

CITY Spotlight CHOWCHILLA



December 2015; Volume 7, Issue 12

**CITY HALL OFFICES
BUSINESS HOURS**
Monday - Thursday, 8AM - 4PM
CLOSED FRIDAY

CALENDAR

Dec 5 - Lions Club Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Veterans Memorial Park, 5:30PM

Dec 5 - Tenaya Guild Dinner, Fairgrounds, 6PM

Dec 8 - City Council Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Dec 10 - Coffee with the City Administrator, McDonalds, 8AM

Dec 11 - City Offices Closed

Dec 12-13 - Barrel Races, Fairgrounds, All day

Dec 15 - Coffee with a Cop, Starbucks, 8AM

Dec 16 - Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Dec 18 - Winter Gymkhana Event, Fairgrounds, 6:00PM

Dec 23 - City Offices Closed

Dec 24 & 25 - Christmas Holiday, City Offices Closed

Jan 1 - New Years Holiday, City Offices Closed

Jan 5 - Coffee with a Cop, McDonalds, 8AM

Jan 8 - City Offices Closed

Jan 9 - Chowchilla Western Stampede Grand Marshall Dinner, Fairgrounds, 6:00PM

Jan 12 - City Council Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Jan 14 - Coffee with the City Administrator, McDonalds, 8AM

Jan 18 - Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday, City Offices Closed

Jan 19 - Parks & Recreation Comm. Meeting, City Hall, 6PM

Jan 20 - Planning Commission Meeting, City Hall, 7PM

Jan 22 - City Offices Closed

City Recommends "Off Until Spring" Watering Campaign

The City's Public Works Department is encouraging residents to let the weather guide your watering schedule this winter to help counter the ongoing drought and help conserve water for when it is needed most, during the spring and summer.

Even if El Niño brings a lot of rain and snow during the next few months it will still take a few years to replenish the aquifer that flows deep underground below us and that provides our drinking water. So residents are asked to change the schedule on their irrigation systems to water less, or not at all this winter.

Cooler weather means less plant growth, therefore less water is needed by your lawn and shrubs.

Currently watering is limited to two days per week.

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Chowchilla Christmas Toys and Coats Drive

Not every child in Chowchilla gets to have the Christmas of their dreams but through the efforts of local organization they will receive something that shows they are thought of this Christmas holiday.

A **Christmas Toys and Coats Drive** is underway in the community. The organizers are seeking donations of new unwrapped toys, coats and other clothes to distribute to deserving children in our community. If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation to any of the listed partnering organizations. Make sure you note on your check what your donation is for and representatives will do the shopping.

This wonderful project is being coordinated with the Chowchilla Police and Fire Departments, the Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 148, Chowchilla American Legion Post 148, Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary, the Full Gospel Truth Church and Chowchilla Starbucks.



Lions Christmas Tree Lighting Saturday, Dec 5

Everyone is invited to gather at **Veterans Memorial Park** on Robertson Boulevard at 6TH Street and join the **Chowchilla Lions Club** for the **48TH Annual Chowchilla Lions Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony**. Festivities begin at **5:30PM** on **Saturday, December 5** and the event will be held regardless of the weather conditions.

The **Chowchilla Lioness Lions Club** will be on-hand selling tasty holiday treats, drinks and other refreshments at a minimal price.

This holiday celebration will include entertainment, community leaders and guests, the arrival of **Santa Claus** and the lighting of the **City Christmas Tree**. Santa will spend time to meet with each and every child who wants to visit so they can share what is on their holiday wish list. Come and enjoy this long-standing community tradition downtown at the **Veterans Memorial Park**.

Holiday Trash Day Changes

The Christmas and New Years holidays mean changes to the trash pick-up days for some customers.

Regular trash pick-up for Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day) and Friday, January 1 (New Year's Day) will be delayed to the next day, Saturday, for each of the holidays. Everyone else's pick-up days will remain on their regular schedule.

Chowchilla Starbucks will host a **Toy and Coats Drive Event** on **Saturday, December 19** from **10AM-3PM**. Toy and coat donations can be dropped off at the event. Santa Claus will be on-hand to greet everyone. There will also be raffle prizes for those who stop by and contribute to the program.

CITY OFFICES

130 South Second Street
Chowchilla, CA 93610

Telephone: (559) 665-8615
Fax: (559) 665-7418
Email: Info@CityOfChowchilla.org
Web: www.CityOfChowchilla.org

CITY COUNCIL

John Chavez, *Mayor*
Waseem Ahmed, *Mayor Pro Tem*
Mary Gaumnitz, *Council Member*
Dennis Haworth, *Council Member*
Richard Walker, *Council Member*
Brian Haddix, *City Administrator*

City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The agenda can be viewed or downloaded from the City web site.



PHONE NUMBERS

Civic Center	(559) 665-8615
City Council	ext. 102
City Administrator	ext. 100
City Clerk	ext. 102
Airport Information	ext. 305
Building & Inspections	ext. 410
Code Enforcement	ext. 407
Community Relations	ext. 110
Finance	ext. 783
Fire	ext. 600
Human Resources	ext. 102
Planning	ext. 400
Police Dispatch	ext. 590/591
Public Works	ext. 789
Recreation	ext. 110
Utilities	ext. 783

DIRECT NUMBERS

CATX & CATLinX	665-8655
Senior Center	665-8647
Police	665-8600
Anonymous Tips	665-8624
Fire	665-8625



accepted for in-person payments
at Chowchilla City Hall and the
Police Department.



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Watering

It is suggested that you voluntarily reduce your watering to just one day a week.

It is even recommended to turn off your sprinklers until spring.

The fact is, with the moisture we do receive during the winter just from dew and fog, and hopefully the winter rains, there is generally no reason to add extra water to your plants. They have more than an adequate supply and any water you add will not be absorbed by the plants but will simply runoff into the street as wasted water.

Please do just a little bit more this winter to help us get through the drought and stop watering your lawns and yard plants, or at least cut your watering down to one day a week.

Sandbags Available

To help moderate flooding this winter residents can pick up unfilled plastic sandbags to use at their home or business. The sandbags can be picked up at City Hall Monday - Thursday between 8AM and 4PM by showing a valid Chowchilla I.D. The sandbags will be provided as long as supplies last.

Free bulk sand will be piled on City property on N. First Street between Monterey and Sonoma Avenues. Bring your own shovel to fill your sandbags.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

IN OBSERVANCE OF

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S

Christmas Trees Collection

Mid Valley Disposal will pick up your natural Christmas trees (NO ARTIFICIAL ONES) on your regular trash collection day during the week of **January 4-8**. Be sure to remove all lights, tinsel and ornaments. It is **IMPORTANT** that you cut your tree into pieces and place them into the **Green Waste** cart with the lid closed. Put the cart out to the curb on your trash day.

City Water & Sewer Rates to Rise Slightly on January 1

At the beginning of each year City utilities customers see a slight increase in their rates for City water and wastewater services. These scheduled increases were approved as part of a long-range program approved by the Chowchilla City Council in 2012.

Utility rates furnish adequate funding for the operation, maintenance and replacement costs to provide residents with city water and wastewater service. The rate changes occur every January 1 through the year 2021. The adjusted rates will appear on the utility bill that comes out in February.

If you have questions about the rate increase, or if you need help with your utility accounts please call the City's Finance Department at 665-8615, ext. 783, or visit the City Hall office.

Planning to Use a Construction Trash Bin?

Be sure to contact Chowchilla City Hall at 665-8615, ext. 783, or Mid Valley Disposal at 665-3099, before starting a big home or commercial construction project, or completing a lot of property cleanup. City personnel will help you coordinate your roll-off trash bin needs with Mid Valley Disposal, the authorized trash hauler in Chowchilla. The City of Chowchilla and Mid Valley Disposal are committed to work with you to arrange for a suitable trash bin that fits the needs of your project.

Keep Tree Leaves Out of Streets

Residents are asked to help keep rainwater runoff flowing by not raking or piling fallen tree leaves and other debris into the street. Blocking the street drainage causes standing water that damages pavement and creates a safety hazard and nuisance for you and your neighbors.

Leaves, limbs and brush should be placed in the GREEN WASTE containers and placed at the street on your regularly scheduled weekly trash pickup day.

Residents can get an extra GREEN WASTE containers or an extra pick-up of the GREEN WASTE by calling Mid Valley Disposal Systems at 665-3099. There is an extra charge for this service.

