

City of Highland *Weekly Report*



April 22, 2022

Volunteer Services

NATIONAL



ARBOR DAY

You're Invited....

In Celebration of Arbor Day, we will be planting a tree at Cunningham Neighborhood Park

Thursday, April 28, 2022

9:00 a.m.

(7400 block of Cunningham, between Base Line & 9th Street)



Volunteer Services

The Highland Improvement Team needs volunteers! Now is your chance to be part of this excellent group of dedicated community volunteers. Our mission is to improve the overall environment of our city for all residents and businesses. Join us as we beautify our community and get involved today ~ Sign up as Highland's newest volunteer!

Highland Improvement Team projects are scheduled on the first Saturday of each month. Projects vary from month to month but can include:

- Residential yard cleanups for senior residents
- Residential garage cleanouts for senior residents
- Graffiti abatement
- Litter pick-up
- Park cleanups
- Special events and many more!

Join us for our annual Community Day of Services cleanup on Saturday, May 7, 2022, at Highland Community Park, 7793 Central Avenue. Volunteers can begin signing in at 8:00 a.m. The cleanup begins at 9:00 a.m. and runs through 11:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help with landscaping, litter pickup and painting at the park. The City will provide all tools and equipment needed. Volunteers are encouraged to bring gloves and wear a hat and sunscreen. East Valley Water District will be providing lunch for participating volunteers.

*If you should have questions or would for further information, please contact:
Denise Moreno, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at (909) 864-6861, extension 203.*



ENDS SOON! Highland's Grocery Home Delivery Service

This program will expire soon! Any new applications for **Highland's Grocery Home Delivery Service Program** must be submitted to us **by April 27, 2022**.

Highland residents who meet income guidelines, can qualify to RECEIVE AN ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FOR GROCERY HOME DELIVERY SERVICE. Shop from the safety of your own home and have groceries delivered straight to your doorstep!

It's easy to apply. Contact Denise Moreno at (909) 864-6861 extension 203 or email dmoreno@cityofhighland.org to find out if you are eligible for the program.



Volunteer Services

FEEDING OUR COMMUNITY - MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County (CAPSBC) will host a monthly mobile food distribution in the City of Highland through the end of the year. Food distribution will take place at Highland Community Park, 7793 Central Avenue from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the following days:

- Wednesday, May 11
- Wednesday, June 15
- Wednesday, July 13
- Wednesday, August 10
- Wednesday, September 14
- Wednesday, October 12
- Wednesday, November 9
- Wednesday, December 7

For more information contact CAPSBC at (909) 723-1500 / www.CAPSBC.org #CAPSBCCARES



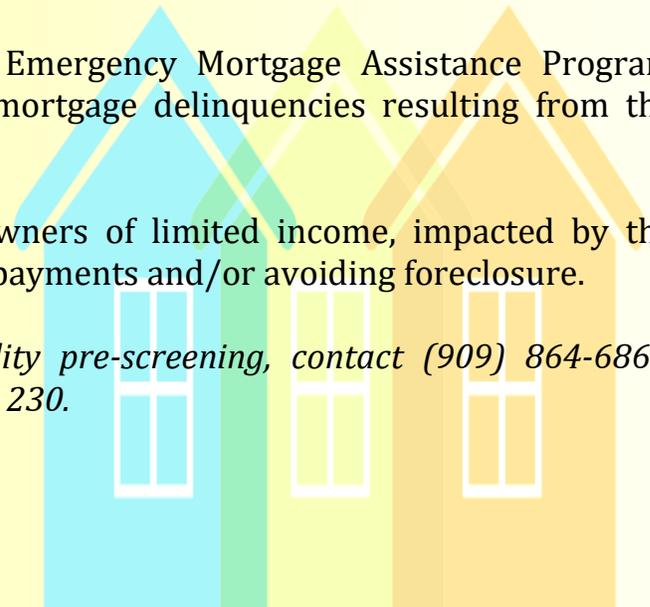
Public Services

EMERGENCY MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EMAP)

The City of Highland has established the Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (EMAP) to assist Highland residents with mortgage delinquencies resulting from the pandemic.

This program is aimed at assisting homeowners of limited income, impacted by the pandemic, by reducing delinquent mortgage payments and/or avoiding foreclosure.

For more information and program eligibility pre-screening, contact (909) 864-6861, extension 203 or at (909) 864-6861, extension 230.



Volunteer Services



Funding Currently Available!!!



The City of Highland is encouraging small businesses in Highland to apply for the Coronavirus Recovery Fund grant program. First launched in September 2021, the purpose of this program is to provide financial assistance to City-based small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Successful grant recipients will receive a one-time \$7,500 disbursement.

Businesses that meet these specific criteria are eligible for consideration:

- Must have a physical location within the City of Highland (store front, office, commercial structure).
- Be in good standing with the City of Highland (**current/valid business license, no outstanding code enforcement actions, or compliance orders**).
- Must have no more than 100 employees.
- Must be in existence as of August 24, 2021.

Contact Denise Moreno at (909) 864-6861, extension 203 or by email to dmoreno@cityofhighland.org for an application and for more information.

SOUND THE ALARM - SIGN UP FOR FREE SMOKE ALARM INSTALLATION!

The American Red Cross has started a new program. Under normal circumstances, the Red Cross partners up with volunteers to canvas neighborhoods to install free smoke alarms in homes, replace batteries in existing alarms and help families create home fire escape plans. Unfortunately, COVID has prevented them from hosting rally events of this type. The modified program is now an appointment based, "hot shot" program. This program will consist of installing FREE smoke alarms and providing home fire safety education to residents by appointment only.

The installation service and the home fire preparedness education are FREE to the resident. After signing up, a Red Cross volunteer will contact the resident to schedule the appointment. Volunteers will be following all COVID-19 precautions before entering the home and while in the home.



Visit: www.SoundTheAlarm.org/SoCal or call (714) 481-5334 for more information or to sign up for free smoke alarm installation. Residents belonging to San Diego, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Imperial Counties are eligible. #EndHomeFires

Seven people die every day from home fires. You can help change that by taking these steps to keep your family safe.

- ◆ Create an escape plan.
- ◆ Practice your 2-minute home fire escape drill.
- ◆ Test your smoke alarms monthly.



Blood Drive



Help Highland increase blood donations... Schedule your appointment today!!

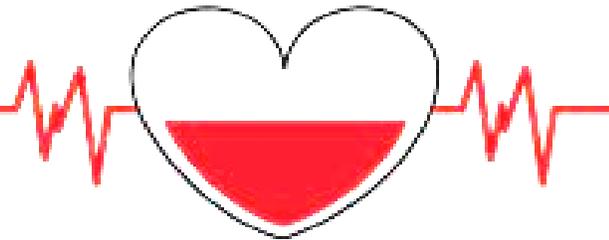
Highland's next blood drive is Monday, May 23, 2022. All blood drives will take place at the Highland Police Station, 26985 Base Line from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Volunteer Services at (909) 864-6861, extension 203 or email dmoreno@cityofhighland.org.

Follow this link for appointments:

https://giftoflife.lstream.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/98506

**DONATE
BLOOD**



Public Works



During the period of April 11, 2022 through April 15, 2022, graffiti was made known to Public Works staff by the following means and removed:

Routine observation by Public Works: Pacific Street & Olive Street, Pacific Street & Orange Street, Pacific Street & Palm Avenue, Base Line & Cunningham Street, 6th Street & Victoria Avenue, Boulder Avenue & Eucalyptus Drive.

Hotline: Base Line & Stoney Creek Drive

Public Services

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day



On April 30, 2022 the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its 22nd opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

We encourage every citizen to look in their homes for any old, unused prescription medication and bring your medications for disposal to the **Highland Police Station located at 26985 Base Line Highland, CA 92346**, on Saturday, April 30th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Americans turned in more unused prescription drugs at the most recent DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day than on any of the previous twenty-one events since it began in 2010, demonstrating their understanding of the value of this service. Last year the DEA and over 4,200 of its state, local, and tribal law enforcement partners collected 744,082 pounds of unwanted medicines—about 372 tons—at almost 5,000 sites spread through all 50 states. The top five states with the largest collections, in order, were Wisconsin (57 tons); Texas (almost 56 tons); Ohio (almost 47 tons); California (almost 42 tons); and Florida (almost 33 tons).

The majority of prescription drug abusers report in surveys that they get their drugs from friends and family. Americans understand that cleaning out old prescription drugs from medicine cabinets, kitchen drawers, and bedside tables reduces accidents, thefts, and the misuse and abuse of these medicines, including the opioid painkillers that accounted for 20,808 drug overdoses—78 a day—in 2014 (the most recent statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). 8 out of 10 new heroin users began by abusing prescription painkillers and moved to heroin when they could no longer obtain or afford those painkillers.

“These results show that more Americans than ever are taking the important step of cleaning out their medicine cabinets and making homes safe from potential prescription drug abuse or theft,” said DEA Acting Administrator Chuck Rosenberg. “Unwanted, expired, or unused prescription medications are often an unintended catalyst for addiction. Take-Back events like this raise awareness of the opioid epidemic and offer the public a safe and anonymous way to help prevent substance abuse.”

Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For information on how to properly dispose of medications and other materials that could potentially harm the environment, such as cleaning products, paints, fertilizers/pesticides, automotive products like used motor oil and filters, please contact the City of Highland Public Services Division at (909) 864-8732, extension 271.



Public Services

LET'S ALL HELP REDUCE ILLEGAL DUMPING

In a place as beautiful as Highland, every day is Earth Day! It is difficult to imagine why anyone would choose to pollute our scenic vistas and rural corridors by illegally dumping trash, but they do. If there is any possible explanation, it may be that the ones doing the dumping do not know about the many options and alternatives available – so we are here to help!

As we get new things, stuff starts to accumulate. When we move or need space, the stuff must go somewhere, but where? The first thing to remember is that one person's trash may be another's treasure. Donating useful items is one of the greatest things we can do for our community and our planet, by providing low-cost or free goods to those in need while keeping valuable resources out of the landfill. Donating is free and may even be eligible for a tax credit. Goodwill and other donation options are available through charities, thrift stores, and more.

Residents and businesses can recycle most appliances for free at the Agua Mansa Material Recovery Facility (MRF) located at 1830 Agua Mansa Road, Riverside, CA 92509 ~ (951) 786-0544 any time during business hours. Only appliances with freon coolant require a nominal disposal fee of \$13.00 per item. If you are unable to deliver them to one of our sites, ask your refuse hauler, Burrtec at (909) 889-1969 about the bulky item pickup included with your service. Multifamily dwellings (apartments and town homes) may also be eligible for pickup services – ask your property manager!

Residents can also recycle mattresses for free, every business day at any MRF. California participates in a producer responsibility program that requires consumers to pay a small disposal fee when buying new mattresses, which funds the program and allows the MRF to provide free mattress and box spring recycling, no matter where they were purchased or how poor the condition. Residents can also recycle cardboard, glass, plastic and metal for free from residents and businesses at all MRF locations, or through your curbside recycling service.

Household hazardous waste (HHW) includes old chemicals, car batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, motor oil, sharps, antifreeze, batteries (household and auto), used oil (and filters), paint, old medication, electronic waste and medical sharps. Residents can properly dispose of these items for free at our local San Bernardino County HHW Facility located at the San Bernardino International Airport, 2824 East "W" Street, Bldg. 302. With all these options, there is no excuse for illegally trashing Highland and the surrounding Inland Empire. It creates an eyesore, harbors pests, and invites more dumping. The tax dollars spent on cleanup by Highland, San Bernardino County, and its surrounding cities are better spent on programs that enhance our communities with public safety services and improvements.

If you witness illegal dumping taking place, call the authorities immediately. If you see a problem area, report it to Public Works at (909) 864-6861, extension 217, and if you want to volunteer for cleanups, get involved with the HIT Team (Highland Improvement Team), the HIT Team has events throughout the year, call (909) 864-6861, extension 203 for more information. These events provide free supplies and disposal and can help you earn community service credits.

For more information, please contact the Public Services Division at 909-864-8732, extension 271.

Administration

Attacks in Crowded and Public Spaces

Important steps to take when preparing and protecting yourself and helping others in the event of a mass attack.

Types of Mass Attacks

- Individuals using firearms to cause mass casualties (active shooter).
- Individuals using a vehicle to cause mass casualties.
- Individuals using homemade bombs to cause mass casualties. Other methods used in mass attacks may include knives, fires, drones or other weapons.

Prepare BEFORE:

- Stay alert. Always be aware of your environment and any possible dangers.
- If you see something, say something to local authorities. That includes suspicious packages, people behaving strangely or someone using strange communications.
- Observe warning signs. Signs might include unusual or violent communications, substance abuse, expressed anger or intent to cause harm. These warning signs may increase over time.
- Have an exit plan. Identify exits and areas to hide wherever you go, including work, school, and special events.
- Learn lifesaving skills. Take trainings such as “You Are the Help Until Help Arrives” and first aid to assist the wounded before help arrives.

Survive DURING: Run, Hide, Fight

- Run to Safety — Seek safety. Getting away from the attacker is the top priority.
- Leave your belongings behind and get away.
- Call 9-1-1 when you are safe and describe the attacker, location and weapons.
- Cover and Hide if you can't evacuate. Find a place to hide out of view of the attacker and put a solid barrier between yourself and the threat if possible.
- Lock and block doors, close blinds and turn off lights.
- Keep silent.

Defend, Disrupt, Fight:

- Fight only as a last resort. When you can't run or cover, attempt to disrupt the attack or disable the attacker.
- Be aggressive and commit to your actions.
- Recruit others to ambush the attacker with makeshift weapons such as chairs, fire extinguishers, scissors, books, etc.
- Be prepared to cause severe or lethal injury to the attacker.

Help the Wounded:

- Take care of yourself first and then, if you are able, help the wounded get to safety and provide immediate care. Call 9-1-1 when it is safe for you to do so.

Be Safe AFTER - When Law Enforcement Arrives:

- Remain calm and follow instructions. Keep hands visible and empty.
- Report to designated areas to provide information and get help.
- Follow law enforcement's instructions and evacuate in the direction they tell you to go. Listen to law enforcement for information about the situation. Share updates as you can with family and friends.



Public Services



What You Should Know About Street Sweeping in Highland

1) Help us to serve you better by removing all possible obstacles from the street on your scheduled day. Although the City of Highland does not enforce street sweeping parking restrictions, we appreciate your assistance in keeping the streets clear on your scheduled day.

Parked vehicles cause the operator to swing wide to miss them. Moving vehicles off a street scheduled for sweeping allows crews to thoroughly clean the street from curb-to-curb. One parked car equals nearly three car lengths of space that can't be swept because the street sweeping equipment must leave room to avoid it. This can result in debris building up on the roadway and entering the storm drain which can cause flooding during heavy rains and contribute to water pollution.

2) In residential areas the street sweeper can sweep **anytime** from *6am to 6pm*, the day after your solid waste collection day.

3) If solid waste collection is delayed one day due to a holiday, the street sweeper will be delayed one day as well.

4) Since sweeping is done as close to the curb as possible, things like overhanging tree branches, basketball hoops, solid waste collection carts and especially parked vehicles cause the operator to swing wide to miss them. When this happens, debris is left on the street and the quality of the sweeping is reduced.

5) Street sweeping also serves as one of our Best Management Practices (BMP) to control and improve water quality.

For more information or to report a street sweeping complaint please contact the Public Services Division at (909) 864-8732, extension 271.

SENIORS WANTED!



Are you a Highland resident and sixty (60) years of age or older? If so, then you are eligible to receive a senior discount on trash service. Senior citizen rates are equivalent to a twenty percent (20%) discount to the individuals who meet the following criteria:

- A. Over sixty (60) years of age
 - B. Residing as head of household
 - C. Single Family residence only
- Note: proof of items a-c is required**

For more information on the senior discount please contact Burrtec Waste Industries, Inc. at (909) 889-1969. For general information regarding solid waste and/or recycling services in the City of Highland, please contact Public Services Division at (909) 864-8732, extension 271.

Refuse Collection Information — Containers must be placed at the curb for service by 5:30am the day of collection to ensure service. Between collection days residents are encouraged to store carts on your property, either in garages or behind fences.



Join us Monday, July 4, 2022 for
Highland's Annual Fourth of July Parade!

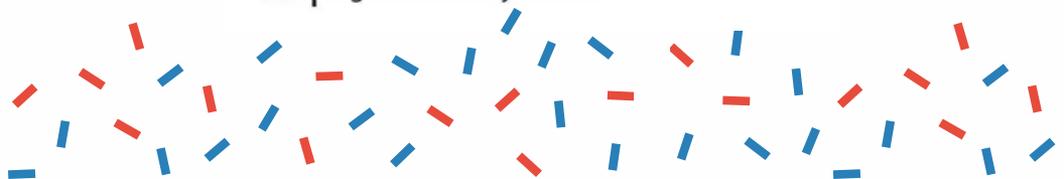
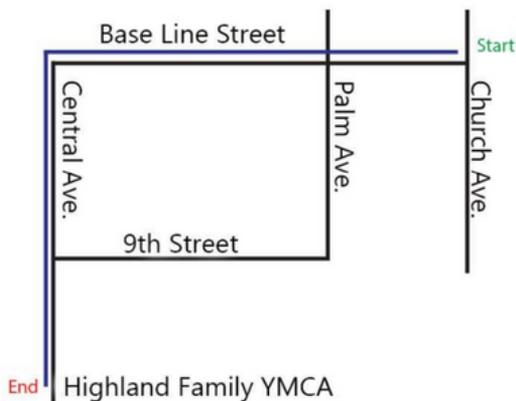
4th of July Parade

Parade Begins @ 9:00 AM

INFO: 909-864-6861 ext. 203



Parade Route



ENTRY# (Office Use Only)

4th of July Parade



MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022

7:30 AM Participant Check-in. Check-in and Lineup is at Church Avenue and Norwood Street (south of Base Line, enter Church Avenue from Fifth Street) **All participants must be in place no later than 8:30am**

9:00 AM Parade Starts!

Parade Route West on Base Line (north side of street) from Palm Avenue, South on Central Avenue, then east on Hibiscus Street ending at the Highland Family YMCA.

REGISTRATION FORM

Organization/Business/Individual: _____

Name of Entry: _____

Type of Entry: Car Truck Truck w/Trailer Equestrian* Band Walking Group

Other: _____

TOTAL number of: Participants _____ Vehicles _____

Brief description of parade entry: _____

***All Equestrian Entries MUST provide their own clean up team. (Verification Required)**

(Office Use Only) Date _____ Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Contact person: _____

Phone#: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

NO ENTRY FEE.

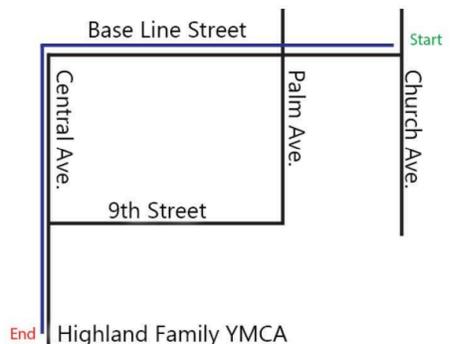
Please return completed application to the City of Highland by 5pm on Thursday, June 23, 2022.

Submit Forms:

- In person or by mail to: City of Highland - 27215 Base Line, Highland, CA 92346
- Fax: 909-862-3180
- Email: dmoreno@cityofhighland.org

RELEASE/WAIVER OF LIABILITY form must be completed by ALL applicants prior to participating in the 4th of July Parade.

Parade Route



Information: Volunteer Services: 909-864-6861 ext. 203 or dmoreno@cityofhighland.org



WASH YOUR CAR THE **ECO-FRIENDLY** WAY!

When possible, wash in a professional car wash.

- 1 **Locate** the nearest storm drain and ensure that wash water does not flow into it.



- 2 **Wash** in a contained area or on grass*, gravel or other permeable surface. Dispose of excess soapy water into the sanitary sewer (*ie. sink or toilet*) or onto grass.

- 3 **Use** eco-friendly cleaning products (*non-toxic, phosphate free or biodegradable*). Use as little soap as possible and wipe brake dust off tires with a rag before washing.

- 4 **Conserve** water by using a high pressure hose and turn off the water when not in use.

*Some local ordinances may not allow a car to be parked on the front lawn. Check with your City's Building and Code department if you are unsure.

How Does **Eco Car Washing** Help Local Waterways?

When excess wash water travels through the street it has the potential to pick up oil, grease and other chemicals along the way before it ends up in the curb, gutter and the storm drain system. **This contaminated water then travels to our creeks and the Santa Ana River making it unsafe for people and wildlife.**



To report illegal dumping, call **(877) WASTE18** or visit **sbcountystormwater.org**
To find a Hazardous Waste Facility, call **(800) OILY CAT**

Big Bear • Chino • Chino Hills • Colton • Fontana • Grand Terrace • Highland • Loma Linda • Montclair • Ontario • Rancho Cucamonga
Redlands • Rialto • San Bernardino • San Bernardino County • San Bernardino County Flood Control District • Upland • Yucaipa

 Printed on 55% Recycled, 30% Post Consumer Waste Paper

PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET



WHY SHOULD I PICK UP?

-  Dog waste can infect children and adults with disease-causing bacteria and parasites.
-  Your dog can get infected from the waste of other dogs.
-  Dog waste can affect the quality of our rivers and oceans and make the water unsafe for swimming, drinking, or fishing.



BAG IT AND TRASH IT! — Steps and Tips —

- Step 1:** Keep a supply of bags tied to your dog leash.
- Step 2:** Bag the poop and tie the bag.
- Step 3:** Dispose of the tied bag properly by throwing it into a trash can.



Scan code for a **FREE CANISTER**
freedoggiebags.com

Big Bear • Chino • Chino Hills • Colton • Fontana • Grand Terrace • Highland • Loma Linda • Montclair • Ontario • Rancho Cucamonga • Redlands • Rialto • San Bernardino • San Bernardino County • San Bernardino County Flood Control District • Upland • Yucaipa



HAVE YOU PLAYED SPOT'S NEW TRASH MATCH-UP GAME?

Find out how much you know about sorting waste in San Bernardino County.



Step 1: Scan QR code or visit spot.sbcountystormwater.org

Step 2: Drag a trash item to a bin to start the game

Step 3: Make an account to claim your score on the leaderboard.

**available for mobile phones and desktops*



For a list of collection centers near you, visit TooToxicToTrash.com
Must be a San Bernardino County resident to visit centers.

PROTECT YOUR COMMUNITY KEEP TRASH OUT OF OUR STREETS



Step 1

Gather your used masks, gloves, and wipes

Step 2

Place the used items in a bag

Step 3

Tie or seal the bag and dispose into a trashcan



Calendar of Events

April 28, 2022

9am— Arbor Day Tree Planting, Cunningham Park, 7400 Block Cunningham

April 30, 2022

10am to 2pm — National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, Highland Police Station, 26985 Base Line

May 3, 2022

6pm — Planning Commission Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

May 7, 2022

9am to 11am — Highland Improvement Team Cleanup Community Day of Service, Highland Community Park. 7793 Central Avenue

May 9, 2022

4pm to 5pm — Blood Drive Committee meeting, Highland City Hall, Conference Room C

May 10, 2022

4:30pm—Finance/Personnel Subcommittee Meeting, Upright Conference Room
6pm — City Council Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

May 11, 2022

5pm — Historic and Cultural Preservation Board Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

May 12, 2022

6pm — Community Trails Committee Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

May 17, 2022

6pm — Planning Commission Meeting, Donahue Council Chambers

May 23, 2022

12pm to 5pm—Blood Drive, Highland Police Station, 26985 Base Line



Find us on:
facebook

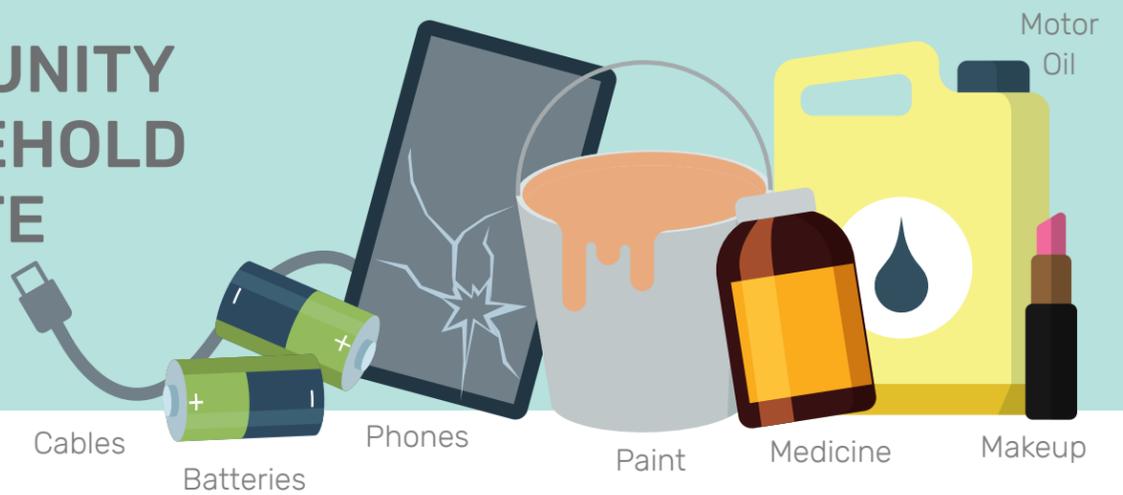
THE CITY OF HIGHLAND FACEBOOK PAGE

The City of Highland has a new and improved Facebook page that we would like for you all to follow us on. This is where you will find important information regarding road closures and construction projects that may affect your travel time, scheduled power outages, emergencies, events such as: Community Blood Drives, Highland Improvement Team projects, Compost Give-A-Way, Used Oil Filter Exchange & Recycling Events and much more. Please "Like" City of Highland - City Hall (<https://www.facebook.com/cityofhighland.cityhall>) as the official page.

DO NOT DISPOSE OF THESE

HAZARDOUS ITEMS IN YOUR TRASH

KEEP YOUR COMMUNITY
SAFE FROM HOUSEHOLD
HAZARDOUS WASTE



1

Scan to learn what items are HHW and to find the nearest HHW facility



2

Safely contain HHW in container

Limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds in containers no larger than 5 gallons.



3

Place in trunk or rear of vehicle and take to your nearest HHW facility



*Facilities open to San Bernardino County residents only.
Proof of residency required. Business waste not accepted.*

Scan the QR code or find the nearest HHW facility at
tootoxictotrash.org

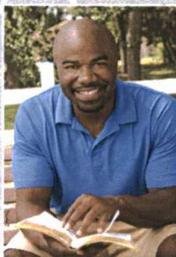


SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY STORMWATER PROGRAM
**WHERE WATER
MEETS COMMUNITY**



We
want
you!

Join the
Friends
of the
Highland
Library!



The Friends of the Highland Library would like to have YOU as a Friend!

Help us to continue supporting the
Highland Library and our community!

What can you do to help?

- Attend monthly Friends meetings to share ideas and plan events.
- Share your time to help organize our used book store.
- Lend a hand with fundraising to support library programs and services that benefit our community.
- Provide funding for the purchase of new books and other resources for adults, teens and children.
- Sponsor the annual library Summer Reading Program to encourage literacy and provide educational entertainment.

Why become a member?

- Have fun and share ideas and talents to help the Friends raise funds and awareness of the library.
- Make new friends and enrich our community through service.
- Support the library in its mission to provide resources and learning opportunities for all ages.



Highland Sam J. Racadio Library and ELC
7863 Central Avenue, Highland, CA 92346
(909) 798-8490



Economic Development

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

MICROBUSINESS

COVID-19 RELIEF GRANT

Award Amount: \$2,500



What is the San Bernardino County Microbusiness COVID-19 Relief Grant Program?

The San Bernardino County Microbusiness COVID Relief Grant is designed to assist businesses that have experienced economic barriers due to the effects of the global pandemic.



What are the Grant requirements?

- Businesses & Non-Profits located within the San Bernardino County boundaries
- 5 or less full-time employees
- Gross Revenues of less than \$50,000 in 2019 Tax Year or 2020 Tax Year
- Did not receive the California Relief Grant issued by Lendistry

SOURCE: GUIDELINES SET BY THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA



How can I use the funds?

- Renewal of local permits to operate (i.e. sidewalk vendor, etc.)
- Payment of business debt accrued during pandemic.
- The purchase of new certified equipment.



How do I apply and is there a deadline?

Applications open on 2/28/2022 and will remain open until funds are exhausted.

Go to:

www.selectsbcounty.com/major-initiatives/microbusiness-covid-19-relief-grant



Who do I contact with questions?

For questions regarding your grant application, scan the below:



For general information please contact:

grants@eda.sbcounty.gov
phone: 909-387-3286

For more information please visit our website at:

www.selectsbcounty.gov



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Curt Hagman
Chairman, Fourth District

Joe Baca, Jr.
Fifth District

Leonard X. Hernandez
Chief Executive Officer



Thank you to our Strategic Partners





MEDIA CONTACT

Denise Campos
Office of Media and Public Information
(213) 244-2442
dcampos@socalgas.com

NEWS RELEASE

SoCalGas Champions Restaurant Recovery with Additional \$525,000 in Support for the Restaurants Care Resilience Fund

Grants will support equipment upgrades, employee retention, and deferred maintenance, for local-owned restaurants

LOS ANGELES – April 11, 2022 – SoCalGas today announced a second \$525,000 donation to the California Restaurant Foundation's (CRF) Restaurants Care Resilience Fund. Last year, SoCalGas co-founded the Fund to help small businesses recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic and was also a leading donor, committing \$525,000 in 2021. Qualifying restaurants throughout SoCalGas' service area are encouraged to apply for a \$3,000 grant starting April 15th. These grants aim to support equipment upgrades, employee retention, and deferred maintenance, allowing small restaurants to recover after nearly two years of incurring debt, losses, and shouldering rising costs.

The [application](#) period closes on April 30.

"Restaurants and the families and employees that run them showed incredible resilience and strength as they adapted their businesses to serve all of us during the pandemic," said David Barrett, vice president and general counsel at SoCalGas and California Restaurant Foundation board member. "Last year's grants provided essential support to local restaurants as they struggled to keep their doors open. This year, grant funds will provide support for kitchens or crews, while overall supporting restaurant resiliency."

"We are honored that SoCalGas has returned as a partner for this year's Resilience Fund, and extremely grateful they identified the program as being worthy of one of their largest charitable donations planned for this year," said Alycia Harshfield, Executive Director of California Restaurant Foundation. "SoCalGas' generous contribution will help independent restaurant owners across central and southern California invest in their people, their equipment and ultimately, the long-term health and success of their business."

This year, the Restaurants Care Resilience Fund will award nearly \$1.5 million in grants to small businesses in 2022. Last year, 318 restaurants statewide received grants including Rajas con Crema, in

the City of Maywood, run by wife-and-husband team Alicia and Javier Solorzano, who opened their dream Mexican restaurant after more than 16 years in the catering business. The dishes are inspired by Alicia's travels, recipes from friends, and family, while adding her own touch.

"We are extremely thankful to the California Restaurant Fund and SoCalGas for the grant, and for creating this fund to help local restaurants," said Javier Solorzano, owner of Rajas con Crema. "Our concern was to survive, and the grant helped us give back to our community in a time of need. We were able to donate warm meals to local families while paying for our employee's time. I highly encourage other restaurants to apply for this grant, it can make all the difference."

"We are grateful to SoCalGas for their ongoing commitment to community and small businesses through this grant opportunity and many other efforts, including their food distributions in the City of Maywood and Southeast Los Angeles during the pandemic," said Maywood Mayor Heber Marquez.

Another grant recipient from 2021, Natalia Pereira of Woodspoon, a Brazilian restaurant in downtown Los Angeles said, "The Resilience Fund is such a special program on so many levels-the people and the program are wonderful, and this initiative has such an incredible impact on the restaurant community throughout the region!" Woodspoon recently received the MICHELIN Bib Gourmand award that recognizes restaurants with "value for money."

The Zagat-rated Shiro Restaurant in South Pasadena has been serving French food over 34 years and received a grant award last year. According to Shiro owner Irene Yokoi, "There are no words to express our gratitude for receiving your funds during our turmoil to cope with Covid-19 closures. It has helped us great deal especially for covering the cost of payroll."

In addition to providing financial support to restaurants, SoCalGas offers [programs](#) and services for selecting energy-efficient equipment for any commercial customer. Restaurant owners can schedule a "try before you buy" equipment demo to test-drive gas cooking equipment before making a purchase, sign up for an energy survey by a utility expert, and receive information on rebates and incentives on qualified gas cooking equipment, water heating, heat recovery products and installation of eligible energy-efficient upgrades.

Restaurants Care Resilience Fund applications will be open from April 15-30, 2022 and can be found at www.restaurantscare.org/resilience. Grants will be available to all California-based restaurant owners with less than three units and less than \$3 million in revenue. Priority will be given to restaurants owned by women and people of color. Last year, the Resilience Fund awarded 318 grants to independent restaurant owners, 65 percent of which were women-owned and 83 percent person of color-owned.

SoCalGas' partnership with the California Restaurant Fund is part of the company's [ASPIRE 2045](#) sustainability goals, which includes a commitment to invest \$50 million to drive positive change in diverse and underserved communities over the next five years. In addition to supporting the Restaurant Care Resilience Fund, in 2021, SoCalGas contributed \$9.6 million in total community investment, \$4.8 million to support health & human services, and \$2.3 million to education causes. In 2021, SoCalGas' Fueling Our Communities program provided over 9,800 free meals, over 2,600 grocery bags, and 2,520 restaurant gift cards totaling \$60,400 in support of 25 local restaurants.

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About SoCalGas

Headquartered in Los Angeles, [SoCalGas®](#) is the [largest gas distribution utility](#) in the United States. SoCalGas delivers affordable, reliable, and increasingly renewable gas service to 21.8 million consumers across [24,000 square miles](#) of Central and Southern California. Gas delivered through the company's pipelines will continue to play a key role in California's clean energy transition—providing electric grid reliability and supporting wind and solar energy deployment.

SoCalGas' mission is to build the [cleanest, safest and most innovative energy company in America](#). In support of that mission, SoCalGas is committed to the goal of achieving [net-zero greenhouse gas emissions](#) in its operations and delivery of energy by 2045 and to replacing 20 percent of its traditional natural gas supply to core customers with renewable natural gas (RNG) by 2030. Renewable natural gas is made from waste created by dairy farms, landfills, and wastewater treatment plants. SoCalGas is also committed to investing in its gas delivery infrastructure while keeping bills affordable for customers. SoCalGas is a subsidiary of [Sempra](#) (NYSE: SRE), an energy services holding company based in San Diego.

For more information visit socalgas.com/newsroom or connect with SoCalGas on [Twitter](#) (@SoCalGas), [Instagram](#) (@SoCalGas) and [Facebook](#).

About the California Restaurant Foundation (CRF):

California is home to more than 90,000 eating and drinking places that ring up more than \$72 billion in sales and employ more than 1.6 million workers, making restaurants an indisputable driving force in the state's economy. The California Restaurant Foundation is a non-profit that empowers and invests in California's restaurant workforce. Founded in 1981, CRF supports the restaurant community through relief grants for restaurant workers facing a hardship, job and life skills training for 13,500 high school students each year, and scholarships. For more information visit www.calrestfoundation.org.