

CITY NEWS

MAY / JUNE 2021 FOLSOM NEWSLETTER



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City of Folsom Celebrates 75 Years

The City of Folsom is celebrating its 75th anniversary! The occasion marks a special opportunity to honor the past, celebrate the present, and look ahead to the future. The city is proud to celebrate Folsom's history, community, businesses, culture, public services, and vision.

YOU'RE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THE CELEBRATION

- Take a visual tour through the City of Folsom history map to see the evolution from a gold mining and railroad town to the vibrant city we enjoy today.
- Join your friends, neighbors, and community to create a photo mosaic commemorating the City of Folsom's 75th anniversary. The photos will be combined into one united image of the community.
- Download our free printable 75th anniversary scavenger hunt and explore Folsom's great outdoors.
- Pick up a free commemorative poster and pin at Folsom City Hall, 50 Natoma Street (while supplies last).
- Download 75th anniversary Zoom backgrounds and social media graphics.

Learn more at
www.folsom.ca.us/75years.



MAY IS BIKE MONTH

Bike Month is celebrated throughout the nation every May to highlight the benefits of bicycling and to encourage more people to give it a try. Those who live or work in the greater Sacramento region are encouraged to register to log your miles, whether you're riding for fun, fitness, or taking essential trips to work or shop; learn more at www.mayisbikemonth.com. May is a great time to explore and enjoy some of Folsom's 50+ miles of paved recreational trails. Visit www.folsom.ca.us to find trail maps and helpful tips for trail safety and etiquette.



FOLSOM POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFERS VACATION HOME CHECKS

As a free service to residents, Folsom Police Department volunteers will check your home while you are away on vacation. The service deters would-be robbers during the busy travel season and provides residents extra protection and peace of mind.

As often as once a day, a volunteer will walk the perimeter of the home, check doors and windows to make sure they are locked, and remove any papers or packages that are a tell-tale sign that the resident is not home.

When you submit a vacation check application, it also provides the Folsom Police Department with your contact information, should the need arise. Vacation check applications are available at www.folsom.ca.us/police or at the Folsom Police Department, 46 Natoma Street.

GALLERY AT 48 NATOMA

The Gallery at 48 Natoma is now open to the public for free, self-guided tours for individuals or groups from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. No appointment is required to visit during regular hours, but admission is permitted on a first-come, first-served basis. If gallery attendance reaches the maximum allowable capacity of 10 people, staff monitors will direct visitors to wait in line until they can be admitted. Additional self-guided tour hours are available with an advance reservation; tours are limited to a maximum of 10 people in a group. To make a reservation, email cabraham@folsom.ca.us or call 916-461-6601.



The gallery's current exhibit, "Carousel," features spectacular photography by Jim Berger of carousels from all over the world, and fantastic horse sculptures by Thelma White. A unique selection of carousel artifacts will also be on display. The exhibit continues through July 1.

The gallery is following current public health guidelines; all visitors and staff are required to wear a face covering while inside the building and maintain social distancing at

all times. As the public health guidelines continue to evolve, program and facility operational details may change as well.

STUDENTS RIDE TRANSIT FOR FREE

All students in grades TK through 12 can ride Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) services for free through the RydeFreeRT program. With RydeFreeRT, students can ride the entire SacRT transit network, including SacRT buses, Folsom Stage Line, light rail, and SmART Ride on-demand microtransit service for free. RydeFreeRT is available all year during regular SacRT service hours. Learn more about the program at rydefreert.com.



SUMMER DAY CAMPS FOR KIDS AND TEENS

Folsom Parks & Recreation summer day camps are now open for registration; selections include zookeeper camps, Vacation Zone, and a variety of sports – tennis, soccer, volleyball, track and field, flag football, basketball, and baseball. Camps are a great way for children to keep their minds engaged and bodies active through sports, creative play, outdoor activities, and social interaction. The camps are conducted by trained and caring staff and provide a supervised, positive, and inclusive environment. All camps will adhere to current public health guidelines. Register for camps online at webtrac.folsom.ca.us or call 916-461-6601 for details.



Water Level at Willow Hill Reservoir to be Lowered for Inspection

The City of Folsom Environmental and Water Resources Department plans to lower water levels at the Willow Hill Reservoir in May and June. City engineers will evaluate the design and construction options for an upcoming valve and pipeline repair project at the reservoir. These repairs are required by the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams.

Beginning in early May, water operators will start lowering the water

level by turning off the water supply from the city's water treatment plant, which feeds the reservoir. The water level will be lowered by several feet over the next month until it is approximately four feet below normal operating water levels. This will allow city engineers to get a better look at facilities normally underwater.

Water levels will gradually return to normal levels once the evaluation is complete in May or June.

The reservoir is located at Willow Hill Reservoir Community Park, 321 Barnhill Drive, and is a popular destination for fishing, kayaking, and birdwatching. The reservoir will remain open to the public, but allowable recreational activities may be modified during the inspection. Stay informed at www.folsom.ca.us.

For more information, contact City of Folsom Associate Civil Engineer Kelsie Gugino at 916-461-6166 or kgugino@folsom.ca.us.



EMPIRE RANCH ROAD INTERCHANGE UPDATE

The City of Folsom, in collaboration with Caltrans, is proposing a new interchange between the existing East Bidwell Street interchange in Folsom and the Latrobe Road interchange in El Dorado Hills on the Sacramento-El Dorado County line. By redistributing traffic along the border between east Sacramento County and western El Dorado County, this interchange will reduce current and projected traffic congestion and improve regional safety.

The project is currently in the preliminary design and environmental phase, which is expected to be completed once the environmental document is approved later this year. Once the environmental document is approved, final design will begin with construction anticipated to start in 2025 at the earliest, depending on funding availability.

The City of Folsom recently held a virtual community meeting for the US 50/Empire Ranch Road Interchange Project to provide a project overview and environmental impact presentation to more than 150 community members. The project team answered questions from the community about traffic safety, bike and pedestrian accessibility, and the environmental implications of the project. A full summary of the meeting can be found at www.folsom.ca.us/EmpireRanchRoadInterchange.

For questions about the US 50/Empire Ranch Road Interchange Project, contact Engineering Manager Mark Rackovan at mrackovan@folsom.ca.us.

Summer of Music

Folsom Parks & Recreation's popular Friday evening concert series returns this summer with four outstanding bands representing a variety of musical genres. Whether we're rocking the park or bringing the music to your home by going virtual, we'll help you start your weekends on the right note! Staff are monitoring the evolving public health guidelines to determine whether the concert format will be in-person or virtual. Follow facebook.com/FolsomParksandRec for concert updates and information.

CONCERT DATES AND BANDS

- *June 11* Innersoul
- *June 25* Island of Black & White
- *July 9* Bobby Zoppi & the Corduroys
- *July 23* Dad's Impala



FREE LIFE JACKET LOANER PROGRAM

The Folsom Fire Department's Life Jacket Loaner Program provides Folsom residents with free daily and weekend rental of life jackets for all ages of children and adults. The life jackets are available at Folsom Fire Station 35 at 535 Glenn Drive; borrowers must provide a valid driver license. For more information, call 916-461-6300.



SUMMER READING BINGO CHALLENGE BEGINS JUNE 1

Join the Summer Reading Bingo Challenge with the Folsom Public Library! Sign up to read or listen to five books in June and July. Kids and teens completing the Bingo Challenge win a free book and entry into a drawing for a \$100 Target gift card. Adults who complete the challenge also earn entry into the drawing. Pick up the Bingo Challenge game card at the library or use the library's Beanstack app. In addition to the reading challenge, readers can log books by scanning ISBN numbers, time reading sessions, and keep records of current and past reading with the one-of-a-kind Beanstack app. Sign up at folsom.beanstack.org.

Wildfire Preparedness Starts at Home

May is Wildfire Awareness Month, and the Folsom Fire Department encourages residents to reduce the threat of wildfires in the community. It is often embers and small flames that cause homes to ignite during wildfires. Residents can make their own property—and their neighborhood—safer with these tips:

- Clear leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches, and decks.
- Remove dead vegetation and other items from under your deck or porch.
- Replace or repair shingles on your roof and enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screens with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.

- Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.
- Remove flammable materials (dead vegetation, firewood stacks, propane tanks) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, up to your property line, including garages and sheds.

- Don't let debris and lawn cuttings linger.
- Develop an emergency evacuation plan and practice it with everyone in your home.
- Prune trees so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground. Tree canopies should not touch the house.

Learn more at www.folsom.ca.us/fire.



SUMMER SEASON BEGINS AT THE STEVE MIKLOS AQUATIC CENTER

The popular Sea Squad Swim School reopens just in time for summer, with beginning to advanced swim lessons for all ages. Enrollment is limited; find schedules and register at webtrac.folsom.ca.us or call the aquatic center at 916-461-6640 for more information.

Recreation swim begins Saturday, May 29 for the summer season; visit www.folsom.ca.us for hours, admission, and season pass information. A colorful new interactive play structure, sparkling new plaster and tile on the instructional and play pools, new concrete decking, and some other fun additions await guests this summer. The new features and

repairs were part of a planned renovation project that began last year and wrapped up this spring.

The aquatic center is following current public health guidelines throughout the facility and for swim lessons and recreation swim.



FOLSOM'S ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT AVAILABLE

The City of Folsom provides its water customers with an annual Consumer Confidence Report with detailed information about the city's drinking water quality. The city makes every effort to safeguard its water supply and once again reports Folsom's system meets and exceeds state and federal water quality standards. The city encourages community members to review this report as it provides details about the source and quality of the drinking water delivered to the community in 2020. To view the report and watch a video about the City of Folsom water treatment process, visit www.folsom.ca.us/ccr.



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Folsom, CA 95630

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New State Requirements for Organic Waste

When you think of recycling, items like cardboard, cans, bottles, and plastic probably come to mind. But organic waste, like leftover food or yard trimmings, is recyclable too. Not only is recycling these items better for the environment, but it is also now the law.

SB 1383 was signed into California law in 2016 as part of the state's broader effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) is working with businesses and local jurisdictions, including the City of Folsom, to divert up to 26 million tons of organic material from landfills annually by 2025 to reduce methane emissions and support the state's climate change goals.

HOW WILL FOLSOM ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES?

- **Collection and Recycling:** Starting in the summer of 2022, the City of Folsom will provide mandatory organic waste collection services to all residents. Food scraps and food-soiled paper will be mixed with your green waste for composting.
- **Using Recycled Organics Products:** Beginning in 2022, the City of Folsom will be required to annually purchase mandated amounts of the products made from this recycled organic material, such as compost, renewable energy, mulch, and recycled paper.
- **Food Recovery:** Starting in 2022, certain businesses that generate edible food must disburse it to food recovery organizations.

- **Enforcement:** As mandated by SB 1383, the City of Folsom must adopt an ordinance to enforce the provisions in the law on residents and businesses to comply with the state's climate goals and the 75% organic waste diversion goal.
- **Cost Recovery:** The City of Folsom Solid Waste Division is currently evaluating the cost of mandated program modifications and the impact on customer rates.

WHY IS ORGANIC WASTE DISPOSAL IMPORTANT?

- Decomposition of food waste and other organic materials in landfills produces methane, a greenhouse gas over 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide.
- Methane and other pollutants contribute to public health problems, including heart disease and asthma.
- Organics, such as food scraps, yard trimmings, paper, and cardboard, make up half of what Californians discard in landfills.
- Reductions of short-lived climate pollutant emissions, including methane, will have the fastest impact on the climate crisis.

For more information about SB 1383, visit www.folsom.ca.us/organics or contact the City of Folsom Recycling Division at solidwaste@folsom.ca.us or 916-461-6730.

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