



Mountain House Community Services District Newsletter

January
2010

Keeping Mountain House Clean and Safe

Dog ownership is a rewarding experience that many Mountain House residents enjoy. Exercising with a pet is mutually beneficial and is encouraged in Mountain House.

A few tips for residents to keep in mind when out in the community with a pet:

- Dogs must be on a leash at all times when they are off their private property.
- Dog owners are required to clean up after their dogs when they defecate.
- Dangerous or vicious dogs may be subject to removal by Animal Control officers.

Sections of the MH Ordinance Code, the San Joaquin County Ordinance Code, and the Master Restrictions regulate off-leash dogs. Violations are subject to fines and violators can be charged with a misdemeanor. (For full text of pertinent ordinances, please visit our website.)

New Format

The MHCS D Newsletter has undergone some significant changes in the past few months. In an effort to improve communications with residents, we have increased the frequency of the newsletter to monthly. In an effort to reduce costs, we are now sending the newsletter out with the utility bill. Our goal remains to communicate current and pertinent information to the residents of Mountain House. Please send us your feedback by visiting the MHCS D website and clicking on the *Service Requests* tab, log in or create a new account, then click on *Make a Request* and *Newsletter Feedback*.

(More information on next page)

Community-Based Organizations

Grab your jersey, shorts, and shoes! It's time for basketball!

Mountain House Basketball (a division of Mountain House Flag Football) is organizing Friday night (7-9 pm) pick-up games at the Wicklund Elementary School gym starting January 15, 2010. Please go to www.mhbball.com for more information.

Mountain House Basketball is also starting an adult indoor basketball league in March of 2010. Please go to www.mhbball.com for more information.

If you are interested in listing your community-based organization's events, please contact our office.

Schedule of Events

MHCSD Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2010

Time: 7 pm

Location: MHCSD Board Room

Mountain House Community Services District

230 S. Sterling Drive, Suite 100

Mountain House, CA 95391

(209) 831-2300 (Main)

(209) 831-5610 (Fax)

New Office Hours:

Monday – Friday

8:00 am – 6:00 pm

www.ci.mountainhouse.ca.us

Healthy Household Habits for Clean Water

As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Anything that enters a storm sewer system can be discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water, and is against the law. By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater. Adopt the following healthy household habits and help protect lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters.

Vehicle and Garage

- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain and eventually into your local water body.
- Check your car, boat, motorcycle, and other machinery and equipment for leaks and spills. Make repairs as soon as possible. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and don't rinse the spills into a nearby storm drain. Remember to properly dispose of the absorbent material.
- Recycle used oil and other automotive fluids at participating service stations. Don't dump these chemicals down the storm drain or dispose of them in your trash.

Future Newsletters will contain more ways to protect our water.

MHCSD Board of Directors Meeting

Residents are encouraged to attend the MHCSD Board of Directors monthly meetings, either by physically attending the meetings, or online by visiting our website and selecting "MHCSD Board Meetings." Some of the actions of the Board at the December 9, 2009 meeting include:

- Established a deposit for Municipal Utility Bills for renters
- Established a Youth Action Committee for the youth of Mountain House

- Accepted the recommendations of the Parks and Recreation, Special Events, and Youth Programs Committee, including proposed new events.
- Election of the President and Vice President of the MHCSD Board for 2010.

Some of the proposed new community events that will be discussed at budget time are: ski trip; bingo; golf tournament; beer and music in the park; tennis; and haunted school. Last year's events will be repeated.

The General Manager reported that the Board has already completed *more than 50%* of the Goals and Objectives set out for FY 2009/2010, *with less than 50% of the fiscal year elapsed*. The Board was commended for their remarkable efforts in their first year of historical service.

Congratulations to Director Su on his election as President, and to Director Payne on his election as Vice President for the year 2010!

The Mountain House Community Services District wishes everyone a safe and happy New Year!

www.ci.mountainhouse.ca.us