

Welcome to the City of St. Helena eNews

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Thanksgiving Holiday 2013



Welcome to the Thanksgiving Edition of the eNews. The eNews is published bi-weekly and with this edition coming a week before Thanksgiving, the City did not want to miss the opportunity the wish everyone a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving holiday.

Please note that City Hall will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 28th and 29th in observance of the holiday.

A special thanks of gratitude is extended to our Police Department, Public Works Water and Wastewater Treatment staff that will be working or on call for the holiday break. Their dedication and service to the City and the community is much appreciated.

[Holiday Safety](#)

Thanksgiving Holiday Safety Tips

Following Thanksgiving holiday safety tips helps to keep you and your family happy and safe during this festive time of family celebrations.

Food Safety Tips for Thanksgiving

Enjoy your favorite Thanksgiving foods safely by following [safe food handling](#) and cooking practices.

- Make sure to wash your hands thoroughly before preparing food, after handling any raw poultry or meat and before eating.
- Keep your food preparation surfaces and utensils clean and sanitized to reduce the risk of [salmonella poisoning](#).
- Use separate cutting boards - one for meat, poultry and fish and one for cooked foods, vegetables and fruits. Sanitize the cutting board after each use.
- Wash all vegetables and fruits before you prepare them.
- Thaw a frozen turkey safely in the refrigerator allowing 3-4 days for thawing or approximately one day for every five pounds. Another way to safely thaw a frozen turkey is submerging it in cold water. Replace the water every 30 minutes until the turkey is thawed. This method takes approximately 30 minutes for each pound the turkey weighs. The Food Safety website provides a useful [turkey thawing chart](#) and a [turkey roasting chart](#).
- Refrigerate a thawed, or fresh, turkey for no longer than two days before cooking.
- Immediately cook a small turkey that is defrosted in the microwave.
- If you cook your stuffing inside the turkey, stuff it just before roasting.
- Always use a meat thermometer to see if the turkey is completely cooked. The temperature needs to reach 180 degrees Fahrenheit when inserted in the thickest area of the thigh.
- Refrigerate all leftovers within two hours after cooking.
- Leftovers should be eaten within three or four days. If you are going to freeze leftovers, do that right away, not after they have been refrigerated for several days.

Keep Your Pets Safe

Many people enjoy sharing some of their Thanksgiving meal with their pets. However, it is important to be aware of the dangers that may exist to ensure your favorite furry friends enjoy a safe Thanksgiving.

- Never give your dog or cat raw or undercooked turkey as they, like people, are susceptible to salmonella bacteria. Make sure their holiday turkey nibbles are well cooked.
- Do not give your pets stuffing since herbs, such as sage, even in small amounts can cause an upset stomach and gastrointestinal problems.
- Never give your pets turkey bones.
- Never give a pet raw bread dough. The dough expands once it is eaten, causing vomiting, pain and bloating. Surgery may be required to correct the condition.
- Keep the kitchen trash can covered and out of the way of curious pets.
- Keep fresh flowers and plants out of the reach of cats and dogs. Many beautiful flowers are [highly toxic](#) to pets if ingested.

Thanksgiving holiday safety tips help you be aware of ways to keep your family healthy and happy during this special time of year. Click [here](#) for the full article published on Love to Know and authored by [Terry Hurley](#).

[City Seeks Volunteers for New Active Transportation Committee](#)

Opportunity knocks for you to have a role in the City's active transportation development

The City of St. Helena is seeking members for the newly formed Active Transportation, an advisory committee charged with improving bicycle, walking and other active transportation modes within St. Helena.

The committee will be comprised of five St. Helena residents (the Council may approve members from outside the City limits on a case-by-case basis.) Two alternates will also be selected for when members cannot attend. Committee members will serve two years from the date of appointment; except in establishing this new committee, the Council may initially impose staggered terms consisting of one and two year terms.

Interested residents are encouraged to fill out an application from the City's website www.cityofstheleena.org or click [here](#) to download the application. **The application**



City of St. Helena *Event Calendar*

Upcoming Events

November 2013

City Council Meeting
Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, November 26th
6:00 PM

Click [here](#) to access City Council Agendas

Thanksgiving Holiday
Thursday, November 28th -
Friday, November 29th
City Hall Closed

deadline in December 3, 2013. The Council will make appointments at its December 10, 2013 meeting.

The committee's first task will be to make recommendations to the City Council on a plan for spending approximately \$79,000 in City funds budgeted for active transportation improvements.

For more information, please contact City Clerk Delia Guijosa at cityclerk@cityofstheleena.org.

Public Works Capital Projects Update



Streets Projects

- **2013 St. Helena Street Repairs Project** (CIP Project No. R-71)
Residents in St. Helena have patiently encountered their fair share of road construction as the city embarked on an aggressive road repair project to complete \$1M in road repairs to effectively put a large dent in the City's efforts to raise its poor Pavement Condition Index (PCI) rating of 21 (0 is bad and 100 is good). The PCI rating scale is the tool engineers use to rate the condition of the streets. As mentioned in recent eNews articles, the PCI rating of 21 earned St. Helena a showing in the top five worst streets in California.

The 2013 Street Repair Program included three components, the first component was the asphalt resurfacing or AC overlay for roads that have outlived their useful life. The second component was the micro-surfacing of deteriorated road surfaces while the third was crack sealing good condition roads to extend the life of pavement.

The City appropriated a significant portion of repair funds to micro-surfacing allowing more square footage of roads to be maintained. Micro-surfacing a roadway does not result in as aesthetically or physically appealing a surface as a full AC overlay. But it is fiscally "appealing" as it allows the City to repair significantly more square footage of roads. The current allocated budget allowed for 367,650 square feet of micro-surfacing, whereas only 12,063 square feet of full AC overlay could have been completed with the same designated funds.

The ability to cover more square footage helps to ensure that not only do residents have good roads, but the City can also avoid costly reconstruction until absolutely necessary. It should be noted that to keep the costs down related to seal-coating and overlaying, the Public Works and Water and Sewer crews do their share of maintenance on roads. St. Helena has traditionally done a lot of the in-house maintenance, allowing us to stretch our dollars. A big thank you goes out to these departments for the work they do to

December 2013

Planning

Commission Meeting

Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, December 3rd
7:00 PM

City Council Meeting

Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, December 10th
6:00 PM

Planning

Commission Meeting

Vintage Hall Board Room
Tuesday, December 17th
7:00 PM

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 24h
Cancelled

Christmas Holiday

Tuesday, December 24th -
Wednesday, December 25th
City Hall Closed

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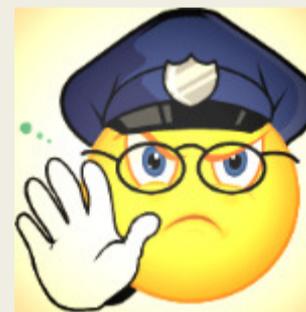


City of St. Helena

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Police Corner



Don't be stopped by our Police Department.

Activity of Note and Prevention

Week ending November 1st

- 2 Drunk driving arrest (Napa residents)
- 1 Possession of illegal substance & probation violation arrest (SH resident)
- 1 Petty theft arrest (SH resident)
- 3 Citations for driving without a license
- 16 Moving traffic citations issued (3 speed)
- 32 Parking citations issued
- 160 Incidents logged
- 20 Reports written

maintain the roads. Additionally, the City extends a warm thank you to the residents who put up with some disruption to their normal schedules. Overall, the City hopes that the end result of the completed maintenance and repair activities help improve the City's PCI rating and the overall usability and aesthetics of the roads in the neighborhoods.

For more information, please contact Senior Management Analyst Kathy Robinson at kathyr@cityofstheleena.org.

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