

PLEASANTON

PROGRESS

FALL
2023

Fun in the FALL

First Weekends on Main Stroll through our charming downtown every month from May to October - street closures Friday afternoon through Sunday.



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THE CITY OF



NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF PLEASANTON, CALIFORNIA

The City understands that water supply and quality are a top priority for the community and we are taking direct action to ensure the continued delivery of safe, reliable drinking water.

Letter from the City Manager **GERRY BEAUDIN**

Welcome to the Fall 2023 edition of the Pleasanton Progress Newsletter, where you will find a variety of news and information from around the city. As you will see, this edition provides important updates on the City's current water-related projects and initiatives. The City is working to immediately fund critical near-term water system improvements to deliver sufficient water supply during peak periods, while also addressing our longer-term water needs by finalizing a plan to treat or replace water from our existing groundwater wells, developing a comprehensive Water System Master Plan, and prioritizing citywide planning initiatives such as a 10-year infrastructure plan and a new 5-year citywide strategic plan.

The investments we are making today will meet our community's water needs now and into the future, and while the operation and maintenance of the City's water program are funded by ratepayers, we are using an array of funding sources to financially supplement these projects. In addition to revenue from ratepayers, the City is participating in a global lawsuit against a company that created many of the PFAS found in water today and has received commitments for state and federal funding for projects that address PFAS.

In addition to the information on current water-related initiatives, you will find an insert with a summary of Pleasanton's most recent Water Quality Report. This report demonstrates the work the City is doing to create a healthy and sustainable future for water in Pleasanton.



CRICKET PITCH

For the past several years the City has been exploring the idea of installing a dedicated cricket pitch. After an extensive public outreach effort including engagement with local sports groups, Ken Mercer Sports Park was selected as the future location for Pleasanton's first cricket pitch.

The pitch will be located where Hardball Field B currently resides, and next to Soccer Field 6. The field itself will be an oval approximately 390 feet long and 360 feet wide. The City has an approved design and has selected a contractor. Construction is starting soon and should be completed by the end of October, so keep your eyes out and start brushing up on your inswings and outswings!



CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

Mark your calendars, and don't miss the opportunity to be part of the City's upcoming cultural celebrations. Join in with your family and friends to celebrate and embrace the beauty of our community's cultural diversity. Each celebration features free activities and performances. Celebrations and events this fall include:

- **Hispanic Heritage Month** – October 7
- **Día de Los Muertos** – November 4
- **Diwali** – November 5
- **Native American Heritage Month** – November 18

For more information visit www.FirehouseArts.org

Pleasanton Receives Fuel Reduction Grant for FIRE PREVENTION

The City of Pleasanton has been awarded a grant of up to \$1 million by the California State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to conduct fuel mitigation at Augustin Bernal Community Park.

One of the best ways to mitigate fire risk is to reduce debris like fallen branches, trees, and other flammable vegetation. And less debris in the park means a safer place for hikers and bikers, and easier access for fire personnel in case of emergency.

The City is pleased to have been awarded this grant to further invest in the safety of Pleasanton.

2023 COMMUNITY SURVEY

The City recently conducted a citizen survey to measure community satisfaction, overall public opinion of City services, perception of quality of life, and top concerns facing Pleasanton.

Key highlights from the statistically valid survey show that:

- ★ **91%** of residents rate the quality of life as excellent or good
- ★ **89%** of residents say the City is an excellent or good place to raise children.
- ★ **93%** of residents feel safe in Pleasanton

Top priorities that residents value include water quality, fire protection, street maintenance, 9-1-1 response, keeping City buildings in good condition, sewer services, and programs for youth and seniors. Survey results are used to help inform projects and programs offered by the City.

Library and Recreation Department FEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The City believes that economic barriers should not prevent any member of the community from engaging in the enriching experiences and social connections provided by library and recreation programs. A fee assistance program is available to help offset the cost of recreation programs for those who need it. Learn more about the Fee Assistance Program, eligibility requirements, and application at the recreation page of the City's website at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov or by calling (925) 931-5340.

PLEASANTON'S WATER QUALITY & SUPPLY

Water quality and water supply are a top priority in Pleasanton. Most of Pleasanton's drinking water is supplied by the Zone 7 Water Agency, supplemented by local groundwater, all of which the City delivers through its distribution network. As part of its ongoing commitment to ensure that the residents of Pleasanton have access to a quality, sustainable, and safe water source, the City is implementing a roadmap that includes:

To find more information on Pleasanton's water quality, water rates, and water supply and quality projects, visit www.PleasantonWater.com



Pleasanton Rebate Recipient

Solution for PFAS

The City is completing a Water Supply Alternative Study to determine the best path to a long-term plan for the delivery of sufficient, safe drinking water. The goal of the Water Supply Alternative Study is to consider additional options to the previous plan to construct PFAS treatment facilities at three local groundwater wells in Pleasanton. Alternatives still being considered include developing a modified PFAS treatment and well rehab project, creating new City groundwater wells, and purchasing 100% of Pleasanton's water from Zone 7. The selection of a project, or a combination of projects, to address PFAS will be made this fall.

Water System Management Plan

In addition to determining a solution to PFAS, the City is developing a comprehensive Water System Management Plan that will establish long-term planning and projects to maintain the City's water program. This plan will identify focus areas for upcoming agreements for water and recycled water supply, perform integrative planning efforts including an asset report and replacement framework, recommend programs to improve operations and maintenance of the water system, develop standard operating procedures, and prepare a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan that identifies, provides cost estimates, and prioritizes ongoing and upcoming projects. The Water System Management Plan is expected to be completed near the end of 2023.

Water Rate Study

Part of the City's comprehensive approach to addressing water quality and supply in Pleasanton includes a two-phased Water Rate Study to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of water treatment and distribution throughout Pleasanton. Rate increases for the first phase of the rate study were proposed during the July 18 Pleasanton City Council meeting and will be voted on at the September 19 meeting.

Revenue from the increased rates will near-term fund maintenance and improvement projects, including several focused on water supply and capacity, increased operating costs, and reserve replenishment.

Water Rebates

As the City works ensure water supply and quality in the near and long term, keep in mind that water conservation remains a way of life in California. The City offers several water conservation rebates to encourage and reward responsible water usage both inside and outside. Some of the rebates currently offered by the City include:

- Eco-Friendly Lawn Conversion: Save up to \$2,575 when you convert your home's water-hungry lawn to a water-efficient landscape.
- Pool Cover Rebate: The City, in partnership with Zone 7, is offering a rebate of up to \$100 when you purchase and install a pool cover for your pool.
- Weather-Based Irrigation Controller: The City and Zone 7 offer a rebate when you replace your old irrigation controller with a weather-based irrigation controller. Receive up to \$75 for single-family residents, \$100 for multi-family properties, and \$3,000 for dedicated irrigation-metered customers.
- High-Efficiency Washing Machine: Receive up to \$200 when you purchase and install an Energy Star Most Efficient labeled clothes washer.

Find more information at:
www.pleasantonwaterconservation.com

Frequently Asked Questions About Pleasanton Water

Q: Is Pleasanton's water safe?

A: Pleasanton's drinking water has always met or exceeded state and federal drinking water regulations and will continue to do so in the future.

Q: What is the City doing now?

A: The City is taking action now to design, fund, and implement near-term improvements that will increase water supply capacity by summer 2024.

Q: How do Pleasanton's rates compare to the rest of the Bay Area?

A: Pleasanton's water rates are currently the lowest compared to other agencies in the Bay Area and will remain near the bottom with the proposed rate adjustment.



NEW WASTE SORTING REQUIREMENTS

Did you know that properly sorting food scraps and food-soiled paper into your green bin helps fight climate change? A new state law requires residents and businesses to keep compostable and recyclable materials out of California's landfills. Pleasanton Garbage Services offers curbside food scrap/yard waste composting as part of your garbage services to all residents of single-family homes, apartments, and condos.

For more information on waste sorting see your guide to residential recycling and garbage services by scanning this code with your phone's camera and clicking on the link:



Sorting is important! Here are some tips on what can and can't go in the green bin:

✓ PUT IT IN!

All food products: fruit, vegetables, breads, cereal, dairy, meat (including bones); coffee grounds, filters, and tea bags.

Uncoated food-soiled paper: paper towels, plates, napkins, pizza boxes, and paper lunch bags.

Plant waste and untreated wood

✗ KEEP IT OUT!

Plastic, plastic-lined paper such as milk cartons and to-go containers, polystyrene, glass, metal, liquids, and pet waste.

Paper products like cartons, cups, and plates that have a shiny coat

PLEASANTON'S NEW FREE COMPOST HUB

The City is piloting a self-haul compost program that offers free compost for Pleasanton residents to pick up every Friday-Sunday, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at **550 Laguna Creek Lane** in Pleasanton, as weather and availability permits.

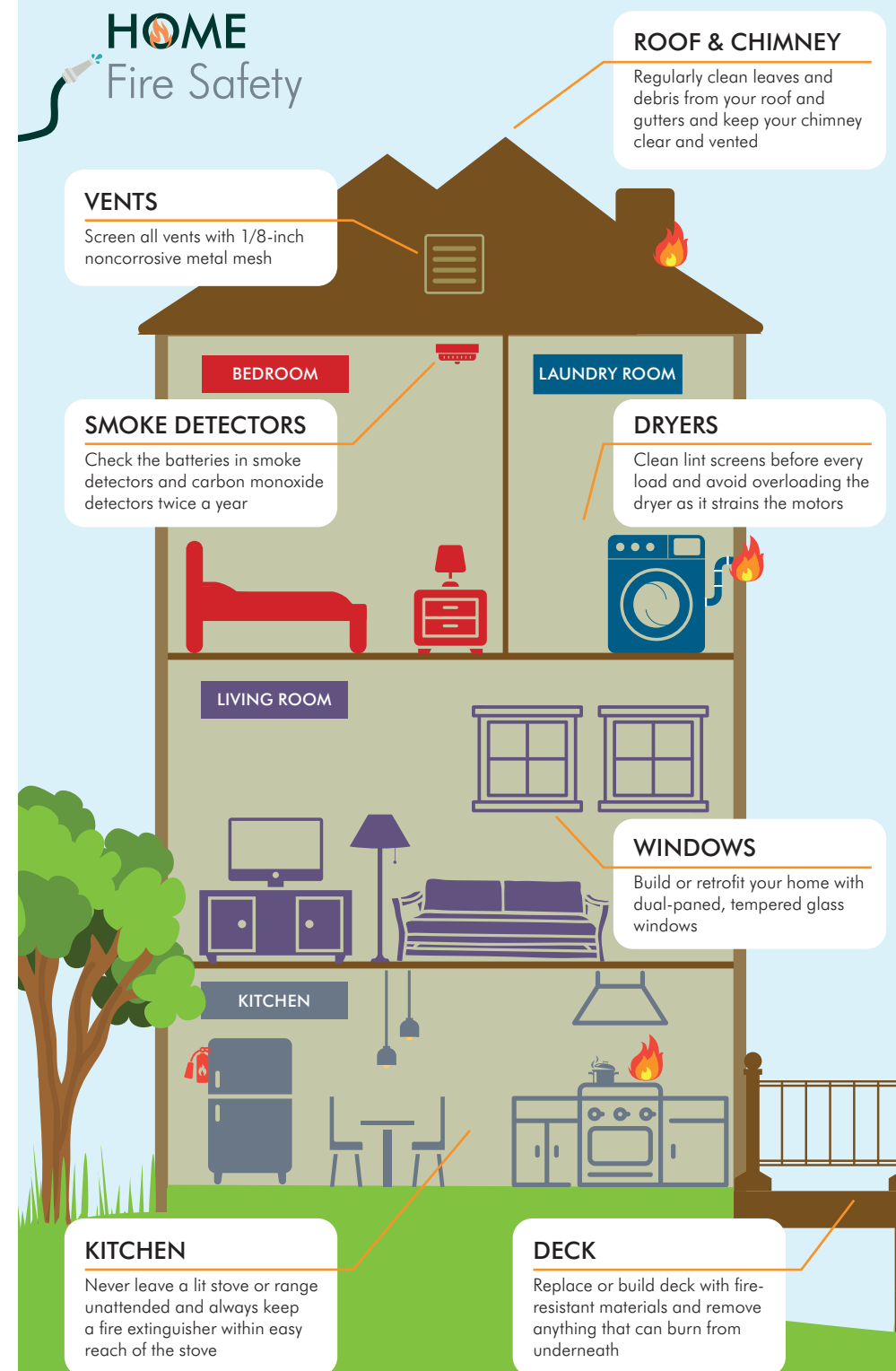
Compost is free to residents, and turns organic waste back into new materials, keeping them from emitting

greenhouse gases in a landfill. The compost is available on a first-come, first-served – bring a shovel and container to collect materials. This project is part of a larger commitment by Pleasanton to help slow climate change and is in line with the City's Climate Action Plan 2.0 objectives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance local environmental sustainability.

PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRES

California is often the leader in wildland fires and in recent years these events have come closer to our community. Prepare for fire season by creating defensible space around your home or business.

Cut weeds to under six inches, trim trees away from homes and buildings and remove low-lying branches, thin and prune plants and trees, and remove dead vegetation from roofs, gutters, plants, trees, porches, and throughout the yard. All of these can reduce the ability of fire to spread to or from your home.



Stay Informed This Fire Season

As the weather warms up and the hills turn brown, we are reminded that fire season is upon us once again. One way to make sure you're prepared for any emergency is by registering to receive emergency alerts and notifications. Register with these tools to make sure you're ready when disaster strikes:


Nixle – Receive notifications and emergency alerts from the City of Pleasanton – Text your zip code to 888777 or go to local.nixle.com/register to sign up online.

Zonehaven – This tool is used to share emergency and evacuation information with the community. Visit community.zonehaven.com and Know Your Zone so you can respond quickly during an emergency.


PG&E PPS Notifications – Receive notifications from PG&E about upcoming Public Safety Power Shutoffs at your home. Sign up at pge.com/addressalerts.

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 Nextdoor.com



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KNOW YOUR PLEASANTON PARKS: Bernal Community Park

Bernal Community Park is truly a park initiated by, and planned for, the community of Pleasanton. In 2000, a task force for the park was created, and in 2004 voters approved a measure to ensure the property would be transformed into a public park. Bernal Community Park, roughly 80 acres in size, is a component of the larger 318-acre Bernal Property.

Bernal Community Park includes 3 baseball fields, batting cages, 3 multi-purpose synthetic turf fields, including one with stadium seating, a large picnic area, a central plaza used for gatherings and events, 2 playground areas, 2 restrooms, a 40-acre oak woodland with walking paths, and roughly 1,000 trees. The park provides a refuge for residents of Pleasanton along with local wildlife, including nest boxes for barn owls. On any given weekend you can find children and

adults alike playing soccer, football, cricket, baseball, or lacrosse, walking or biking on the extensive pathway system, relaxing and reading, playing on the playground, or meeting up with friends and family to have a picnic or barbeque. The park is connected to Cubby's Dog Park by the Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail and is directly adjacent to Pleasanton Middle School and Phoebe Hearst Elementary School.

Located a short walk from downtown Pleasanton and directly across from the Alameda County Fairgrounds, Bernal Community Park is a great place to enjoy the outdoors any time of year!

