will have normal service on Christmas Eve Day.

TREE ROUNDUP:

The annual Christmas Tree Roundup will take place from January 3-8, 2011. Trees will be picked up free from your curbside. Please make sure all trees are free of decorations and trees over six feet tall must be cut in half.

Seasonal Information

Christmas Basket Program, Warming Center

Applications for the Chowchilla **Christmas Basket Program** will be accepted on Saturday, December 4th from 9-11 a.m. at Life Change Church. You must provide a photo ID or driver's license and one public assistance document or utility bill showing current address. Applicants must qualify for the assistance program.

For those wishing to donate to the Community Christmas Basket Program: coats, toys, and cash donations are being accepted. Coats must be

dropped off by December 9th to one of the following locations: DeWitt's Drug Store, Camarena Health Center, TommyHawk Cafe, or the Chamber of Commerce office. New toys are being accepted at Cornerstone Church to the attention of Melissa Abshire. Cash donations are being accepted at Tri-Counties Bank or at Grace Community Church.

The City of Chowchilla will take proactive measures to set up a **"Warming Center"** as needed for those residents

not able to find a warm location when extreme temperatures occur this winter. The Chowchilla Senior Center, located at 820 W. Robertson Boulevard, is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for those in need of warming and will be opened on an "as need" basis after 2:00 p.m. to accommodate those in need. For information during regular business hours, call the City at (559) 665-8615, ext. 110. After regular business hours, please contact the Chowchilla Police Department at (559) 665-8600.



City of Chowchilla

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Civic Center Plaza
Chowchilla, CA 93610

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Email: generalinfo@ci.chowchilla.ca.us

Website:

www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us

Chowchilla City Council

Jim Kopshever, Mayor

David Alexander, Mayor Pro Tem

John Chavez, Council Member

Dennis Haworth, Council Member

Justin White, Council Member

Jay Varney, Acting City Administrator

Wayne Padilla, Asst. 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. 705
City Administrator	ext. 100
Asst. City Administrator	ext. 101
RDA/CDBG	ext. 101
City Clerk	ext. 705
Human Resources	ext. 705
Public Information	ext. 110
Airport Contact	ext. 322
Planning	ext. 405
Inspections	ext. 406
Building	ext. 410
Code Enforcement	ext. 406
Fire	ext. 600
Utilities	ext. 783
Finance	ext. 784
Parks & Recreation	ext. 110
Public Services	ext. 789

Direct Numbers

CATX	665-8655
Police	665-8600
Anonymous Tip Line	665-8624
Fire	665-8626

Emergency - Call 911

Contacting Us

To contact the newsletter editor, send email or mail to address 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.



Ask the City: Payment Drop Box

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

I can't always get in before 4 p.m. to pay my utilities bill. Is there a way to leave my payment after hours?

L.M., Chowchilla

There is a payment drop slot on the front right side of the Civic Center for the convenience of dropping off your payments at any time. Payments are normally processed the following business day.

PLEASE NOTE:

For safety reasons, the payment drop slot will only open 1/4 of an inch.

This has recently been changed to keep your utility payments secure.

Check Before You Burn

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution District wants to remind you of the annual **restrictions on fireplace use** that are in effect now through February.

Residential wood burning can pump dangerous levels of soot, ash, dust and other particulate matter into the Valley's air. That pollution has serious health implications, increasing respiratory diseases and

raising the risk of heart or stroke concerns.

To reduce the pollution, the air quality agency issues one of two wood-burning forecasts. **"Wood Burning Prohibited"** is issued on poor weather condition days and all wood burning is prohibited. Burning on a no-burn day can result in a fine from SJVAPD.

"Please Burn Cleanly" is issued on days when the

risk is lower. On these days, only dry, seasoned wood, or manufactured logs should be used to minimize pollution.

"Check Before You Burn" daily county forecasts, issued by the air district, are available on local weather channels, online at: www.valleyair.org (you can set up a daily email alert) or by calling 1-800-SMOG INFO.

Lawn Mower Trade-in Program

The Valley Air District's popular electric lawn mower trade-in program has slashed prices on non-polluting, cordless, electric lawn mowers.

Clean Green Yard Machines is now offering the Neuton cordless, electric lawn mower – in two blade sizes – for less than \$100.

Because of funding from the State Air Resources Board, the 14" Neuton cordless, electric mower will now cost consumers just \$25. The larger, 19-inch model costs just \$50.

Vouchers and trade-in of an older, gas-powered mower are required.

"This has been our most popular consumer incentive for many years, and with this new funding, we're excited that many more Valley residents will be able to participate," said Samir Sheikh, the director of the District's Strategies and Incentives program.

The new round of funding will replace approximately 1,600 older, gas-powered mowers with clean, nonpolluting Neutons. A single gas-powered mower

running for an hour produces about as much pollution as 40 late-model cars.

To participate, residents must call the Air District and obtain a voucher (limit 1 voucher per household, 3 per business), and turn in a gas-powered mower at a participating recycler. Vouchers are valid for 30 days from issue date. The program will be open until funds are exhausted.

For more information, visit www.valleyair.org or call the Strategies and Incentives Program at 559-230-5800.

Boy Scouting

The Boy Scout Club is actively looking for boys in grades six through twelve who are interested in becoming a part of a local troop. If you or your son are

interested in being a part of the Boy Scouts, please contact Priscilla Cullers, District Executive with the Sequoia Council at (559) 320-2100.

