



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
2021

POPULAR TREE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

English Oak



You may have noticed; the Poplar Tree Replacement Project has begun. This project started on November 16 with portal entries along Arturo Blvd. We are currently removing Poplar Trees along Mountain House Parkway and will finish the segment on DeAnza Blvd by late spring. Next July, we will be removing Poplar Trees along the sound walls and portal entries on Great Valley Parkway between Byron Road and Arturo Blvd. This project came about to address several issues:

1. After a thorough evaluation by West Coast Arborists, it was highly recommend to remove Poplar Trees due to advanced signs of fungal rot.
2. The impending impact on infrastructure and private property from root intrusion.
3. The overall declining health of the inventory.
4. The potential of great bodily harm to the public due to failures.
5. Instituting landscape capital projects to maintain the overall value and esthetics of our Community.

Poplar trees will be replaced with English Oak. These varieties have been very successful in other areas of Mountain House. The new trees will be installed with increased spacing and limited to planters over a certain size so that they may remain growing for many years to come. You will find recent English Oak installations along Great Valley Blvd. between Mustang Way and Grant Line Road, along the west corral fencing, and mature trees (up to 18 years old) in Wicklund neighborhood alleyways.

The Mountain House Community Services Districts' goal is to establish majestic heritage trees that current and future generations of residents may enjoy. The removal and replacement project is being executed by West Coast Arborists. After completing a competitive bidding process, WCA was awarded the bid based on their competitive pricing, understanding of the project and long history of quality work throughout the state. We appreciate their professionalism, responsiveness and expertise and find they are doing an incredible job!

SCHEDULE OF MHCSD EVENTS

Due to COVID-19, all Board meetings are held via Zoom. The Town Hall and Board Room at the CSD office remain closed until further notice. If you would like additional information on the classes or events, please contact Angel Lamb at alamb@sjgov.org. Please subscribe to the District Calendar to see all upcoming CSD events.

Public Action Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

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

Mountain House Virtual Vintage Seniors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Time: 10:00a - 11:00a

Location: Zoom

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

MHCSD Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Time: 7:00pm

You may join the meeting and make public comments using Zoom. Instructions for joining Zoom is provided in the agenda for each meeting, available online. If you do not wish to participate using Zoom but want to comment on the Public Comment section of the meeting or any item on the agenda, you may email your comments to the District Clerk nadamo@sjgov.org. Staff will read your comments during the meeting.

FLOOD CONTROL CONVEYANCE CHANNEL

Our flood control conveyance channel is a significant 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 water volume to travel towards Old River while gathering debris, speed, mass, and power. Agriculture west of Mountain House also uses the creek channel to discharge large volumes of water, which can happen at any given time. At critical 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. These structures are an efficient tool in managing floodwaters.

As inviting as it may appear, any area beyond the Creek Park trails and walkways is off-limits to the public, especially around the flood control conveyance channel,

The project will continue for the next three years in several phases, with the most impacted trees being removed immediately for safety. Installation of new English Oak trees, and additional landscape, will begin in late winter to early spring and will be performed by BrightView Landscape.

If you have any questions, you may email Doug Louie of our Public Works Maintenance Division at dlouie@sjgov.org or use our GoRequest app that allows many features. Thank you so much, and we appreciate your patience due to any inconvenience this may impose.

After a thorough evaluation by West Coast Arborists, it was highly recommend removing Poplar Trees due to advanced signs of fungal rot. Photo: "Examples of fungal rot in about 60% of all trees removed."



KNOW ABOUT MOUNTAIN HOUSE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Mountain House maintains an intricate, gravity-based stormwater system built around several detention basins that discharge stormwater runoff to Mountain House Creek. The BMP detention basins are located within the Mountain House Creek corridor.

Mountain House has implemented a series of wet and dry detention basins as part of their regional BMP treatment process. The regional BMP treatment consists of 25 detention basins, 17 dry detention, and eight wet detention basins. The BMP basins are designed to capture and detain runoff from storm events, control erosion, remove pollutants, and create a habitat for wildlife. Treatment processes include sedimentation, absorption, filtration, and biological uptake. Runoff is treated within the basins and slowly released into a pair of perforated pipes buried in a gravel bed for dry detention basins. Given a sufficient detention period, a substantial reduction of target pollutants can be achieved before its discharge into Mountain House Creek. Mountain House Creek is a tributary to Old River located to the north of the Community.

What is an illicit discharge?

The United States Environmental Protection Agency defines an illicit discharge as "any discharge into a storm drain system that is not composed entirely of stormwater." This means that anything other than the water that falls from the sky is an illicit discharge. There are many hazardous household products, yard care products, fertilizers, dog waste, car soaps, and automotive fluids that turn what should only be stormwater into an illicit discharge that pollutes and degrades local water quality.

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN

Please report any illicit discharge into our storm drain systems to
Mountain House Community Services District
209-831-2300

stormwater ponds, the sensitive riparian regions the main creek channel. Any person who enters onto the District property beyond the public use area without written permission from the Mountain House Community Services District will violate MHCSO Ordinance MH-4-1206 and may face penalties per Section MH-4-1003 of the Ordinances and some other State laws. We must become aware of the dangers within our stormwater 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 vital role it plays in our Community.

OUTDOOR IRRIGATION

In the fall and winter months, outdoor irrigation is no longer needed. Because of the temperatures and frequent rain periods, the soil's moisture content is adequate to support turf, shrubs, and trees that go dormant. The exception might be potted plants; however, they will need 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.

OFFICE CLOSURE

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

- Thursday, December 31, 2020
- Friday, January 1, 2021
- Monday, January 18, 2021
- Monday, February 15, 2021

LEAF SEASON

MHCSO 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 curbs and gutter clean of debris to prevent flooding and protect the environment from pollution. 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 10th of the month to be included in the newsletter.

Mountain House Rotary

Date: 2nd Friday

Time: 9:00am – 10:00am

Location: Firehouse

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

Mountain House Community Services District
251 E. Main Street

Mountain House, CA 95391

209-831-2300

mountainhousecsd.org

