

Nevada City Newsletter



City Hall will be Closed the following day:

- May 25: Memorial Day

Mark Your Calendar:

- May 1: Summer Registration Begins
- May 2: Camp Fair
- May 10: Mother's Day
- May 30: Swimming Pool Opens
- June 13: Soap Box Derby
- June 21: Bicycle Classic & Father's Day



City Acts to Reduce Impacts from Departing Consolidated Fire District Personnel

Fire protection in Nevada City has been in the news so we wanted to provide the community with a clear picture of what the City is doing to balance the need to protect public safety while also providing the other services that make Nevada City a special place to live.

For more than 11 years, Fire Station 54 on Providence Mine Road in Nevada City has been co-staffed by the Consolidated Fire District and Nevada City. Each agency provided three firefighters to the City-built and equipped station; the City pays for three additional interns that complete staffing and facilitate the ability to deliver fire services cost-effectively. The station is one of seven stations in a Joint Operational Area (JOA) that includes Grass Valley, along with Nevada City and the Consolidated Fire District. By working together, the agencies maximize coverage area and improve response times.

Citing financial difficulties, the Consolidated Fire District decided to remove their three firefighters from Station 54 on April 19. This left the City with the challenge of how to operate a station with only half of the needed full-time personnel.

Because the City's budget is small and its revenue resources limited, the departure of these three Consolidated Fire District staff is a significant loss. The City estimates the annual cost to replace these firefighters is \$268,000. Absorbing this cost will require a 48% increase to the City's Fire Department budget.

While the City's finances do not allow for the City to fully make up for the withdrawal of Consolidated Fire District personnel without a new sustainable revenue source, there are several actions the City is taking now to address this loss:

- The City has applied for a federal grant to fund three temporary firefighter positions to replace the positions lost. Grant awards are expected to be announced this summer and would fund three posi-

tions for up to 24 months if awarded.

- Because most emergency calls for services are medical related incidents, the City is working with the Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital to locate an ambulance at Station 54 for the busiest 12 hours of each day in order to improve response times for the community.
- Rather than closing Station 54, the City will be holding an administrative position vacant temporarily and instead funding a 4th firefighter position. While there will be service level impacts at City Hall, this will allow the City to provide continuous uninterrupted service for two of the three 48-hour shifts at Station 54.
- The City will propose a ballot measure for the June 2016 ballot that, if approved, will provide the funding necessary to restore the station to full-time operation.

In the interim, it is necessary to implement a rotating brown-out of one of the City's three 48-hour shifts. The impact should be nominal to City residents because Station 54 has historically provided an average of one response call for service each day within the City limits (the station also provides an average of one response per day on behalf of Grass Valley as well as the Consolidated Fire District service territory). Since most calls for service require a single engine response, the response in most cases on the brown-out days will be provided by the Consolidated Fire Station 84 adjacent to the Nevada City limits on Coyote Street because the JOA dispatches the nearest engine to emergency incidents. Award of the grant and approval of the ballot measure will eliminate the rotating brown-outs and restore the station to full-time operation.

As the City moves forward during this transition period, we will continue to keep you updated on changes to delivery of fire services.

Changes at City Hall

Those of you who come into City Hall on a regular basis have been met by the friendly face of Brenda Peters. Brenda has worked with the City for 8 years, but is now moving on. She will be greatly missed. At this time, her position is not being

filled, but City staff are prepared to provide the best customer service possible. This will be a big challenge without Brenda's help.

It may be best to call or email in advance if you would like to meet with a specific staff member. Phone extensions

and email addresses are posted on the City's website: www.nevadacityca.gov/content/contact-staff



State Strengthens Water Conservation Mandate

In summer 2014, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order mandating various restrictions to achieve a statewide 20% reduction in water consumption. Mandatory water restrictions currently in effect include:

- Limiting outdoor irrigation to two days per week

- Eliminating run-off to adjacent property, roadways and parking lots

- Using a shut-off nozzle when washing a motor vehicle

- Not irrigating outside during and 48 hours after measurable precipitation

Because drought conditions persist, Governor Brown has recently revised this mandate to 25%. Please visit www.saveourwater.com for easy tips to reduce indoor and outdoor water use and save more water every day!

Parks & Recreation Department

Camp Fair

Meet Nevada City Camp instructors and well as over 20 other summer camp and activity providers at the 4th annual Summer Camp & Activities Fair. The Camp Fair will take place on May 2nd from 10a - 2p at the Nevada City Veteran's Building.

Summer Registration

Online registration for summer programs begins on May 1st. Monday evenings, May 4, 11 & 18, staff will be available at the swimming pool from 6p to 8p to accept your registrations and answer questions.

Swimming Pool Rehab

The City is in the process of searching for funding to make repairs to the shell of the swimming pool. The planned work will not affect the schedule for the 2015 season. Work is scheduled to begin after the 2016 swim season.

Special Events in Nevada City

Friday Artwalk

The First Friday of each month Commercial St. will be closed in the evenings.

Broad St. will be closed for the students of Deer Creek Elem. to **Be Excited About Reading**.

AMGEN Tour of CA

Monday, May 11th, Broad St. and other adjacent streets will be closed for the start of stage 2 of this bike race.

Soap Box Derby

Saturday, June 13th
Nimrod St. will be closed most of the day for this fun filled annual event.

BEAR Parade

Friday, May 15th
9:00a-10:30a

NC Bicycle Classic

Sunday, June 21st
Many downtown streets will

be closed most of the day for the 55th annual race.

Farmer's Market

Union St. will be closed on Saturday mornings from June through November.

