



# Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2023

## SAVE ENERGY, SAVE MONEY AT HOME

### Calendar

DATE	EVENT	TIME
2/13	City Council	5:30 p.m.
2/20	Presidents' Day	CLOSED
2/27	City Council	5:30 p.m.
3/13	City Council	5:30 p.m.
3/27	City Council	5:30 p.m.



### Presidents' Day

City Hall and Building & Safety will be closed and there will be no inspections on Monday, February 20th in observance of Presidents' Day.

### City Council

Mayor	Steve Freedland
Mayor Pro Tem	Eniko Gold
Council Member	Larry G. Weber
Council Member	Laura McCorkindale
Council Member	Joe Loggia

### City Staff

City Manager	Kerry Kallman
City Clerk	Deana L. Gonzalez, CMC
Accounting Specialist	Theresa Hernandez
Administrative Analyst	Chantelle Limón
City Attorney	Roxanne Diaz
Special Counsel	Larry Wiener
City Engineer	Dirk Lovett
Building Official	Greg Robinson
Building Inspector	Steve O'Hara
Emergency Services Coordinator	Mike Woodard

It's been chilly lately and SoCalGas is warning customers to expect unusually high natural gas bills this winter. Rising costs of natural gas in the Western United States have more than doubled recently, due to below-normal temperatures, high natural gas consumption, reduced natural gas flows, and pipeline constraints. SoCalGas offers tips to reduce gas usage as well as financial assistance for eligible customers.



### Tips to Conserve and Save:

- Lowering your thermostat three to five degrees - if health permits - can save up to 10 percent on heating costs.
- Installing proper caulking and weather-stripping can save roughly 10 to 15 percent on heating and cooling bills.
- Washing clothes in cold water saves up to 10 percent on water heating costs.
- Consider turning down the temperature on your water heater.
- Limit the use of non-essential natural gas appliances such as spas, pool heaters, and fireplaces.

Customers are able to sign up online for weekly Bill Tracker Alerts to monitor gas consumption, take steps to reduce usage, and avoid bill surprises. Alerts can be sent through email or text and include a bill-to-date and projected next bill amount to help manage your energy bills as easily as possible.

SoCalGas also offers a number of assistance programs that range from past due bill forgiveness, CARE program (bill discount), and free energy efficiency home improvements through their Energy Savings Assistance Program.

For more information on bills and how to lower your costs, visit [socialgas.com/ManageHigherBills](https://socialgas.com/ManageHigherBills).

# DID YOU FEEL THAT SHAKE, RATTLE, AND ROLL?

Last month, the Los Angeles region shook from a 4.2 magnitude earthquake off the coast of Malibu. LA County reported no damage or injuries but residents are reminded to be prepared in case of disaster. A very important element of preparedness is being connected in your community. Get to know your neighbors and talk about a plan to help each other in an emergency. Be ready to assist your family and friends and have someone you can call if you need help. Don't forget to have emergency supplies ready to go, too, before a disaster happens.



**Backpacks work great for storing these items and are easy to grab!**

### **Essentials for Your Emergency Supply Kit**

- Three-day supply of non-perishable food and one gallon of water per person, per day
- Prescriptions or special medications
- Change of clothing and close-toed shoes
- Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses
- An extra set of car keys, credit cards, and cash
- First aid kit
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Sanitation supplies
- Copies of important documents (ie birth certificates, passports, etc.)
- Pet food and water

Read about more safety topics at [fire.lacounty.gov](https://www.fire.lacounty.gov).

## **GRAB YOUR EMERGENCY SURVIVAL GUIDE**

This Emergency Survival Guide will help you to better prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters that face the Los Angeles region. The booklet provides tips that assist you to be self-sufficient after a disaster. In addition, residents should increase their awareness of emergency situations and the skills you need to prepare your family, neighbors and your community. This guide is available for pick-up at City Hall or can be downloaded online at [lacounty.gov/emergency/preparedness/emergency-survival-guide](https://lacounty.gov/emergency/preparedness/emergency-survival-guide).

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## **EMERGENCY SURVIVAL GUIDE**



## JUMPSTART YOUR SUMMER GARDEN, GROW A GREAT SOIL SPONGE

You can grow living soil at home and help keep your plants happy. Living soil is made up of oxygen, water, and "life" (bacteria, protozoa, nematodes, and fungi). It is alive and essential to a healthy garden.

### Get Started:

Eliminate compaction by loosening soil and bringing more oxygen to plant roots. If you can press a pitchfork into the soil, that's all you need to do to create air holes.

Water wisely, first with rain water. Replace water in the soil only as plants use it; too much water displaces the oxygen and creates conditions that promote disease.

Feed your soil with organic matter such as mulch, compost, and worm castings. Once you get things started, plants manufacture their own soil-building organic matter by dropping leaves, blossoms, and other debris.

**PRO TIP - DITCH YOUR LEAF BLOWER.** The City of Hidden Hills prohibits the use of gasoline powered leaf blowers throughout the community. Though electric and battery blowers are allowed on private property (but not on parkways, streets, and trails), avoid using leaf blowers near your plants. The last thing plants need is hot, dry air noisily blowing dust around. Help your garden from drying out and use a rake to gather leaves and debris whenever possible!

With healthy, living soil sponge in place in your garden, seeds and saplings will be ready to plant in the spring!



## Sheriff's Blotter December 2022

	CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	CHANGE
Homicide	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	1	-1
Robbery				
Armed	0	0	1	-1
Strong-arm	0	0	0	0
Assault	0	1	2	-1
Burglary				
Residential	1	5	0	5
Business	0	0	0	0
Garage/Out Bldg.	0	0	0	0
Vehicle (locked)	0	1	0	1
Theft				
Grand (\$950+)	0	3	2	1
Petty	0	0	0	0
Vehicle (unlocked)	0	0	2	-2
Grand Theft Vehicle	1	1	0	1
Arson	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence / Felony	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence / Misdemeanor	0	2	2	0
Trespassing Calls for Service	1	31	52	-21

### Noteworthy Incident:

- A vehicle was stolen from the 5800 block of Clear Valley Road. The vehicle was parked in the driveway of the location with the keys inside it. It was recovered in the 24000 block of Philipprimm Street in Woodland Hills with no damage and nothing stolen from the inside.

All residents are encouraged to remain alert and to report any and all suspicious activity directly to the Sheriff's Department by calling 911 or 818-878-1808.



## CITY'S ONLINE PERMIT CENTER IS OPEN 24/7

The City's Building and Safety Department now offers online services for both permit and plan check submittals. The online portal, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, allows interested parties to submit a permit application, upload any required plan check documents, and pay the permit and/or plan check fee with credit card. The Online Permit Center can be accessed via the City website at [hiddenhillscity.org](https://www.hiddenhillscity.org). The City's Building and Safety Department is open for walk-ins and phone calls Monday through Friday from 9:00am to 11:00am.



## City Council UPDATES

At their meeting on January 9th, the City Council approved a Community Assistance Grant in the amount of \$2,995 to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Malibu/Lost Hills Station to purchase CellHawk, an analyzing program used by Sheriff Deputies.

At their meeting on January 23rd, the City Council approved a Minor Accommodation at 6007 Clear Valley Road and voted to authorize the City's appointed governing Board Member of the Las Virgenes/Malibu Council of Governments to formally take positions on certain matters related to local control without first seeking approval from the City Council.

The Hidden Hills City Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. City Council meetings start at 5:30 p.m. and can be watched on Channel 3 (Charter/Spectrum Cable) or web streamed via the City website.

## PETS CAN HAVE ALLERGIES, TOO!

Suffer from seasonal allergies? Your pets could be suffering, too. Like humans, pets can be allergic to foods, dust, plants, and pollens. In fact, almost any substance your cat, dog, or horse is exposed to has the potential to become an allergen.

Since pets cannot verbally communicate their discomfort, pet owners should be aware of the signs of allergies. Signs or symptoms of allergies may include a rash or hives, minor sniffing or sneezing, ear infections, gastrointestinal disturbances, or, in some cases, anaphylactic shock to insect bites and stings.

If you think your pet may be suffering from allergies, please visit your veterinarian as soon as possible.



## THINKING OF ADOPTING A PET?

Residents are able to search all pets available for adoption on the Los Angeles County Animal Care & Control website. If you see a pet you are interested in adopting, you can use the website to schedule an appointment to stop by for a visit. During your appointment visit, a staff member or volunteer will assist you and you will be able to view all animals that are "Ready to Go Home" that day. This means they are spayed or neutered, off stray hold and have gone to dog playgroups at least once (for dogs over 35 lbs). Animals will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Start your search now at [animalcare.lacounty.gov/adopt-a-pet](http://animalcare.lacounty.gov/adopt-a-pet).