



CITY OF
FOLSOM
DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE

CITY OF FOLSOM
Newsletter

PLANNING A RESILIENT AND RELIABLE WATER FUTURE

The City of Folsom is undertaking a planning effort to guide the management of the city's water resources over the next 50 years. Currently, the city gets its drinking water almost exclusively from Folsom Reservoir. The Folsom Water Vision project will help the city evaluate other water supply alternatives to proactively plan for increased droughts, flood events, rising temperatures, and other challenges.

Understanding the community's needs and priorities for water resource management is vital to the success of this planning effort. We invite you to attend the first in a series of meetings to learn about the project and share your needs, interests, and goals for creating a resilient water future for the City of Folsom.



FOLSOM WATER VISION MEETING

Tuesday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m.
Folsom Police Department Training Room
46 Natoma Street, Folsom

For more information, contact Environmental and Water Resources Director Marcus Yasutake at **916-461-6161** or myasutake@folsom.ca.us.

AT A GLANCE

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

The City of Folsom Christmas tree recycling drop-off event returns Saturday, January 6.

HELP KEEP GUTTERS AND STORM DRAINS FREE OF FALLEN LEAVES

The City of Folsom Public Works Department reminds residents to keep gutters and storm drain inlets clear of fallen leaves.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Folsom Police and Fire departments are looking for volunteers to help make a difference in the community. The Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary is accepting registrations for its annual Docent Training class.

THE WINTER/SPRING REC GUIDE IS HERE

Folsom Parks & Recreation's winter/spring edition of the Rec Guide was mailed to residents in mid-December, and a digital version of the guide is featured on the city website. Programs for all ages are available, ranging from sports and fitness to fine arts. Spring break camps for kids and teens are also included. Explore the variety of programs, events, and opportunities at www.folsom.ca.us/RecGuide or call **916-461-6601** for more information.



JOIN THE AQUATIC CENTER TEAM

As a Steve Miklos Aquatic Center staff member, you will join the ranks of our valued employees who provide the community with aquatic safety and fun. Since 2001, we've employed more than 3,000 people in our many part-time and seasonal positions.

The group interview is the first step to apply for a 2024 summer season aquatic center job. Interviews will be held in March; visit webtrac.folsom.ca.us (search "interview") to register for the group interview.

Interested in becoming a lifeguard? Our Ellis Lifeguard Training classes are available in March and April. The class is required to apply for a job as a Steve Miklos Aquatic Center lifeguard. Call **916-461-6640** for more information.

GALLERY AT 48 NATOMA HOSTS EXHIBIT RECEPTION FEBRUARY 16

The gallery's new exhibit showcases unique art focusing on abstract imagery. Abstract art uses shape, form, color, and line from visual references in the world. Often the art is non-figurative, non-objective, and non-representational. Color and shape are defined by the artist and typically have personal meaning to the artist. The work of two artists in this contemporary style are highlighted in the "Abstract Ideas" exhibit. Linda Nunes will display a variety of paintings in mixed media including cold wax and oils. Matt Rhoades' most recent paintings chronicle his reflection on human emotions, music, pianos, life, and the confronting nature of art. The adjacent Community Gallery displays work by students from Folsom Art Center youth classes.

The exhibit reception is open from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, February 16. The public is invited to attend the free reception to meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments and live music. The exhibit continues in the gallery through April 18.

The professional gallery is located in the 48 Natoma Senior and Art Center; the art gallery's regular hours are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, with extended hours from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Call **916-461-6601** for more information.



CITY OF FOLSOM CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING EVENT

Saturday, January 6 is the city's annual Christmas Tree recycling event at Rodeo Park, 200 Stafford Street, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please bring trees that are free of all lights, decorations, tinsel, tree stands, and nails for recycling. Artificial or flocked trees are not allowed. Trees are chipped and mulched into a soil amendment for community use. Note: Rodeo Park will be closed to pedestrians and cyclists during the event. The Johnny Cash Trail can be accessed from Riley and Scott streets, and East Natoma Street entrances.

Other ways to recycle your holiday tree:

- » Nonprofits may collect trees on your street. Look for a flyer on your doorstep.
- » Residents may also recycle trees on a regular service day in the Green Bin. Trees must be cut into pieces no larger than two feet in length and four inches in diameter, and the lid must close completely to receive service.

For more information, contact the City of Folsom Recycling Division at **916-461-6730** or recycle@folsom.ca.us.

COMMIT TO THE GREEN BIN

Create lasting habits to make food scrap collection easy in the new year. Remember, it all starts in your kitchen:

- » Place a kitchen pail or container in a convenient location, like under the sink or on the countertop.
- » Line the kitchen pail with a clear plastic or compostable bag.
- » Scrape or drop food scraps and food-soiled paper into your kitchen pail.
- » Toss bagged food scraps and food-soiled paper in the Green Bin along with loose yard trimmings and yard debris.

Although changing habits is challenging, separating organics from the trash gets easier the more you do it—and it's required by state law (SB 1383) and City of Folsom Municipal Code 8.32. Keeping organics out of your trash reduces landfill methane production, creates compost and mulch, and extends landfill capacity. Learn more at www.folsom.ca.us/organics.



PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSES AND REGISTRATION

Folsom Parks & Recreation's Fun Factory Preschool and Kindergarten Readiness programs are hosting open houses from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, January 31. Fun Factory offers separate classes for 3- and 4-year-olds; classrooms are located at 52 Natoma Street (inside the Folsom Community Center) and 66 Clarksville Road (inside the Andy Morin Sports Complex). Kindergarten Readiness is for 4-year-olds; the classroom is located inside the sports complex at 66 Clarksville Road. Parents can visit any—or all—of the classrooms to meet our wonderful teachers, ask questions, and determine which program and class best suits your child.

ONLINE REGISTRATION METHOD FOR 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration for Fun Factory and Kindergarten Readiness opens 8 a.m. Tuesday, February 6 at webtrac.folsom.ca.us. Your child must be age 3 or 4 by September 30 to enroll. Find more information about the preschool programs, the online registration process, and answers to frequently asked questions at www.folsom.ca.us/preschool. Contact Whitney Kahn at **916-461-6612** or wkahn@folsom.ca.us for questions about the programs.



Volunteers are needed to help make a difference in the community and keep Folsom a safe place to live, work, and recreate. The Folsom Citizens Assisting Public Safety (CAPS) volunteers are a diverse group of community members committed to the safety of the Folsom community. Volunteers support Folsom's police and fire departments and assist with various public safety functions.

CAPS volunteers must complete the Citizen's Academy and pass an extensive background check. The Citizen's Academy is an annual 8-week academy from March to May that provides an in-depth look at the Folsom Police and Fire departments and other city services. Beginning January 8, applications for the 2024 Citizen's Academy will be available on the city website and in the Police Department lobby. Applications are due by January 25.

For more information on the CAPS program or the Citizen's Academy, visit www.folsom.ca.us/police or call Police Volunteer Coordinator Jessica Hess at **916-461-6516**.

SANDBAGS AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

Sand and sandbags are available for Folsom residents and business owners at no charge. The city's two self-serve sandbag stations are next to Fire Station 36 at 9700 Oak Avenue Parkway and behind City Hall at 50 Natoma Street. Proof of Folsom residency is required, such as a driver's license or utility bill. Shovels are also available to use onsite to fill the bags. Learn how to fill a sandbag and find other information at www.folsom.ca.us/sandbags.

HELP KEEP GUTTERS AND STORM DRAINS FREE OF FALLEN LEAVES

With winter weather upon us, the City of Folsom Public Works Department reminds residents to keep gutters and storm drain inlets clear of fallen leaves. When leaves accumulate on the street, it is challenging for street sweepers to pick up the leaves, which can clog storm drain inlets and cause localized flooding. Here's how you can help:

- » Avoid sweeping or blowing leaves into ditches or streets.
- » Clear leaves from gutters and storm drains and place them in your Green Bin, if possible.
- » Keep sidewalks clear of leaves and other debris.

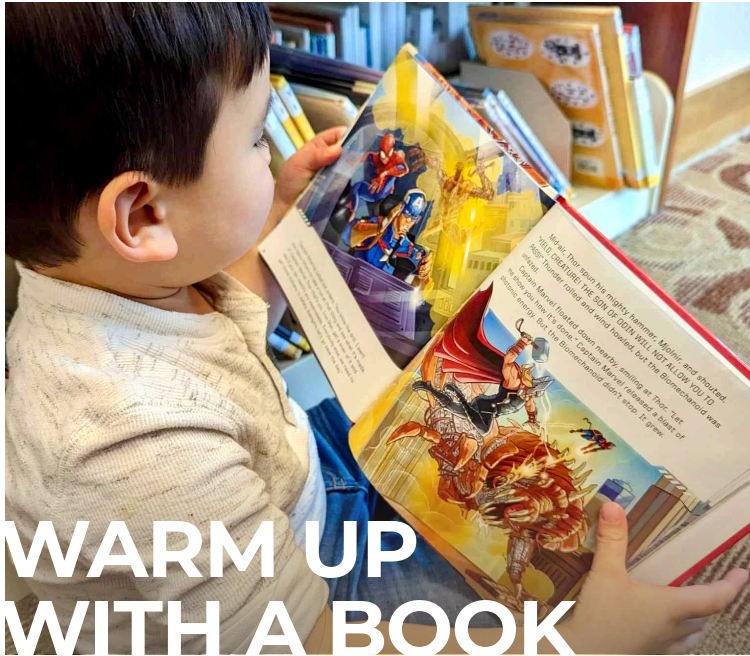
If there is a storm drain inlet that is difficult to clear, or you would like to report a storm drain issue, call the Public Works Department at **916-461-6722**.



OWL BE YOUR VALENTINE

at the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary

Join the Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary for this fun event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, February 10 and 11. Craft materials are supplied for participants to create a special Valentine to put on display near your favorite zoo sanctuary animal. Regular admission fees apply; tickets are available online at webtrac.folsom.ca.us or at the gate. Call **916-461-6629** for more information.



WARM UP WITH A BOOK

JOIN THE LIBRARY'S WINTER READING CHALLENGE

The Folsom Public Library Winter Reading Challenge continues through January. Residents are encouraged to sign up to read or listen to five books this winter season. 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. Scan ISBNs, time reading sessions, or keep records of current and past books completed with the app. Sign up today at folsom.beanstack.org. Learn more about Folsom Public Library programs, services, and events at www.folsom.ca.us/library.



SUMMER SWIM LESSON REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 8

Join The Squad this summer and start building your water confidence and swim skills! The Steve Miklos Aquatic Center offers a great lineup of summer swim lessons through its popular Sea Squad Swim School. Lessons for ages 3 to 15 are available for those who are just beginning and developing water confidence, as well as students who want to advance and build on existing swim skills. Lessons begin in June; early registration is encouraged as space is limited and classes fill quickly. Visit webtrac.folsom.ca.us to register or call **916-461-6640** for more information.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WITH FOLSOM PARKS & RECREATION

Partnerships help Folsom Parks & Recreation provide community events and enrichment programs for all ages. They also support the city's community recreational facilities—the sports complex, aquatic center, gallery and art center, senior center, the CAVE teen centers, and the zoo sanctuary. Custom partnership packages are tailored to reach your target audience and aligned with your business interests. Enhance our community and show your support with an annual (12-month) partnership of your choice; call Frankie Nelson at **916-461-6614** or Jeri Karges at **916-461-6616** to learn more.



JOIN THE FOLSOM CITY ZOO SANCTUARY'S DOCENT TRAINING PROGRAM

Registration is open for the 2024 zoo sanctuary docent training class. Docents help host school tours, assist with story times and youth day camps, participate in community events, and other ongoing activities. The training class will cover the zoo sanctuary's guiding mission and vision, information and facts about the animal residents, and expectations for docent volunteers. Current docents will also share their experiences and the rewards of volunteering. Classes are held Mondays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. starting February 12 and continuing through March 18. Class fee is \$40 and includes training materials; must be age 21 or older. Deadline to register is February 5; find more details and register at webtrac.folsom.ca.us. Call Sue Bean at **916-715-8610** with questions.



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The City of Folsom is home to more than six miles of frontage on the American River and Lake Natoma. The city's 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. This important area is located on the American River at Lake Natoma and is bound by Folsom-Auburn Road, Greenback Lane, and Folsom Boulevard.

The city and its consultant team are seeking input on the River District area, and community members are encouraged to weigh in and inform the master planning process with a new interactive engagement platform available on the city's website. A community comment/mapping activity and questionnaire are the first steps to gathering feedback on community preferences, needs, issues, and opportunities within the River District Master Plan area. We want to hear your thoughts—the online survey and mapping tool is available through Wednesday, January 17.

Learn more, share your opinion, and sign up for updates at www.folsom.ca.us/RiverDistrict.



LEGO BUILDING CONTEST

Put your LEGO building skills to the challenge in the 5th annual Folsom Public Library LEGO Building Contest. LEGO builders are invited to submit their best original creations for competition. The community is encouraged to visit the library to see the creations and vote for their favorites.

- » Contestants can deliver projects from Tuesday, February 20 through 11 a.m. Saturday, February 24.
- » View the winning entries and cast votes in each age group from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, February 24.

For details, visit www.folsom.ca.us/library.

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