



Mountain House Community Services District Newsletter

*The Mission of the District is to Provide Responsive
Service to our Growing Community
that Exceeds Expectations at a Fair Value*

December
2019

STORMWATER CHANNEL SAFETY

In support of public safety the MHCSO will like to raise awareness and educate the public on creek and channel safety. We must take this opportunity to speak to our children and friends about the dangers of fast moving water and the almost certain fate that awaits anyone who goes into our rain swollen flood control conveyance channel that is located within Mountain House Creek.

Our flood control conveyance channel is a major part of our community's infrastructure and, like freeways or railroad tracks, should never be used for recreation. The flood control channel is designed to drain stormwater from our community and take it swiftly "out to sea", to prevent flooding in our community.

Rainy days impact the level of flow within the creek. During these events, flow increases causing a large volume of water to travel towards the delta all the while gathering debris, speed, volume and power. Agriculture west of Mountain House also uses the creek channel to discharge large volumes water which can happen at any given time. At key points along the way, large structures have been built into the system to slow down the water and control the power. These so called structures appear as the natural part of the creek; however they allow the water to flow back into wide earthen channels without destroying their natural habitat or causing erosion. A series of four roadway bridges engineered for large flows also exist. These bridges located in the creek are not intended for public access. During periods of high flow, these structures become deadly. For example, on April 2010 a family lost a husband and son in the rain swollen Walnut Creek channel and, two young men drowned in the same channel in February 2011. These structures are an efficient tool in managing floodwaters, but can be deadly for humans.

As inviting as it may appear, any area beyond the Creek Park trails and walkways are off limits to the public, especially around the flood control conveyance channel, storm water ponds, the sensitive riparian areas and the main creek channel. Any person, who enters onto District property beyond the public use area without written permission from the Mountain House Community Services District, may be charged with a misdemeanor and fined \$75 under California Penal Code Section 602.8 for the first offense and up to \$250 for repeated offenses. We must become aware of the dangers within our storm water conveyance system and take the necessary steps to educate ourselves and our children. Please talk to your children and friends about our flood control conveyance system and understand the important role it plays in our community.

SCHEDULE OF MHCSO EVENTS

Board meetings and committee meetings are held in the Michael Forbes McGrew Board Room at the CSO office. For class and event locations please see below. If you would like additional information on the classes or events please contact Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org. Please subscribe to the Google Calendar.

Holiday Tree Lighting

Date: Friday, December 6, 2019

Time: 2:00p-7:00p

Location: Central Community Park

Mountain House Vintage Seniors Meeting

Date: Monday, December 9, 2019

Time: 10:30a - 11:30a

Location: Firehouse

For more information please email Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org

Youth Action Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Time: 7:00 pm

For more information please contact Director Tingle at btingle@sjgov.org

MHCSO Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Time: 7:00pm

Mountain House Vintage Seniors Holiday Cookie Exchange

Date: Monday, December 16, 2019

Time: 10:00a - 1:30p

Location: Firehouse

For more information please email Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org

Youth Action Committee Holiday Party

Date: Friday, December 20, 2019

Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

For more information please contact Director Tingle at btingle@sjgov.org

OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note the Mountain House Community Services Offices will be closed the following dates:

- Tuesday, December 24, 2019
- Wednesday, December 25, 2019
- Tuesday, December 31, 2019
- Wednesday, January 1, 2020

MASTER RESTRICTIONS

Section 4.02

B. **Landscaping.** Each Owner shall maintain the landscaping and Improvements on such Owner's Lot in a neat and attractive manner, including any landscaped strip of land located between the sidewalk and the street located adjacent to such Lot ("Park Strip"), except for any portion of the landscaping maintained by the MHCS D or other governmental entity. All grass, mass plantings, and other plantings shall be mowed, pruned, trimmed, fertilized, and cut as necessary at reasonable regular intervals, all trees shall be properly maintained and irrigation systems shall be maintained in good operating order and properly used to irrigate the landscaping. All trees located in the Park Strip shall be trimmed by a professional tree trimmer in such a manner as to cause the tree to grow in an "arch" over the adjacent sidewalk and street and in conformity with any Rule governing the trimming of trees located in the Park Strip. The MHCS D may undertake in its sole discretion from time to time to trim or otherwise maintain the trees or other landscaping located in the Park Strip and other areas controlled or maintained by the MHCS D. All unimproved Lots shall be kept mowed and in neat and clean condition. No garbage or debris shall be allowed to accumulate on Lots.

Section 4.04

H. **Refuse.** The accumulation, placement, or outdoor burning of garbage, clippings from trees, weeds, shrubs, or lawns, trash, litter, debris, ashes, or other refuse on any Lot is prohibited. This Subsection does not apply to the burning of natural materials in connection with fire control. No Owner shall cause or permit any condition on his Lot which creates a fire hazard. Each Owner of an Improved Lot shall provide or have available for such Owner's use suitable receptacles for the collection of refuse. Such receptacles shall be enclosed and screened from public view and any common area and protected from disturbance. No refuse or refuse container shall be placed in streets or public view more than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled collection time for such refuse and all refuse containers shall be removed within the twenty-four (24) hour period following the collection of the refuse.

I. **Accumulations on Lots.** All weeds, rubbish, debris, manure, composting or decaying vegetation material, and other unsightly objects or materials of any kind shall be removed from Lots whether such Lots contain Improvements or not, and shall not be allowed to accumulate or grow on any Lot. All dead vegetation, including trees, located on the front yard of Improved Lots shall be removed and replaced with comparable living vegetation and trees within thirty (30) days, subject to the provisions of Subsection M of this Section, if applicable. Contractors constructing Improvements on one or more Lots may use containers or fenced areas to hold construction waste during such construction on one or more such Lots. These containers or fenced areas do not need to be concealed from view. This Subsection shall not be construed to prohibit refuse containers, woodpiles, storage areas, or machinery and equipment related to yard care and maintenance, provided such materials are screened from the view of adjacent streets and Lots.

Mountain House Community Services District
230 S. Sterling Drive, Suite 100
Mountain House, CA 95391
209-831-2300
mountainhousecsd.org

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

If your group has an activity open to the community in Mountain House please send that information to Angel Lamb no later than the 10th of the month to be included in the newsletter.

Sahaja Yoga

Date: Every Sunday

Time: 10:00am

Location: Firehouse

For more information please see
<https://www.sahajayoga.org/>

Mountain House Rotary Meeting

Date: 2nd Friday of the Month

Time: 9:00am – 10:00am

Location: Firehouse

For more information please contact Sachin Pingle at
mountainhouserotary@gmail.com

Jingle All the Way 5K

Date: Saturday, December 7, 2019

Time: 7:30am

Location: Central Creek Park

MASTER RESTRICTIONS REMINDER

The Holidays are here. Please follow the Master Restrictions concerning Holiday Lighting. Article 4, Section 4.05, Paragraph I: The installation of any exterior lighting whose source is visible from neighboring lots is prohibited, except for ordinary non-directional bulbs that: (i) do not exceed a total of 150 watts for the bulbs in a single fixture; and (ii) are white or yellow in color. **This provision does not prohibit holiday lighting decorations temporarily installed for a holiday season which are promptly removed following the holidays. No holiday lighting may be left installed for periods exceeding forty-five (45) days.** Nothing in this Subsection prohibits street lighting in interior streets, driveways and parking areas, provided they comply with the Design Guidelines.

The 45-day time frame will begin after the new year on January 3, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact the MHCS D at 209-831-2300 and ask to speak to Cedric Hathorn.

RECYCLE GREASE

Do you have left-over grease from your Holiday Turkey? Recycle it! Why recycle fryer and cooking oil? When you pour oil or grease down the drain, it can clog the pipes, cause damage to your home and cause problems at the sewage treatment plant. Instead of paying a plumber to fix your drains, recycle it. Did you know that used cooking oil may be refined to make lubricants, new products and bio-diesel fuel? Bio-diesel is used to power some vehicles that produce fewer harmful emissions than vehicles that run on regular gasoline. Plus, when you follow a car that uses bio-diesel, it may smell like French Fries.

If you are interested in recycling your grease, these local facilities will be happy to take it off your hands: San Joaquin Household Hazardous Waste Facility, Lovelace Transfer Station or North County Recycling Center. There is no cost for San Joaquin County residents to recycle cooking oil at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility. For more information on the facility locations please go to <http://www.sjgov.org/solidwaste>