

OUR TOWN

January 2019



Newsletter OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE

Complete Streets Plan – Safe Routes to School

The City, in partnership with the Santa Cruz Health Services Agency and Ecology Action, is developing a Schools Complete Streets Plan. This plan will assess issues and identify recommendations that improve school-based transportation and guides future transportation developments. The City is working to create safe walking and biking conditions for 15 Watsonville schools. This study will help uncover the biggest infrastructure and safety needs at each school site, as well as prioritize a list of solutions with estimated costs for each project. This plan is funded by a grant from the California Department of Transportation and is scheduled to be finalized in 2020.

Additionally, an interactive Bike Smart, Walk Smart program is being implemented during the 2018/19 school year through support from Measure D funding. This youth bicycle and pedestrian training program is teaching 12 elementary school classes at 2 local schools the rules of the road and the benefits of walking and biking. Students are developing bike safety skills and learning how to cross intersections by practicing stopping, looking both ways, and crossing the street independently and safely.

For more information call Murray Fontes, Principal Engineer 768-3117.



Christmas Trees After the Holidays

After the holidays, your tree is looking more brown than green; and pine needles are piling up on the floor every time you touch it. This means that your tree is drying out and it is time to move it out of your home.

While you may want to keep the festive spirit alive by leaving your tree up, you are placing your family and your home in danger. All trees can burn but dry ones can go up in flames a lot faster. The longer the tree sits after the holidays, the drier it gets, and the drier it gets, the bigger a fire hazard it becomes. If you bought your tree right after Thanksgiving, then you should be disposing of your tree before the New Year.

To dispose of your tree, take advantage of the City's free curbside pick-up program from January 7th through 11th. Place your tree on the curb next to your garbage bin on your regularly scheduled garbage pick up day.

Make sure to remove the stand, tinsel, light strands, and ornaments. Trees are also accepted at the City's Waste and Recycling Drop Off Center at 320 Harvest Drive with disposal fees waived until the end of January. You can also drop off your tree at Watsonville Fire Station 2 at 372 Airport Boulevard.

If you have any question you may call our fire prevention office at 768-3200.

Questions or comments contact: Tamara Vides, Editor at 768-3034

KEEPING UP WITH
WATSONVILLE

NEWS



World Wetlands Day 2019

**2.2.2019
9:30 - 12
Ramsay Park**



Save the Date for World Wetlands Day

Volunteer at Ramsay Park for restoration and tree planting, a project funded by Cal Fire and California Climate Investments in partnership with Watsonville Wetlands Watch. **For questions call Rachel Kippen at 768-3165**



Engineers Week February 17 - 23

Celebrate Engineers Week by participating in the 16th Annual Egg Drop on Thursday, February 21, 2019. Registration begins at 4:00pm in the alley between the Civic Plaza Building and the Post Office on Main Street. **For more information call 768-3117.**