

Carlsbad *Currents*

November/December 2015

KEEPS YOU CONNECTED

IN THIS ISSUE

El Niño Prep
Fun Things to Do
City Credit Rating
85/15 Updates



Happy Holidays

What's better than spending the holidays in Carlsbad? Take a hike with your family on a city trail, enjoy local shopping and restaurants or simply recharge with a trip to the beach (just don't mention that part to your snowbound friends). And, make sure you have a safe holiday season by reading important tips for the heavy rains expected this fall and winter season.

 City of
Carlsbad

El Niño: Are You Ready?

Heavier than normal rain can cause mudslides, flooding, sink holes and dangerous driving conditions. The city has already taken steps to help keep Carlsbad safe, but we need your help too:



Before the Storm

- Keep sandbags, plastic sheeting and other emergency building materials on hand.
- Clear debris from all roof drains, gutters, downspouts and yard drains.
- Trim trees, especially those with large over-hanging branches.
- Get familiar with more than one safe route to higher ground from your home and workplace.
- Make an emergency kit with flashlights, batteries, water and other essentials in case of a power outage.



During the Storm

- Never try to cross a flowing stream. Strong currents can knock you off your feet with as little as six inches of water.
- Drive slowly and avoid flooded areas. Swiftly flowing water as shallow as 1 foot can easily sweep a car from the road.
- Obey road barricades and signs; Never "sightsee" in areas with flooding or mudslides.
- If advised by local authorities to evacuate, move immediately to a safe area.
- Avoid contact with floodwater.



Where To Get Sandbags

Home Improvement Stores/Online Retailers

If you live in an area prone to flooding, it's a good idea to keep enough sandbags and sand on hand when rain is expected.

- Removing sand from the beach is illegal and harms the beach environment.
- Purchase sand from local nurseries and building supply companies.
- Filling bags with soil will not create an effective barrier.

"Sandless sandbags" are also available online or at some home improvement stores.

City of Carlsbad Streets Division, 405 Oak Ave.

(in the Village)

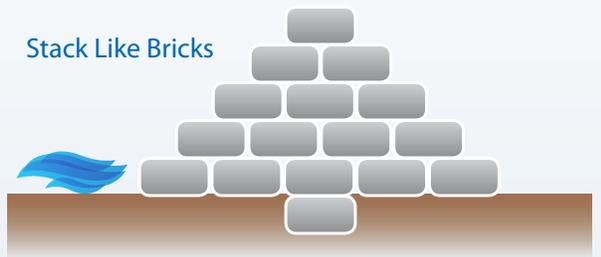
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Up to 10 prefilled at no charge for Carlsbad residents.

Call 760-434-2980 to confirm availability.

How To Use Sandbags

Stack Like Bricks



- Create a small dam or wall using sand bags to block or divert floodwater.
- As a general rule, you will need about 10 to 25 filled bags at a minimum for each area.
- Sandbags should be stacked similar to a brick wall, using a staggered pattern.
- Build your wall at least two bags high.

For after-hours flooding or related emergencies, call 760-931-2197.

For more tips and information, visit www.carlsbadca.gov and search "heavy rain."



Fun Things to Do

2015 Invitational Exhibit

Nov. 22 – Jan. 31, 2016, Free
 Cannon Art Gallery
 Carlsbad City Library (Dove Lane)
 760-602-2021

The gallery's seventh invitational exhibit will feature five San Diego County artists selected for their work in painting, mixed-media, fiber arts, sculpture and installation.



Library Book Clubs

Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m. and Dec. 10, 2 p.m.
 Free, Library Learning Center
 760-931-4500

Meet new people and read great books. The library hosts five book clubs that meet monthly for you to choose from. At Library Learning Center, the Dec. 1 selection is Daniel Brown's *The Boys in the Boat*, and the Dec. 10 book is Herman Koch's *The Dinner*.

Foreign Film Fridays

Dec. 4 and 18, 4 and 7 p.m., Free
 Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium
 Carlsbad City Library (Dove Lane)
 760-434-2920

Join other movie lovers for this film series celebrating the best of foreign films. On Dec. 4, enjoy the Moroccan film *The Grand Voyage* and on Dec. 18, the award-winning Swiss film *Vitus*.



Library Holiday Concert

Library Holiday Concert
 Dec. 5, 2 p.m., Free
 Carlsbad City Library (Dove Lane)
 760-602-2026

Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi return by popular demand to help library-goers ring in the start of the holiday season.



Holiday at the Rancho

Dec. 5, 5 – 9 p.m.
 \$8 per person, kids 3 and under free
 Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park
 760-602-7510

Leo Carrillo is the perfect setting for a classic holiday event with carolers, a tree lighting, cookie decorating, crafts and pony rides. Face painting, an outdoor movie and a special visit by Santa are also included.



Trail Volunteer Events

Nov. 14, Rancho Carrillo Trail
 Dec. 12, Lake Calavera Preserve

Help clean up and maintain the city's many beautiful trails while meeting new friends and enjoying nature. Trail clean up events are held from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. See the city website for directions and parking information, www.carlsbadca.gov/trails.



For a complete, searchable calendar of events, visit www.carlsbadca.gov.

Yep, We're Still in a Drought



Even with heavy rains in the forecast for Southern California, the state's ongoing water shortages are expected to continue.

Even after significant investments in water storage, our region just can't capture enough of the rain.

Why? Even after significant investments in water storage, our region just can't capture enough of the rain. Most of our water comes from the Colorado River and from snowmelt in Northern California.



How To Use a Rain Barrel

Rain barrels are specially designed containers you can attach to the downspout of your home's rain gutter.

- Check socalwatersmart.com for available rebates.
- Use a container specially designed for this use, with a lid and mosquito screen.
- Choose a location close to the plants you want to water.
- Attach a hose to the overflow valve and direct it away from your home's foundation.
- Elevate your rain barrel on bricks or concrete blocks so gravity helps water flow and so you can easily fit a watering can under the spigot.

Adjust Your Irrigation Schedule



Cooler, wetter weather means it's time to adjust your automatic irrigation system. It's always a good idea to reduce irrigation times in the winter, and you can leave your system off as long as two weeks after a heavy rain.

Library Construction Underway

The 48-year-old Georgina Cole Library is receiving some much needed maintenance and updating to ensure the city can continue to meet the community's needs for information, collaboration and access to digital

Check the city's website for temporary locations of library programs.

content. Check the city's website for temporary locations of library programs. The Library Learning Center on Eureka Place across from Holiday Park is open extended hours during construction, which is scheduled for completion in early 2016.



City Earns Top Credit Rating

Standard & Poor's Services has given the City of Carlsbad a AAA credit rating, the highest credit rating possible and the same rating earned by the city in 2009, the last time the agency evaluated the city's finances. Among the reasons for the high marks, Standard and Poor's cited the city's:

- Solid management, financial policies and practices
- Very strong budgetary flexibility, with a high available fund balance
- A high level of liquidity
- Low level of funding interdependence with the federal government

Get the Latest on "85/15" Plan



The Agua Hedionda South Shore Specific Plan, more commonly known as the "85/15 plan," has become a hot topic in our community. Get the latest information on the city's website, including all the official documents and studies, answers to commonly asked questions, maps, drawings and more.