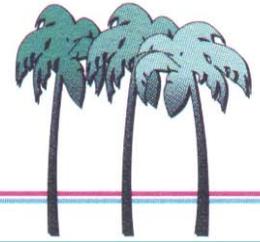


# City of Chowchilla City Spotlight



March 2012 Volume 4, Issue 3

## Monthly Calendar

- Mar 2** - Furlough Day - City/CATX Offices Closed
- Mar 6** - Children's Hospital Cent. CA. Kids Day
- Mar 7** - MCEDC State of the County Luncheon, Madera Muni Golf Course, 11:30 a.m.
- Mar 9** - City Offices Closed
- Mar 10** - Spring Rabies Clinic (See article at bottom right)
- Mar 10** - Little League Opening Ceremonies, RC Wisener Park
- Mar 11** - Daylight Saving Time
- Mar 13** - City Council Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.
- Mar 16** - Furlough Day - City/CATX Offices Closed
- Mar 17** - CAF Girls Softball Opening Ceremonies, S&L Park
- Mar 17** - Lions Club Spring Round-Up Dinner, Little Theater
- Mar 21** - Planning Commission Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.
- Mar 23** - City Offices Closed
- Mar 24** - Soroptimist's Prize Bingo, Little Theater, 3 p.m.
- Mar 27** - City Council Meeting, Civic Center, 7 p.m.
- Mar 30** - Furlough Day - City/CATX Offices Closed

### Coming in April:

- Apr 7** - Easter Egg Event, S & L Park, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Apr 11-15** - Western Stampede

Meeting agendas, minutes and details on events are available on the City's website at [www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us)



## Weed Abatement

### Dry Grass and Trash Pose a Significant Fire Hazard

The City's **Weed Abatement Program** (CMC Section 8.12), enforced by the City's Code Enforcement Division of the Community and Economic Department, notifies property owners each year of dry grass, weeds, trash and other debris that blight neighborhoods and pose a significant fire hazard threat during the fire season from March through September.

The City of Chowchilla strives to keep properties cleared of debris and open grounds tilled to minimize fire fuel. This proactive approach continues year-round so properties are safely maintained throughout the 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 will be 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 with abatement increases each year.

Through the efforts of the Code Enforcement Division, Chowchilla can remain clean and safe. For more info, contact the City's Code Enforcement Division at (559) 665-8615, ext. 406.

### COLORING CONTEST

Soroptimist International of Chowchilla is sponsoring their annual Easter Coloring/Decorating Contest. Kids 12 years and younger can enter to win some great prizes. Visit the City website at [www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us) to download a copy of the 2012 contest entry form and rules or pick one up at the Civic Center. The deadline is March 22, so enter before then!



## Rabies Vaccination Clinic

The Chowchilla Police Department and the Friends of the Madera Animal

Shelter Chowchilla Chapter will host the annual Spring **Rabies Clinic** on Saturday, March 10 at the police station located at 122 Trinity Avenue. Times are from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

**Please note:** 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. is only for seniors or residents with special needs. General public hours are 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Distemper/Parvo shots for dogs will be available for \$12, rabies shots for \$6, and worming shots for \$5. FVRCD cat vaccinations for

distemper and upper respiratory disease at \$12 per shot will be offered as well as rabies shots for \$6 and worming shots for \$5. ALL cats must be in carriers.

Low income vouchers for spaying/neutering will be available for \$20 for dogs and \$15 for cats. Transportation to HOPE for this service is available through C.A.R.A.

City residents are reminded that all dogs living within the City limits are required to be licensed and vaccinated for rabies once over the age of four months. Proof of current rabies vaccination is required to obtain a 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 require a \$20 late fee with the exception of puppies that reach four months of age after that date. There are license fee discounts for seniors and for owners of spayed or neutered dogs.

The next rabies vaccination clinic will be held in September of this year.

For more information on the clinic, contact the Chowchilla Police Department at (559) 665-8600.



**FMAS reminds you to please spay and neuter your pets.**



## 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](mailto:generalinfo@ci.chowchilla.ca.us)

Website:

[www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us)

### Chowchilla City Council

Janan Hebert, Mayor

Jim Kopshever, Mayor Pro Tem

David Alexander, Council Member

Dennis Haworth, Council Member

Isaac Jackson, Council Member

Mark Lewis, City Administrator

Wayne Padilla, Asst. City Administrator

### City Council Meetings

City Council meetings are

held on the second and fourth

**Tuesday** 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

CDBG ext. 101

City Clerk ext. 705

Human Resources ext. 705

Public Information ext. 110

Planning ext. 400

Building ext. 410

Inspections ext. 406

Code Enforcement ext. 406

Fire ext. 600

Utilities ext. 783

Finance ext. 784

Recreation ext. 110

Public Works ext. 789

Airport Contact ext. 322

### 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 Civic Center and the

Police Department.



## Ask the City: Water Meter Usage



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

**Our home has a water meter.  
How do I know how much  
water I use monthly?**

*M.B., Chowchilla*

If you have an operable  
water meter, you have a  
usage number on your

monthly utility bill. This  
number represents your  
water usage in cubic feet.  
In order to know the gallon  
equivalent, simply multiply  
the usage amount by 7.48  
to obtain the number of  
gallons that were used.

*Example: usage number:  
3020 X 7.48 = 22,590  
gallons used.*

The current monthly flat  
rate of \$23.31 is for  
consumption under 27,000  
gallons. If you exceed that,  
the rate increase is approx.  
1¢ per every 7 gallons.  
This formula can help you  
keep track of water usage  
thereby encouraging water  
conservation practices.

## Working on the Railroad

Robertson Boulevard will  
be closed at the railroad  
crossing sometime in April  
for approx. four days so  
that Union Pacific can  
conduct maintenance work

on the tracks. The Kings  
Avenue crossing will also  
be closed for a short period  
of time, but not at the same  
time as Robertson. Detours  
will be in place during

these closures. When new  
information is available we  
will post it on our website  
at [www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us](http://www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us)  
or on our City Facebook  
page.

## Ready to buy a home? Home need repairs?



Self-Help and  
the City of  
Chowchilla  
have partnered  
together to  
offer programs to help you!

The Homebuyer Assis-  
tance Program offers  
affordable secondary mort-  
gage financing to first-time  
homebuyers. This program  
is designed to provide the  
additional financing needed  
to keep a first mortgage  
payment affordable.

The property may be new  
construction or an existing

single family home and it  
must be located in the city  
limits of Chowchilla.

The Homebuyer Assis-  
tance Program is funded  
by the State Department of  
Housing and Community  
Development Block Grant  
Programs.

Participants must income  
qualify. For a list of eligibil-  
ity requirements, terms,  
and information on the first  
step to take, call Melissa  
Looney at Self-Help Enter-  
prises at (559) 802-1649.  
Se habla Espanol.

The Home Rehabilitation  
Program offers assistance  
with home repairs such as  
roofing, electrical, plumb-  
ing, foundation, windows,  
heating/cooling, insulation,  
& handicap modifications.

La Ciudad de Chowchilla  
en asociacion con Self-  
Help Enterprises puede  
ayudar!

Self-Help Enterprises is a  
non-profit organization  
dedicated to improving the  
living conditions of low-  
income persons. Call (559)  
651-1000 for information.



### Chowchilla Pre-Kindergarten Program Enroll Your Child Today!



Half Day Pre-Kindergarten Program Available for preschool children  
AM and PM Programs at Stephens and Reagan Schools

Flyers and pre-applications available at Stephens and Reagan Schools,  
and the First 5 Family Resource Center.

For more information about enrollment, contact: Rosa Gil at (559) 662-3826  
or (559) 706-9196 or Caitlin Frazier at (559) 662-3861.

**"This is one of our shining programs.**

**Children are well prepared for kindergarten"**

- Charles Martin, Ed.D

Superintendent, Chowchilla Elementary School District

Reagan Pre-K Program License #: 203808622/Stephens Pre-K Program License #: 203808387

Don't  
forget to  
**"Spring  
Forward"**  
on March 11.  
Daylight  
Saving Time  
Begins.

