



CITY OF RANCHO CUCAMONGA

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**BUILDING AND SAFETY
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NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

Building and Safety Department.....	(909) 477-2710
Code Enforcement.....	(909) 477-2712
Fire Construction Services.....	(909) 477-2713
Business License Division.....	(909) 477-2700
Engineering Department.....	(909) 477-2740
Planning Department.....	(909) 477-2750
Rancho Cucamonga Fire District.....	(909) 477-2770
Rancho Cucamonga Police.....	(909) 477-2800
Graffiti Hotline.....	(909) 481-7999
West Valley Vector Control District.....	(909) 635-0307
Cucamonga Valley Water District.....	(909) 987-2591



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to **Ray Slater, Building Inspector**, for successfully completing and passing his certification test as an International Code Council Plans Examiner! This is a major accomplishment in his field of expertise, and he is now one of the few Building Inspectors who hold all four inspection and plans examiner certifications.



RANCHO CUCAMONGA CELEBRATES 1-YEAR OF HEALTHY RC

For over a year, the City of Rancho Cucamonga has been working to make it easier for residents make choices that improve health and well being, develop active as well as bodies, and sustain our beautiful environment. For the **Mind**, the Library continues it's "Fit for Life program"; which provides health and wellness programs; while Community Services helps the **Body** by adding walking and running clubs to its fitness outreach efforts; and Public Works Services helps the **Earth** by reducing diesel use, implementing alternative energy technology, reducing energy demands, and implementing water conservation recycled water programs. Congratulations Healthy RC for continuing to make the City of Rancho Cucamonga a great place to live, work, and play. For more information on Healthy RC log onto www.healthyrc.info



VOLUME VIII

SUMMER 2009

IN THIS ISSUE

Summer Safety.....	2
Water Conservation....	3
Wild land Fire Prevention.....	4
Fire Construction Services.....	4
SCE Safety Message..	4
Reminders.....	5
Water Shut Off.....	6
Impact Fees.....	6
Energy Codes.....	6
Purple Ribbon.....	7
Numbers at a Glance...	8
Employee Spotlight....	8
Healthy RC.....	8

Holidays

Monday, Sept. 7th
(Labor Day)

****REMINDER****

City Hall is closed every
Friday

Building Inspection & Code
Enforcement services are
available on Fridays

The Buzz in Building

"Dedicated to public safety and the quality of life by fostering strong relationships with residents, construction industry and the business community"

MESSAGE FROM THE BUILDING & SAFETY OFFICIAL

Trang Huynh, P.E., C.B.O.



ECONOMIC STIMULUS PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED BY THE CITY

The following is a summary of the economic stimulus measures that the City has taken action, as well as those that are in the process of being developed.

1. Adoption of Ordinance 802 (Residential Economic Stimulus Measures) - This ordinance became effective in February 2009 and was developed in partnership with the Building Industry Association (BIA). The ordinance allowed:

Longer Permit and Plan Check Time Extensions: Building and grading permits can receive a one time extension of up to two years.

Deferral of Development Impact Fees (Drainage, Transportation, Park and Beautification Fees): These fees (DIFs) can be deferred to the final inspection, or issuance of a certificate of occupancy, close of escrow, or up to one year from the date of the initial permit; whichever occurs first.

2. Policy Change for Collection of Drainage Fee - The City has modified its policy on a permanent basis to collect drainage fees at the time of building permit issuance instead of the time of map recordation.

3. Transportation Fees - The City did not increase the Transportation Fee in 2008 due to the current market conditions.

4. Federal Stimulus Money Applications - Any money received from the Federal government will assist the City in providing services and improvements to benefit the community and create additional jobs and economic activity. The City has applied to several programs such as: Capital improvement projects, CDBG grants, energy efficiency, COPS programs, Justice Assistance programs, Federal Neighborhood Stabilization programs.

5. Capital Improvement Program - The City and the Redevelopment Agency are implementing more than \$100,000,000 of capital improvement programs.

6. Foreclosure Reduction Through First Time Homebuyer Program - The City's Redevelopment Agency has offered a down payment assistance program to first time homebuyers for many years.

7. Additional Funding Allocated to the Redevelopment Agency's First Time Homebuyer Program - The Redevelopment Agency Board has recently appropriated an additional \$1.66 million to the Agency's First Time Home buyer Program.

If you need additional information about the above programs, please contact Trang Huynh at **(909) 477-2710 ext. 4201**.

Courtesy of Linda Daniels, Acting Deputy City Manager

SUMMER SAFETY REMINDERS....



WATER ALERT

With the temperatures rising, more children will keep themselves busy by playing in water activities like swimming pools, lakes, and even at the beach, but be aware of potential water dangers! No matter if the water is two inches or five feet deep, it only takes a second for a child to drown. The City of Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District is reminding parents and adults to be water wise and never leave your child alone in or around water. Make sure that you are actively supervising and watching your child while in the water, and try to avoid any unnecessary distractions. If you have to walk away from your child for any length of time, be sure to have your child exit the water until you return.

For more information on water safety, contact Kelley Donaldson, Public Education Specialist for the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District at **(909) 477-2770 ext. 3008**



RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV) PARKING

Did you realize that parking your RV on the street could be a safety hazard? When RV's are parked on the street, they can obscure the sight of vehicles from children playing or other oncoming cars. Additionally, RV's that are parked on the street create a shield for potential burglars or perpetrators who might be looking at violating a house. To avoid accidents or potential problems, please remember that RV parking must be in a secured and approved area, and that parking on the drive way is permitted for no more than 48 hours, but this is only to load, unload, and/or clean your vehicle; before and after your trip.

For more information on the restrictions and safe practices of RV parking, contact Code Enforcement at **(909) 477-2712**.



PORTABLE BASKETBALL HOOPS

We understand that children like to play basketball in the street, but we are asking residents to be mindful of the dangers that come with leaving your basketball hoop in the street. Since the basket can be obtrusive to pedestrians, motorists, and children at play, it is strongly recommended that portable basketball hoops remain on private property whenever possible and off of public sidewalks and roadways.

For further information on portable basketball hoops, contact Code Enforcement at **(909) 477-2712**.



August is "Purple Ribbon Month"

Not even for a Minute...



Never

Leave A Child In A Car...

In memory of Kaitlyn Marie Russell and all the children that have lost their lives to preventable injuries in and around cars

"Kaitlyn's Law"

makes it a citable offense to leave a child 6 years of age or younger unattended in a motor vehicle without the supervision of someone at least 12 years of age.

Educational/Awareness Campaign of

4 R Kids Sake™
www.4rkidssake.org



WATER SHUT-OFF FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

We always hear about earthquake preparedness, but what about water preparedness? Do you know how to turn off your water in the event of an emergency? You might ask yourself why should you be concerned about turning off the water; when you do that everyday? But in this event we're not concerned about the faucet, but the main water shut off valve. Do you know where it's located on your property? Every home, apartment, condo, or business has a water shut-off, and it's too important to waste precious time searching for the valve. Now is the time to get yourself familiar with how to prevent unnecessary water damage. Shutoff valves should not be confused with the water meter. In most locations, the valve is in front of the house, while for condos or apartments location is a little more tricky, but most often than not you can find it on the side of the building.



Just like when you practice in the event of an earthquake, you should also practice shutting off your water. It's quick and easy. Simply turn the valve then go inside and try turning on a faucet. If no water comes out, you've done it properly. Don't test using the toilet as it has a full tank of water and would give you a false result. Once you have a successful trial, mark the valve with a permanent and water proof tag for clear identification for your family.

For more information, contact the Building and Safety Inspection Division at **(909) 477-2710 x4203**

DEFERRAL OF DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEE PROGRAM

In February 2009, the City adopted Housing Stimulus Ordinance Number 802 allowing the deferral of the development impact fees for up to one year. In addition plan check extensions were granted for up to two additional years. We are currently at the sixth month of the program and so far it has been well received. Currently we have received sixty-two plan checks that have been extended. On August 5, 2009 the City Council approved the extension of the time period for filing the application to request the deferral of the development impact fee to February 6, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding the extension request for plan check or permits, you can contact Building and Safety at **(909) 477-2710 x4224** and for Impact Fee related matters, contact Engineering Services Department at **(909) 477-4010 x4020**.



NEW EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE 2008 ENERGY CODES

The 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards were adopted by the Energy Commission on April 23, 2008; with an effective date of August 1, 2008. The Energy commission however has experienced some delays in completing the public domain compliance software, so the new effective date for the 2008 Building Energy Efficiency Standards (Title 24, Parts 1 & 6) has been changed to **January 1, 2010**. The requirement for when the 2008 standards is dependent on when the application for the building permit is submitted. If submitted after January 1, 2010, the new 2008 standards must be met.

WATER CONSERVATION IN LANDSCAPING

Who doesn't like a yard with a lot of grass and fifteen foot palms trees? After all this is what is expected when you live in a coastal state. But what happens when we are faced with the reality of a water shortage that jeopardizes the very essence of living along the coast? How can we have this ideal yard without sacrificing nice plants? The reality is, conservation is no longer an option, but a necessity!

In most cases, landscape irrigation represents the largest portion of your water use. Maintaining a lush and beautiful yard in our hot dry climate requires large amounts of water, and this can be costly to both your wallet and to the state's water table. There are several common factors that contribute to water misuse; inefficient irrigation systems, improperly maintained systems, simply overwatering, and water runoff. Now more than ever, we have to be more responsible to ensure we don't run short of water. You can help by doing the following:

- Landscape your yard with plants that are native to California and require very little water. Visit www.bewaterwise.com for an extensive list of plants that are considered drought tolerant;
- Incorporate the use of drip irrigation systems. Improper adjustment of sprinklers is a main cause of water abuse;
- Make sure to limit the amount of time you water your lawns and avoid watering the sidewalk. Check and adjust your sprinkler heads;
- During the summer months, set your sprinklers to water in the early morning to avoid evaporation and windy conditions;
- Limit or replace those "water thirsty" plants with native plant material, decorative rock or bark.



Another way to conserve water, and still maintain a beautiful lawn is by replacing your existing grass with synthetic turf. Synthetic turf is an approved material for the city of Rancho Cucamonga, however there are several conditions when selecting and installing (synthetic) turf:

- Synthetic turf should consist of "lifelike" individual blades of grass that emulate real grass in look and color and have a minimum pile height of 1-3/4 inches;
- Install a proper drainage system underneath the turf to prevent excess runoff or pooling water;
- The use of indoor or outdoor plastic or nylon carpeting as a replacement for synthetic turf or natural turf is PROHIBITED;
- Synthetic turf shall be installed and maintained to effectively simulate the appearance of a well-maintained lawn;
- Synthetic turf shall be installed in combination with only natural plant material (ie: trees, shrubs, and groundcover) to enhance the overall landscaping design.

For more information on landscape alternatives, attend a class offered through Cucamonga Valley Water District or visit www.ccwwater.com. And for information on synthetic turf, contact the Planning Department at **(909) 477-4300**.



WILDLAND FIRE PREVENTION ENFORCEMENT

The Building and Safety's Fire Construction Services is in charge of enforcing the State Fire Marshal's regulations for the areas that are designated "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone" (VHFHSZ) in Rancho Cucamonga. Since the boundaries of this zone have been extended, designers and homeowners are encouraged to contact Fire Construction Services before the design of any project located north of the 210 freeway. This will help owners and designers to know if they will be constructing in VHFHSZ zoned areas. To help minimize the loss of property, there are strict building regulations that will be enforced regarding the ignition resistance of exterior building materials and ember intrusion protection of exterior openings.

For more information on Wild Land Fire Prevention, contact Moises Eskenazi, Senior Fire Plans Examiner at **(909) 477-2710 ext. 4209**.

PLAN CHECK FIRE PROTECTION & LIFE SAFETY SYSTEMS

Fire Construction Services strongly encourages pre-plan check submittal meetings for complicated or technical fire protection and life safety systems to ensure code compliance. To arrange for an appointment, contact John Thomas, Plan Check and Inspection Manager at **(909) 477-2710 ext. 4206**.

HOW TO OBTAIN FIRE STANDARDS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION

Fire Construction Services performs plan check, permit services and inspection services for the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District (RCFPD) for new construction. Standards for construction and permitted uses regulated by the Fire Code and RCFPD Ordinance 46 are available online at www.ci.rancho-cucamonga.ca.us; by using the "quick links" you can select Fire Department and then choose Fire Safety Division & Fire Construction Services. There are several standards listed such as, identification of access doors, water supply, fire lane, knox box, and more. The Fire District is currently working on revising all of the standards, however if you have any questions you can contact John Thomas, Plan Check and Inspection Manager, at **(909) 477-2710 ext. 4206**.

A SAFETY MESSAGE FROM SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON

Electricity follows the easiest path to ground, through metal, water, even your body. A mild shock makes your muscles contract and you will fall. Remember, a strong shock can cause severe burns and even death! This is why when you're working outside, always remember the following:

-  Maintain at least 10 feet of clearance around power lines, when using pruners, ladders, harvesters, dump trucks and other tools and equipment;
-  Assume all overhead lines are energized and dangerous; including service drops that run from utility poles to buildings.

For more information about power line safety, contact Southern California Edison or logon to www.sce.com/safety.



JUST A REMINDER...

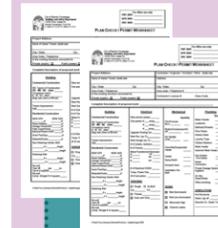


YARD SALES

The City allows residents to conduct yard sales, but they are restricted to the following:

-  Yard sales are for temporary sale of household items;
-  Yard sales are limited to no more than two consecutive days every six months;
-  Yard sales may be conducted between the hours of 7am—6pm;
-  Yard sale signs are not to be posted on utility poles or in the public right-of-way

For more information on yard sales within the City of Rancho Cucamonga, contact Code Enforcement at **(909) 477-2712**.



BUILDING & SAFETY UPDATED FORMS AND HANDOUTS

Before beginning on a project or quoting a bid on a project, be sure to visit our website at http://www.ci.rancho-cucamonga.ca.us/dept_bldg_safety.htm for our most recent and updated forms and handouts.

We have been experiencing a large number of customers who begin their projects based on outdated information. As we continue to update our webpage, we are continuing to upload revised handouts and forms indicating the current requirements and specifications.

If you are unable to access any forms online, please stop by our office or contact the Building and Safety Department at **(909) 477-2710 x4224** and one of our Public Service Technicians will be happy to help you.

ABANDONED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY ORDINANCE PROGRESS



On March 4, 2009 the City Council approved Ordinance 810, amending Title 8 of the Municipal Code, adopting regulations regarding the maintenance and security of vacant and abandoned residential, commercial and industrial properties throughout the City. As of July 22, 2009, the City has a total of 160 vacant or abandoned properties that they have completed abatement activities ranging from green lawn spray to pool pumping to weed abatement. For more information contact Code Enforcement at **(909) 477-2712**.

INOPERABLE VEHICLES IN THE PUBLIC VIEW

When reporting inoperable vehicles, residents are reminded that cars parked on the street should be reported to the Police Department at **(909) 477-2800** or email at rcpd@cityofrc.com. Inoperable vehicles parked on private property can be reported to the Code Enforcement division at **(909) 477-2712**.