

CITY



LINK

Property Owners to Receive Critical Streetlight Ballots in July

In July property owners will receive ballots in the mail that will determine whether residential streetlight service will continue in Moreno Valley. At issue is the City's ability to continue to pay for streetlights in residential areas. Due to electrical rates that have increased approximately 47% since 2006, the amount that the City currently collects from property owners for residential streetlight services is not sufficient to cover the costs. The existing charge for the residential streetlights, which is collected from property owners on the annual property tax bill, is \$23 or \$24 per parcel.

The City will be mailing ballots to property owners in July seeking approval to increase the annual charge for streetlights. This would be the first increase for many property owners in 14 years. Last year the City conducted a similar mail ballot proceeding to increase the street lighting charge and only 16% of the 40,000 ballots were returned. If you receive a ballot for residential street lighting services in July, please complete it and return it to the City by September 14. Your vote will determine the future of residential streetlight services in Moreno Valley.

The City is conducting several town hall meetings to discuss the residential streetlight services and the ballot. For meeting dates and locations, or for more information on the residential streetlight ballot, please visit the City's website or contact the City's Special Districts Division at 413.3480.



Streetlight services -The City will mail ballots to property owners in July seeking approval to increase the annual fee for streetlights.



Invest in Your Community

Your support of local businesses equates to more jobs. Shopping at local stores is an investment in City-provided services and quality of life. Make Moreno Valley a better place to live and do business.



Energy Saving Tips from the Moreno Valley Electric Utility

It is great living in the Inland Empire in the summer, if you like the heat. Unfortunately summer temperatures sometimes bring electric bills that can be larger than your car payment. Here are some tips that can help lower your electric bill this summer:

- **Change out incandescent light bulbs with Energy Star® qualified compact fluorescent bulbs.** These bulbs provide more light with less electricity, and can last up to ten times longer. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, a typical home can save \$80 per year by making this transition. For the average home almost 10% of the total energy bill is spent on lighting. Turning off lights when not in use is the most cost-effective way of saving on electricity costs.



- **When possible, use fans and natural ventilation before turning on the air conditioner.** When the air conditioner is in use, make sure the thermostat is not set below 78° F. The smaller the difference between inside and outside temperatures, the lower the cost to cool your home. Also make sure the air filter is clean: the dirtier the filter, the harder your air conditioner has to work, and the more you have to pay in electric bills.



- **Use Energy Star® rated appliances.** A new refrigerator that is Energy Star rated uses at least 20% less energy than required by current federal standards and 40% less energy than the conventional models sold in 2001. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, refrigerators in the home account for almost 7% of energy bills. If you have more than one fridge, or an extra freezer in the garage, that amount more than doubles. In the summer, empty and unplug that second refrigerator or freezer and save your money.



- **Use passive cooling techniques to block the sunlight from heating the house.** Close blinds and shades on windows that are exposed to the south and west orientations.
- **To save on your electric bill all year long, turn off televisions, computers and other electrical devices when not in use.**



Economic Development News

City brings in nearly 2,000 new jobs

Nearly 2,000 new jobs were created in Moreno Valley over the past two years, as was recently reported to the Mayor and City Council Members by the Economic Development Department. Despite the poor economy experienced nationwide, the City attracted numerous new businesses to the Moreno Valley community, including distribution, logistics, manufacturing, retail, restaurants, and three new hotels. New jobs created over the past two years total 1,896.

The businesses bringing the largest number of new jobs to the Moreno Valley community include United Natural Foods, Inc., which brought 398 new jobs when it opened its 613,200 s.f. distribution center in Moreno Valley (the company's largest distribution center in its Western Region.) O'Reilly Automotive recently brought 375 new job opportunities to town, and Philips Electronics and the expanded Ross Distribution Center added 250 and 200 new jobs respectively. In March, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger visited Moreno Valley to help celebrate the groundbreaking for an 1.8 million Skechers USA distribution hub which the developer anticipates will employ 1,000.

Moreno Valley ERC assists job seekers

The City of Moreno Valley is helping unemployed and underemployed Moreno Valley residents find jobs. The Moreno Valley Employment Resource Center (ERC) provides residents with free use of computers to access the internet to search for employment opportunities, prepare resumes, fax job applications or apply for unemployment benefits. Other services at the Moreno Valley ERC include: Employment Information Workshops, Resource Library, Hot Jobs Announcement Board, Skills assessments and individual career counseling.

In the first six months of the operation, over 14,000 visits were made to the ERC, an average of over 130 visits per day. While it is not an employment agency, the ERC is a resource center offering a variety of tools to people seeking jobs, as well as offering a location in the community for training programs and business recruitments.

The ERC is a partnership with the Workforce Development Centers of Riverside County. Information about ERC services are listed at www.moval.org and Riverside County workshop schedules can be found at www.rivcojobs.com. Contact the ERC at 413.3920 or via e-mail at erc@moval.org.

Workshop Dates

Monday, April 26

Vista Heights Middle School
23049 Old Lake Road

Saturday, May 8

Butterfield Elementary School
13400 Kitching Street

Saturday, May 22

Badger Springs Middle School
24750 Delphinium Avenue

Monday, June 7

Valley View High School
13135 Nason Street

Saturday, June 26

Moreno Valley Conference and
Recreation Center
14075 Frederick Street

Neighborhood Preservation

City Offers Third Series of Home Foreclosure Prevention Workshops

Although foreclosure activity in Moreno Valley has decreased, many residents still face the possibility of losing their homes. The City's Economic Development Department will offer a third series of foreclosure prevention workshops beginning in April. The series includes five community events, one in each City Council District, at which residents will have an opportunity to meet one-on-one with housing counseling agencies and mortgage lenders. The City will partner with the HELP Program and the Housing Opportunities Collaborative of the Inland Empire to provide these informative workshops, and the workshops will also have Spanish translation available.

For additional information please contact the Neighborhood Preservation Division at 413.3464.

Public Safety

National Night Out

The 27th Annual National Night Out has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 3. Representatives from the Moreno Valley Police Department will be visiting neighborhoods throughout the community in this unique, nationwide event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. National Night Out involves residents, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, and neighborhood organizations from over 15,000 communities coming together to:

- Heighten awareness of crime and drug prevention;
- Generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

For more information on National Night Out and the Moreno Valley Police Department please visit the City's Web site or call 486.6715.



Keep your kids safe in the water this summer

Summertime means fun in the sun and at the pool. However, tragedy can strike without a sound. Drowning is the leading cause of accidental injury-related death among children. It can happen without screaming or splashing, making a child unconscious in less than 2 minutes. Most of these incidents happen in unsecured backyard pools. Make sure they don't happen in yours.

Kids don't know that water is dangerous, and that less than one inch of water can kill them. Locally, 8 children under the age of 13 drowned in Riverside County in 2008.

The Moreno Valley Fire Department has the following tips to help keep your little swimmers safe in the water:

Watch kids in or near a pool at all times.

Assign an adult to play lifeguard.

Block children's access to the water.

Install fences, self-closing and self-latching gates, pool motion sensors, window and door alarms.

Make sure little ones and parents learn water safety.

Kids should take swimming lessons and learn pool safety practices. Parents/caregivers should take CPR and first aid classes.

WWW.MOVAL.ORG

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Animal Shelter Receives Generous Donations

The Moreno Valley Animal Shelter was the grateful recipient of recent donations to help in the care and comfort of animals waiting for their new homes. Stater Bros. Markets presented a donation in the amount of \$3,530 to the Shelter at the January 26th City Council meeting. Stater Bros. Markets and Pedigree, one of their major suppliers of dog food products, donated proceeds from their sales volume in an effort to help orphaned pets. The donation will be used to provide veterinary care to these animals, along with spaying and neutering of pets to make them available for immediate adoption.

The Shelter also received a generous donation from Fourth Grade Student Skyler Robbins. A resident of Winchester, Skyler delivered items such as animal treats, dog and cat food, dog toys, towels, blankets and dog beds valued at over \$500. The French Valley Elementary School student distributed flyers and made a school presentation asking her classmates to join her donation drive by helping to collect items for the Animal Shelter. Skyler and her mother, Cindy Robbins, recently delivered the items collected from the donation drive to the Shelter located at 14041 Elsworth Street. The Shelter is open to the public Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Making a difference -Skyler Robbins asked her classmates during a presentation to donate food and pet care items to benefit the Moreno Valley Animal Shelter.

Fire Hazard Abatement Program



Help prevent fires -Clear your land of overgrown weeds, dry grass, dead groves or other flammable vegetation.

The Moreno Valley Fire Department's Fire Prevention Division conducts a Hazard Reduction program each year to identify vacant properties that are overgrown with weeds, dry grass, dead groves or other flammable vegetation. Hazard abatement begins by issuing a "Notice to Abate."

This notice is sent to owners of vacant parcels that have a weed problem or if a weed problem is anticipated in the coming months. It is important when property owners receive an abatement notice to respond immediately by clearing the hazard from the property.

The 2010 "Notices of Violation and Order to Abate" have begun to be sent to property owners. If you receive an abatement notice and do not understand what you need to do, call the Hazard Reduction hotline at 413-3381. They can assist you in making your property fire safe and will explain what clearing you will need to do.