



# 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*

January  
2017

## MAINTENANCE STANDARDS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD STREET TREES

Street trees in the parkway strips are critical to the creation of an attractive and harmonious landscape expression in each Mountain House neighborhood.

The Mountain House Community Services District will reach out in the following months and offer some helpful information to perform routine maintenance on street trees. This information will include proper pruning techniques, when a tree should be replaced, when a tree needs pruning, when an arborist should be called and many other helpful hints and guidelines.

Appendix F section of the Mountain House Residential Design Guideline Manual provides the requirements that each resident must follow. This document can also be found on the Mountain House website. Here are some examples of the requirements:

- Those trees that have over extended, dead and unsightly branches, shall be pruned and trimmed. Damage from wind, etc., shall be repaired.
- All trees shall be pruned and trimmed only as necessary to maintain their natural form. **Trees shall not be topped, "hat-racked", "lolly-popped", sheared or pruned in any manner which alters the natural growth habit of the tree.**
- **Trees shall be pruned to maintain a central leader** and to remove branches which form narrow crotches. Prune trees to maintain permanent scaffold branches which have a radial orientation and do not overlay one another. All suckers shall be removed from trees.
- All trees that are located adjacent to street and/or sidewalks shall be pruned and trimmed as necessary to maintain a height clearance of 8 ft. over sidewalks and, 12 ft. over local (inner neighborhood) streets, and 14 ft. over collector (main neighborhood) streets for vehicle and pedestrian safety.
- Trees shall be pruned to allow clearance for street light illumination and to train the trees to eventually rise above the top of the light fixtures.
- Pruning shall be completed while the tree is dormant (after leaf fall in autumn).
- Inspect each tree on a continuous basis for cross branches that may rub, broken branches, and damage from mowing equipment, etc.
- Perform "same day" clean-up of all pruned and trimmed material and dispose of this material off site.
- The watering of the tree, health and welfare is the responsibility of the homeowner.

When utilizing best practices and proper pruning techniques, results will be noticed and achieving our goal of graceful mature tree lined streets will be a reality.

## SCHEDULE OF MHCS D EVENTS

Board meetings and committee meetings are held in the Michael Forbes McGrew Board Room at the CSD 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](mailto:alamb@sjgov.org). Please subscribe to the Google Calendar.

### **Weight Watchers Community Series**

Date: Tuesday's in January

Time: 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Location: Firehouse

### **Music Together Class**

Date: Tuesday's in January

Time: 9:30a-10:15a and 10:30a-11:15a

Location: Firehouse

### **Suzuki Early Childhood Class**

Date: Saturday's in January

Time: 9:00a-10:00a

Location: Firehouse

### **Youth Action Committee Meeting**

Date: Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm

For more information please contact Director Tingle at [btingle@sjgov.org](mailto:btingle@sjgov.org)

### **MHCS D Board of Directors Meeting**

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Time: 7:00pm

## OFFICE CLOSURE

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

- Monday, January 2, 2017
- Monday, January 16, 2017
- Monday, February 20, 2017

### Family A's Tree - Not Pruned When Young



### Family B's Tree - Pruned When Young



#### OUTDOOR IRRIGATION

In the fall and winter months outdoor irrigation is no longer needed. Because of the temperatures and the frequent periods of rain, the moisture content of the soil is adequate to support turf, shrubs and trees that go dormant. The exception might be potted plants however; they will be needing much less than the warmer months. Turning off landscape irrigation will save up to 40% on water usage compared to the top of the season in July. We are still in a drought and every drop counts so please do your best to conserve.

#### LEAF SEASON

MHCSD encourages all homeowners and residents to maintain their yards. This should include the proper disposal of yard waste. Please use the brown tote for all yard waste (leaves, grass clippings, branches, etc.) Keep the curbs and gutter clean of debris in front of your home to prevent flooding and to protect the environment from pollution, as our Storm Drains flow directly into the creek and out to the Delta waterways. As a friendly reminder, weeds, rubbish, debris, manure, composting or decaying vegetation material should be removed and not allowed to accumulate on lots. Any yard waste material that doesn't fit in your brown waste cart should be stored out of sight until the next scheduled collection (see the link below for more details).

<http://www.westvalleydisposal.com/leaf-pickup.shtml>

#### 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 10<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the newsletter.

#### **Mountain House Rotary**

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday's

Time: 9:00am – 10:00am

Location: Firehouse

For more information please contact Christina Oh at [ohchristinaoh@gmail.com](mailto:ohchristinaoh@gmail.com)

#### **Family Fit MH Club**

Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's

Time: 6:00am and 9:00am

Saturday's

Time: 8:00am

Location: Wicklund Park

For more information please contact Jaime Montenegro at [sscjaime@yahoo.com](mailto:sscjaime@yahoo.com)

#### **MHHS VAPA Boosters Family Fun Bingo Night**

Date: Friday, January 6, 2017

Time: 5:30p

Location: MHHS Multipurpose Room

#### **MHHS VAPA Boosters Meeting**

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Time: 7:00p

Location: MHHS Room A152

#### **Mountain House Women's Forum Association**

Date: Thursday, January 19, 2017

Time: 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Location: Mountain House Fire Station

Mountain House Community Services District

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[mountainhousecsd.org](http://mountainhousecsd.org)