



LCF Vista

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF THE CITY OF LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

Winter 2021

Home for the Holidays in La Cañada Flintridge

Get into the holiday spirit this season with beloved community events and festivities hosted by local organizations.



Enchanted Forest of Light at Descanso Gardens

November 21, 2021–January 9, 2022
Daily from 5:30 to 9 p.m.

The Enchanted Forest of Light is a unique experience featuring a one mile walk through delightful light displays in beautiful Descanso Gardens. This year, enjoy a new stained-glass installation created by contemporary sculptor Tom Fruin as well as returning favorites such as sparkling, swirling installations from HYBYCOZO on the Main Lawn, Flower Power on the Promenade, and exquisite lighting effects in the Ancient Forest.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit DescansoGardens.org.



Festival in Lights

December 3, 2021
4 p.m.

Co-hosted by the City of La Cañada Flintridge and the Chamber of Commerce and Community Association, the 27th Annual Festival in Lights will be one to remember. Memorial Park will be transformed with snow, reindeer and an appearance from Santa Claus. The 2022 Royal Court will also be announced.



Ceramic Sale

December 10-11, 2021
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Don't miss the annual Holiday Ceramics Sale hosted by the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge featuring one-of-a-kind ceramic pieces from local artists. Find beautiful, unique gifts to fit a variety of budgets. The sale will be hosted outdoors in the Community Center's parking lot, weather permitting. No cash accepted. Food vendors will be present.

For more information, visit CCLCF.org.

Longtime LCF Deputy Takes on a New Role With the City



At its May 4 meeting, the La Cañada Flintridge City Council honored retiring deputy Eric Matejka, an officer with the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station who served as the City's dedicated school resource officer since 2009. Deputy Matejka joined the Sheriff's Department in 1991 and transferred to the Crescenta Valley Station in 2001. He then became School Resource Officer and City Liaison for the remainder of his career. Deputy Matejka was often seen at City community events and was instrumental in the growth of local neighborhood watch groups.

In June, Matejka decided to return to the City serving on a part time basis.

Matejka's new role will specifically focus on law enforcement consulting, community cause resolution and public outreach. He will also assist with the coordination of special events, such

as the Memorial Day parade, the Thanksgiving Day 5k run and programs at schools that focus on safety. A specific education program that Matejka plans to launch involves one-hour classes for students on topics such as driving safety, bullying, suicide prevention and the dangers of illicit drugs.

"I think of myself as a utility player, stepping in where the City needs me," said Matejka. "I look forward to expanding the Neighborhood Watch Program and educating parents and teens about safety issues in our community."

"When Eric announced his retirement in May, we knew his leadership would be missed," said Mayor Terry Walker. "We're thrilled that Eric has chosen to continue serving the LCF community in this new role. His law enforcement experience and his familiarity with the City will make him an excellent addition to the City's staff."

Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station Reports Continued Success with Flock Safety Cameras

As implementation of Flock Safety Cameras expands throughout the San Gabriel Valley, the Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station reports that deputies have made multiple notable arrests and vehicle recoveries in La Cañada Flintridge this year with help from the cameras. The program's success has motivated the City Council to approve the installation of 8 additional cameras as part of the ongoing 2021-22 budget process, bringing the total camera network within the City to 47 units.

Placed at intersections throughout the City, Flock Safety Cameras read license plate numbers and alert the Sheriff's Department of the passing of wanted vehicles, enabling them to stop crimes before they happen, recover stolen property and advance investigations.

From January to August 2021, Flock Safety cameras yielded the following results:

- 12 stolen vehicles recovered
- 15 arrests made
- 7 investigations aided

"The cameras are paying off in a huge way," said Lieutenant David Holwager. "Other cities are seeing the success we're having in La Cañada Flintridge and implementing their own Flock Safety program, which extends our network throughout the region. This goes a long way toward advancing public safety and protecting our communities."

For real-time law enforcement updates, follow LASD Crescenta Valley on Twitter (@CVLASD) and Facebook (@CrescentaValleySheriffsStation).

Return of the Tournament of Roses: LCFTRA's 2022 Float

After a year-long hiatus, the highly anticipated 2022 Tournament of Roses Parade returns for the 133rd year with the theme "Dream. Believe. Achieve." La Cañada Flintridge Tournament of Roses Association (LCFTRA) will construct a float entitled "Who Says We Can't?"

The float redefines what's possible when you're open to inspiring growth in yourself and others; an old dog can always learn new tricks! This vision manifests in the gathering of eight wise dogs in a skatepark. From surfing to skateboarding to biking, these dogs come prepared to learn from each other's impressive athletic skills.

An intricate design of over 50,000 flowers, including roses, carnations and irises, will be paired with vegetables to create a vibrant spectrum of color throughout the skatepark. Each dog will have a unique coat made with natural materials, from pampas grass to Fat Choy seaweed, crushed walnuts and more.

This year will mark LCFTRA's 43rd entry into the parade, which will take place on January 1, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. Fundraising, construction, decoration and logistical planning are year-long endeavors made possible by the generosity of the LCF community.

As always, the LCFTRA float will be constructed outdoors by hand. LCFTRA's float is one of six floats built entirely by volunteers. To help in the yearly tradition of finishing float construction under the bridge at Flintridge Preparatory School's parking lot, visit www.lcftra.org for more information.



Completion of the Devil's Gate Reservoir Restoration Project

In September, the Los Angeles County Public Works Department completed early a sediment removal effort at the Devil's Gate Reservoir to protect downstream communities from flooding. Habitat restoration will continue in the surrounding Arroyo Seco Watershed.

As a result of the 2009 Station Fire and subsequent storms in the region, over 1.3 million cubic yards of sediment had collected in the reservoir. Excess sediment leaves surrounding communities vulnerable to flooding in the event of a major storm. Therefore, a key component of the project involved removing 1.7 million cubic yards of sediment and disposing of it at Manning Pit in the City of Irwindale and Seldon Pit in Sun Valley. Forecasted as a four-year project, sediment removal was completed in three years due to favorable weather conditions that accelerated the process.

While the sediment removal was a key component of the project, the Los Angeles County Public Works Department will continue to work toward restoring the 70-acre regional habitat. Currently, invasive plant species are being removed and replaced with native vegetation; 60% of which has been obtained from the local Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery.

For more information about the Devil's Gate Reservoir Restoration Project, please visit devilsgateproject.com.

Preparing for Rainy Weather in La Cañada Flintridge



Rain is in the forecast for this winter season and La Cañada Flintridge residents should prepare to protect their homes from potential flood damage. As you run typical holiday errands, such as buying winter clothes and gifts, remember to add sandbags to your shopping list.

Sandbags are inexpensive and useful for residents who live in flood-prone areas. You can stack sandbags on top of one another to form a barricade, decreasing the likelihood of excess runoff impacting your home.

Below are some additional tips to help stay safe during winter rainstorms:

1. Avoid areas subject to sudden flooding. If you are caught outdoors during a storm, move to higher ground.
2. Stay away from power lines and electrical equipment. Risk of electrocution increases during floods.
3. If the power is out, use flashlights and battery lanterns instead of candles and gas lanterns.
4. When driving, always remember to turn on your windshield wipers and headlights. Additionally, decrease your speed to prevent hydroplaning.
5. Be on alert for electrical system damage and gas leaks in your home. If you have an issue, contact an electrician or your gas company.

To help residents prepare for the rain, the City of La Cañada Flintridge provides 24-hour access to sand and sandbags at the following locations.

- 1 LA County Fire Station #19**
1729 Foothill Blvd.
(sandbags only)
- 2 LA County Fire Station #82**
352 Foothill Blvd.
(sandbags only)
- 3 Camp 2**
4810 N. Oak Grove Dr.
(sandbags only)
- 4 Mayors' Discovery Park**
1800 Foothill Blvd.
(sand and sandbags)
- 5 Paradise Valley**
At community sign adjacent to 2101 Highrim Rd.
(sand and sandbags)





California Drought Update

Bare Basics of Bear Safety

According to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California's bear population continues to grow alongside California's population. Bears are becoming more accustomed to people, increasing the likelihood that you may see one. While bears are naturally fearful of humans, their behavior may change if they sense food near your home.

DETER BEARS FROM YOUR PROPERTY

Hosting a BBQ soon? Clean your grill after each use and refrain from leaving scented products outdoors. This includes both food and non-food products, such as sunscreen or insect repellent. Remove any bird feeders or pet food to further deter bears. Compost bins should be kept in a sealed container. To prevent bears from dipping into your trash can, consider keeping your trash in the garage or getting an animal-proof trash can.

If your garden is ready for harvest, collect any ripe fruits and vegetables as soon as possible. Trimming plants and picking up fallen fruit will help keep bears away from your fresh produce.

If you have a raised deck space, securely block off any entryways. Bears may be attracted to dark crawl spaces to settle down in winter. Strategically placed sprinklers and motion-sensing lights will help deter bears looking for a comfortable place to hibernate.

Always stay attentive to your pets, especially if they aren't on a leash. Free roaming pets have a higher likelihood of encountering a bear.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

If a bear is in your yard, do not bother it. If you see a female bear with cubs, be sure not to place yourself between them. Mothers are highly protective of their young and have a higher likelihood of being aggressive.

If you find yourself in the unlikely scenario of being face-to-face with a bear, don't panic. Stand your ground and make eye contact. Do not run away or approach further.

Make yourself a large dominating presence by spreading and raising your arms. Yell or use other noise to assert your presence.

If the bear aggresses further, fight back. Don't play dead. Once the bear leaves, remove the source that attracted it to your location.

If you see a bear, call Pasadena Humane Society at (626) 792-7151.

As California enters its second year of drought with 83% of the state under Extreme or Exceptional Drought conditions, Foothill Municipal Water District urges LCF residents to conserve water.

The most effective way to conserve water is by cutting back on watering lawns. The following tips also help reduce water consumption:

- Avoid irrigating turf during daytime hours when water evaporates more quickly.
- Hose down paved surfaces only when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards.
- When washing vehicles, use a hose equipped with a shut-off nozzle or use buckets.

La Cañada Flintridge sources about 15% of its groundwater supply from local groundwater and 85% from imported water through Metropolitan Water District from the State Water Project and Colorado River Aqueduct. The State Water Project allocation for 2022 is expected to be 0%.

La Cañadians are fortunate to have access to Colorado River water, making LCF more drought-resilient than other parts of Southern California which have access to only the State Water Project and local supplies. Some areas will be facing stricter water conservation measures if conditions do not improve.

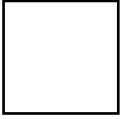
Conserving water not only helps to alleviate the drought—it can also save you money. Visit [BeWaterWise.Com](https://www.bewaterwise.com) and [FMWD.COM](https://www.fmwd.com) to sign up for water conservation rebates.



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City of La Cañada Flintridge
One Civic Center Drive
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011



Participate in 2021-29 Housing Element Update

La Cañada Flintridge is currently updating the 2021-29 Housing Element (part of the City's General Plan). Local governments across California are required by law to adequately plan to meet their share of the State's overall housing need. Housing Elements provide goals, policies, and programs to create opportunities for housing development.

The LCF community is invited and encouraged to participate in the planning process by attending Planning Commission and City Council public meetings starting in December 2021. Comments can be submitted via email to skoleda@lcf.ca.gov. To learn more, visit cityoflcf.org/housing-element-update.

Shop Local and Save!



Receive a \$15 bonus card with every gift card you buy.



CITY INFORMATION

The City Council meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers, One Civic Center Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011.

City Hall will be closed December 23, 24, 30, 31 (Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve, New Years Day) and January 17 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day).

City Council

Teresa "Terry" Walker – Mayor
Keith Eich – Mayor Pro Tem
Jonathan C. Curtis
Michael T. Davitt
Richard B. Gunter III

City Staff

Mark R. Alexander - City Manager
Adrian R. Guerra - City Attorney
Jeffrey Wang - City Treasurer
Carl Alameda - Assistant City Manager
Patrick DeChellis - Director of Public Works
Susan Koleda - Director of Comm. Development
Alex Kung - Director of Finance
Tania Moreno - City Clerk

City Hall

One Civic Center Drive,
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011

Administration: (818) 790-8880

Finance: (818) 790-8880

Community Development: (818) 790-8881

Public Works: (818) 790-8882

Building and Safety: (818) 790-8651

City Hall Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Fri: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Building & Safety Hours: Mon – Thurs: 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM, Fri: 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Website: www.CityOfLCF.org

WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay current on news and events by following the City of La Cañada Flintridge on social media.



facebook.com/
cityoflacanadaflintridge



twitter.com/thecityofLCF

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