



CITY OF FOLSOM  
**Newsletter**

## WILD NIGHTS AND HOLIDAY LIGHTS

### AT THE FOLSOM CITY ZOO SANCTUARY

This annual family event returns for the 14th year with thousands of bright lights, sparkling ornaments and trees, lighted animal figures, and displays transforming the zoo sanctuary with holiday spirit. Local caroling groups and musicians provide the merry sounds of the season, and the Folsom Valley Railway miniature train provides special nighttime rides. Wild Nights and Holiday Lights is open from 5 to 8:30 p.m. December 1, 2, 8, 9, and 15-22 (*weather permitting; heavy rains will cancel*). All proceeds from the event benefit the zoo sanctuary animals.

#### EVENT DETAILS:

- » **Ticket sales open November 1** at [webtrac.folsom.ca.us](http://webtrac.folsom.ca.us).
- » Admission and train tickets are only available online; no onsite ticket sales.
- » Event admission is \$10/person and train tickets are \$5/person; free for ages under 2 years.
- » Special treats and beverages are available for purchase from Fisher's Beastro and from visiting food trucks.

Early ticket purchase is encouraged since many nights of the event sell out quickly. Follow [Facebook.com/FolsomParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/FolsomParksandRec) for daily event updates; call **916-461-6601** with questions.

## AT A GLANCE

### FOLSOM'S VETERANS DAY PARADE

The Folsom community will honor the nation's veterans at the 23rd annual Wayne Spence Folsom Veterans Day Parade at 9 a.m. Saturday, November 11.

### HOLIDAY EVENTS

Enjoy the spirit of the season at special holiday events in Folsom.

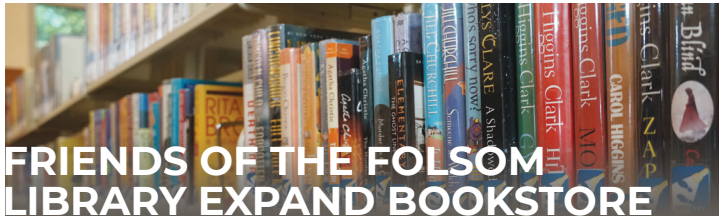
### PUT HOLIDAY WASTE IN ITS PLACE

Help manage your extra holiday waste using a helpful sorting guide.



### FOLSOM ICE RINK RETURNS FOR WINTER SEASON

Ice skating in Historic Folsom is a cherished winter tradition. The Folsom Ice Rink will open November 10 for the winter season. This year's rink encircles the historic railroad turntable and a tall, decorated Christmas tree. Features include special events, firepits, lighting, and a party zone. Learn more at [folsomicerink.com](http://folsomicerink.com).



The Friends of the Folsom Library has moved their bookstore to the space previously occupied by Einstein's Café in the Library rotunda. This expansion will allow the Friends to double the sales space for used books, media, and handmade gift cards. The expansion is expected to generate additional revenue to support the Library's collections and programs.

Volunteers entirely run the bookstore. In 27 years of operation, the Friends of the Folsom Library has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support library projects, including new computers, furniture, play equipment, activity kits, board games, speaker presentations, and the annual Summer Reading program.

This holiday season, consider giving the reader in your household a Friends of the Folsom Library membership or donate in their name.

Visit the Folsom Public Library and the bookstore at 411 Stafford Street. Learn more at [www.folsom.ca.us/library](http://www.folsom.ca.us/library).



**SANTA'S SLEIGH DELIVERS HOLIDAY CHEER TO FOLSOM**  
 Santa and Mrs. Claus will join the Folsom Fire and Police departments to visit neighborhoods throughout the city this December. Follow Santa's route at [folsomsantatracker.com/routes](http://folsomsantatracker.com/routes).

## SHOP LOCAL FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Local shopping and dining supports the local economy, promotes a thriving community, and contributes to Folsom's high quality of life. Dollars you spend in Folsom help fund vital public services, such as police, fire, schools, trash collection, recycling, and road maintenance—plus amenities such as parks, the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary, and the Folsom Public Library. A smaller percentage of the sales tax is invested locally when you shop online. Make sales tax dollars work for you and your community this holiday season!

Saturday, November 25, is Small Business Saturday—a day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for the Folsom community.



The Gallery at 48 Natoma hosts a free public reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, November 17, for the new exhibit featuring holiday cards by celebrated artists. The traveling exhibit from the Monroe Wheeler Archive includes cards by such luminaries as Jean Cocteau, Ben Shahn, Miguel Covarrubias, Rufino Tamayo, Robert Andrew Parker, Roberto Montenegro, Herbert Bayer, and Max Weber. The adjacent Community Gallery features work by members of the FolPho Photography Club.

The reception includes live music and light refreshments. The professional art gallery is located in the 48 Natoma Senior and Art Center; the gallery's regular hours are from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The art exhibits continue through January 18.

**THANKSGIVING FEAST FOR THE ANIMALS**  
 Take a break from your festivities and watch some zoo sanctuary animals snack on specially prepared treats, meals, and themed enrichment. You can also participate by sponsoring the holiday goodies for some animals. The fun takes place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, November 23; admission tickets and sponsorships are available online at [webtrac.folsom.ca.us](http://webtrac.folsom.ca.us). Admission tickets are also available for purchase at the gate.



## PUT HOLIDAY WASTE IN ITS PLACE

With holiday cooking and baking, shipping packaging, gift wrapping, decorating, and party-throwing, there is more waste than at any other time of the year. Between Thanksgiving and New Year's, Americans produce 25% more waste—most of which can be kept out of the landfill. Help manage your extra waste using the holiday sorting guide below and put your waste in its place.



### GREEN BIN APPROVED

Place all food and food-soiled paper into compostable or clear plastic bags, keeping yard debris loose.

- » All food scraps including meal prep and holiday leftovers.
- » Pumpkins, gourds, squash, wreaths, centerpieces, and boughs. Remove wires, ribbons, lights, and other artificial elements before placing items in your Green Bin.
- » Christmas Trees. Cut into pieces no larger than two feet in length and four inches in diameter, and lids must close completely.



### BLUE BIN APPROVED

Place items separately (unbagged).

- » Paper including wrapping, gift bags, cards, envelopes, catalogs, and magazines. Items with metallic or glitter embellishments cannot be recycled. Instead, place them in your gray bin.
- » Glass and plastic bottles.
- » Aluminum cans.



### GRAY BIN APPROVED

- » Plastic wrapping, plastic bags, padded shipping envelopes, packing peanuts, and air pillows.
- » Ribbons and bows.
- » Disposable utensils and coated paper plates.

Not sure where to place an item? Look it up using the Waste Wizard tool at [folsom.ca.us/wastecollection](https://folsom.ca.us/wastecollection) or on the Folsom Waste Collection app. There is no change to waste collection services.



## FROM THE ARCHIVES: FOLSOM'S BLACKSMITHING HISTORY

Before housing the Folsom History Museum, 821 and 823 Sutter Street held Cruickshank's blacksmith shop, a fixture since at least 1910. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, blacksmiths thrived, providing essential services like crafting horseshoes for the community near the train depot. In 1923, the shop relocated to the southwest corner of Decatur Street, leaving the original lot vacant until its sale in 1946.

In the early 2000s, embedded horseshoes could be seen along the sidewalk at the second location before the Sutter Street redevelopment project. Blacksmithing in Folsom remains robust through the Folsom Forge at The Square and the California Blacksmith Association (CBA). Certified blacksmiths offer weekly courses for newcomers and experts, promoting skill development and certification. Folsom's crafting culture extends beyond blacksmithing to encompass pottery, painting, sculpting, glass blowing, writing, and music. Folsom History is diligently working to create a space where all artisans can practice their craft effectively.

Visit The Square, previously known as Pioneer Village, at 196 Wool Street, and learn more at [folsomhistory.org](https://folsomhistory.org).

## JOIN THE FOLSOM CITY ZOO SANCTUARY DOCENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary is accepting registrations for their upcoming Docent Training class. Docents serve a vital role in helping to promote the zoo sanctuary's educational mission, host school tours, interact with the public at community events, help with youth camps, and assist at a variety of special events. The docent training class is only offered once each year; the 2024 session begins February 12 and continues through March 18. Docents must be at least age 21; complete the required paperwork and register online at [webtrac.folsom.ca.us](https://webtrac.folsom.ca.us). Contact Sue Bean at **916-715-8610** or email [zoodocents@folsom.ca.us](mailto:zoodocents@folsom.ca.us) with questions.



# HELP YOUR PET BE A MODEL RESIDENT

City of Folsom Animal Services would like to share some tips and reminders to help ensure that your four-legged family member is a model city resident.

## **ALWAYS KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEASH:**

For the safety of your dog and others, city codes require that your dog always stay on a leash when not in your home or on your property. Off-leash dogs may be startled and run away from your home or into traffic. Loose dogs may also chase or disturb wildlife, which could injure both your pet and the wild creature. Keep your dog leashed while walking around your neighborhood, on trails, in parks, and near open spaces.

## **MAKE SURE YOUR PET IS LICENSED:**

Licensing your pet is not only required by law; it also helps reunite them with you when they go missing. Licensing your pet with the city's online system is quick and easy, and credit cards are accepted.

## **PRACTICE GOOD K9 TRAIL ETIQUETTE:**

The city has rules to help keep the recreational trails safe and enjoyable for all users, whether on foot, by bike, or by a K9 companion. When walking your dog along trails, dogs should be leashed and kept to the left side of their human (who should also be walking on the left side of the trail). Dog owners should pick up after their pets and discard the waste in a garbage can or at one of the dog waste bag stations.

For more information, visit [www.folsom.ca.us/AnimalServices](http://www.folsom.ca.us/AnimalServices) or contact City of Folsom Animal Control officers Daya Grondin at **916-461-6042** or Janet Bradley at **916-461-6043**.



## **FOLSOM TREE LIGHTING EVENTS**

Enjoy the spirit of the holidays in Folsom! The Folsom community has two great options for family-friendly holiday tree-lighting events. Palladio's tree lighting takes place at 5 p.m. Saturday, November 18, and the Historic District tree lighting event begins at 6 p.m. Friday, December 1.



## **DON'T POUR FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOG) DOWN THE DRAIN**

Every day is a good day to practice proper disposal of grease products, but hosting gatherings and holiday cooking often means that fats, oils, and grease may be in our kitchens more than usual. The City of Folsom reminds residents that it's important not to pour fats, oils, and grease down the drain, which could lead to clogged pipes and sewer spills.

To help prevent backups, properly dispose of FOG with these four easy steps:

- » Can It - Pour solidified fats and grease into a sturdy container and place it in your garbage.
- » Scrape It - Before washing, scrape fats, oils, and grease from pots and pans into your garbage.
- » Trash It - Put fatty and greasy food scraps in the garbage.
- » Recycle It - Place cooled cooking oil back into the original container and make an appointment to pick it up through the City of Folsom Door-2-Door residential household hazardous waste program.

For more information, call **916-461-6177** or visit [www.folsom.ca.us/FOG](http://www.folsom.ca.us/FOG).

## ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE RETURNS

The Folsom Citizens Assisting Public Safety (CAPS), in partnership with the Folsom Police and Fire departments, are collecting holiday toys and gift items for Folsom families in need. The program begins November 13 and ends December 8. Here are two ways you can help:

- » You can select to fulfill the specific wish of a child from the Virtual Christmas Tree, choose to receive an Amazon Wish List, or shop for the item locally.
- » Bring a gift of your choosing for a child, teen, or adult. New, unopened, and unwrapped toys, as well as new clothing or gift cards, may be dropped off at designated gift drop-off locations.

Visit [folsomtoydrive.com](http://folsomtoydrive.com) for additional details and designated gift drop-off locations. Contact Jessica Hess at **916-461-6516** or [jhess@folsom.ca.us](mailto:jhess@folsom.ca.us) for more information.



## FIXING WATER LEAKS IS ALWAYS IN SEASON

Check toilets for leaks before your guests arrive this holiday season. Old toilet flappers often cause leaks when the rubber decays or becomes warped. Replacing a flapper is an inexpensive project that pays for itself. To check for a flapper leak, add a few drops of food coloring to the toilet tank and wait 10 minutes before flushing. If dye appears in the toilet bowl, your toilet leaks.

Folsom residents are eligible for a Flume Smart Home Water Monitor rebate. The Flume monitor works with any water meter, is easy to install, and allows you to view indoor and outdoor water use in real time and get an alert when a leak is detected.

City of Folsom water customers can purchase the Flume device for just \$50 (regularly \$249) after a discount and rebate.

Visit [www.folsom.ca.us/rebates](http://www.folsom.ca.us/rebates) for details or contact the City of Folsom Water Conservation Division at [waterconservation@folsom.ca.us](mailto:waterconservation@folsom.ca.us) or **916-461-6177**.



## DIWALI FIREWORKS SAFETY

The Indian festival of Diwali or Deepavali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is traditionally celebrated with the use of fireworks. The use of approved fireworks in conjunction with this festival may occur Saturday, November 11, through Sunday, November 12, in the City of Folsom. The Folsom Fire Department is asking the public to take the following precautions when using fireworks during the festival period:

- » Make sure the fireworks have the State Fire Marshal "Safe and Sane" seal.
- » The use of fireworks for this celebration must be conducted under adult supervision at all times.
- » Have a bucket of water, sand, or garden hose available at firing site.
- » Read all instructions before use.
- » Never alter, modify, or enhance fireworks—use only in the manner intended.
- » Make sure fireworks have proper clearance from flammable materials including dry grass and brush.
- » Keep your pets safe by keeping them indoors and providing a quiet, secure place during fireworks displays.

For more information, visit [www.folsom.ca.us/fire](http://www.folsom.ca.us/fire) or contact the Folsom Fire Department at **916-461-6300** or [FolsomFire@folsom.ca.us](mailto:FolsomFire@folsom.ca.us).

## FOLSOM HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST

Let's light up Folsom with holiday cheer! Enter your home, neighborhood, or business into the Folsom Holiday Lights contest.

Categories include:

- » **Holly Jolly Residence** – Best overall residence.
- » **Clark Griswold** – Best use of holiday lights (residential).

- » **Hollywood Christmas** – Best use of theme and/or fictional characters (residential).
- » **Merry and Bright Business** – Festive commercial business display (includes window painting).
- » **Illuminate the Block** – Best multi-house display.

Register by December 8 at [www.folsom.ca.us/HolidayLightsContest](http://www.folsom.ca.us/HolidayLightsContest).





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DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE



Folsom residents will honor the nation's veterans at the 23rd annual Wayne Spence Folsom Veterans Day Parade starting at 9 a.m. Saturday, November 11. This year, 10 local veterans of various conflicts are being recognized in the role of Grand Marshal:

- >> Jay Wiley – veteran of the Korean War
- >> Ken Davis, Ben Pallacios, Robert Strebels, and Randy Vigallon – veterans of the Vietnam War
- >> Mark Holm – veterans of Operation Desert Storm
- >> Thurlow Craggs – veteran of Operation Just Cause
- >> Josh Baker – veteran of the Global War on Terrorism
- >> Rachel Cunningham – veteran of the War in Afghanistan
- >> Josh Dale – veteran of the Iraq War

The parade stages in the Target/Home Goods parking lot and begins on East Bidwell Street, travels northbound on Coloma Street, and proceeds to Natoma Street. Roads along the parade route will be closed to vehicle traffic and detours will be marked; closures will be lifted immediately after the parade ends. After the parade, a brief ceremony will be held at the Veterans Memorial in City Lions Park. The parade is held rain or shine; call **916-461-6615** or email [tocampo@folsom.ca.us](mailto:tocampo@folsom.ca.us) with questions.

## RIVER DISTRICT MASTER PLAN

The City of Folsom General Plan calls for the preparation of a River District Master Plan to activate Folsom's expansive waterfront for improved access, recreation, and economic development. Guided by a City Council-appointed advisory committee, work on the master plan has begun. The city is seeking community participation and input in the process. This December, a new engagement platform will allow the community to weigh in and inform the master planning process. Learn more and sign up for updates at [www.folsom.ca.us/RiverDistrict](http://www.folsom.ca.us/RiverDistrict).



## JOIN THE WINTER READING CHALLENGE!

Winter is the perfect time to curl up with a good book. Join the Folsom Public Library Winter Reading Challenge and sign up to read or listen to five books in December and January. Kids, teens, and adults completing the Challenge win a Winter Reading Challenge sticker and entry into a drawing for a \$50 gift card. Prizes will be awarded in each age group. Track your reading using the Library's Beanstack Tracker app. The one-of-a-kind app lets everyone track the amount they read by scanning ISBNs, timing reading sessions, or keeping records of current and past books completed. Sign up today at [folsom.beanstack.org](http://folsom.beanstack.org).

Learn more about Folsom Public Library programs, services, and events at [www.folsom.ca.us/library](http://www.folsom.ca.us/library).

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