



# NEWSLETTER

MAY 2021

## Calendar

DATE	EVENT	TIME
5/3	Theater Committee	10:00 a.m.*
5/3	Equestrian Committee	6:30 p.m.*
5/3	Architectural Committee	7:30 p.m.*
5/4	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*
5/7	Landscape Committee	8:30 a.m.*
5/10	City Council	5:30 p.m.
5/10	Gate Committee	6:30 p.m.
5/11	Parks and Recreation Committee	12:00 p.m.*
5/11	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*
5/18	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*
5/18	HHCA Board of Directors	6:30 p.m.*
5/24	City Council	5:30 p.m.
5/25	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*
5/26	CERT	6:00 p.m.
6/4	Landscape Committee	8:30 a.m.*
6/7	Theater Committee	10:00 a.m.*
6/7	Equestrian Committee	6:30 p.m.*
6/7	Architectural Committee	7:30 p.m.*
6/8	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*
6/14	City Council	5:30 p.m.
6/14	Gate Committee	6:30 p.m.
6/15	Parks and Recreation Committee	12:00 p.m.*
6/15	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*
6/22	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*
6/22	HHCA Board of Directors	6:30 p.m.*
6/28	City Council	5:30 p.m.
6/29	Hidden Hills Farmer's Market	2:00 p.m.*

\* Hidden Hills Community Center (24549 Long Valley Road)  
Non asterisk meetings held at City Hall, 6165 Spring Valley Road

## City Council

Mayor	Stuart E. Siegel
Mayor Pro Tem	Laura McCorkindale
Council Member	Steve Freedland
Council Member	Larry G. Weber
Council Member	Eniko Gold

## City Staff

City Manager	Kerry Kallman
City Clerk	Deana L. Graybill, CMC
Accounting Specialist	Theresa Folk
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

# Leaf Blowers in Hidden Hills

Since 1994, gasoline powered leaf blowers have been prohibited throughout the City of Hidden Hills. The prohibition was put in place as the use of gas powered leaf blowers raise concerns about excessive noise, air pollution, and exposure to particulate matter.

On April 26, 2021, citing additional health and safety concerns of residents, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 374, expanding the City-wide ban on all leaf blowers (gas, electric, or battery powered) on parkways, roadways, streets, and pedestrian and equestrian trails. The ordinance specifies that no person shall cause another person (such as a gardener or landscaper) to use or operate a leaf blower in these areas. As adopted, all leaf blowers are prohibited in Hidden Hills with one exception: **non-gasoline powered (electric and battery powered) leaf blowers are permitted on private property exclusively**, for example, in residential front yards and backyards.



Any responsible person (such as a resident, property owner, property manager, or entity) that creates, permits, or allows a violation of this Ordinance is subject to an administrative citation. Prior to issuing an administrative citation, residents will receive a warning letter with information on the City's Ordinance and a request to correct the future violation. Thereafter, if the responsible party is found to be in violation, an administration citation will be issued along with a fine: \$100 for the first offense; \$200 for the second violation within one year; and \$500 for each additional violation within one year. The new Ordinance and rules regarding leaf blowers go into effect on May 26, 2021.

To report a leaf blower violation, please contact City Hall at 818-888-9281 or send an email to [staff@hiddenhillscity.org](mailto:staff@hiddenhillscity.org). Please provide the address and time of day of the violation.

## Looking To Switch To An Electric Blower?

Although the City cannot endorse a particular electric leaf blower, the HHCA's landscaping company switched years ago to the Stihl backpack model and reports it is an excellent model with 2 hours of battery life. Although electric blowers are a little more costly, think of it as an investment in our future. Additionally, we expect gas leaf blowers to be banned throughout California as early as 2022.



For more information on electric leaf blowers and potential rebate programs please visit the Southcoast Air Quality Management District website at <https://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/community-detail?title=lawn-equipment>

More on leaf blowers on page 2

# The Problem with Gas Leaf Blowers

1. Leaf blowers generate large amounts of airborne dust, including mold spores, allergens, dried animal feces, pesticides and fine particles that increase the number and severity of asthma attacks, cause or aggravate bronchitis, or other lung diseases, and reduce the ability to fight infection. The EPA and the California Air Resources Board, in their brochure "Particulate Matter Air Pollution: A Threat To Our Health," advise us; "Avoid using leaf blowers."
2. Leaf blower motors are large emitters of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons, and fine particles too small to be eliminated by the body's defenses. The gas-oil mixture that fuels two-stroke engines is especially toxic. The American Lung Association reports that a leaf blower motor releases as much smog as 17 cars. This pollution is known to cause cancer and cardiopulmonary disease.
3. The noise from a leaf blower can reach 90-100 decibels at the operator's ear. According to the World Health Organization, there is an increasing risk of irreversible hearing damage from noise above 75 decibels. Hearing protectors do not necessarily prevent the damage. Blower noise also increases the risk of accidents, causes sleep deprivation, affects the gastrointestinal system, and increases the likelihood of cardiovascular disease, including heart attacks. Noisy environments impair the hearing health, language development, and learning disabilities of children, and may affect their behavior.
4. Small, two-cycle gasoline engines are notoriously inefficient, consuming large amounts of fuel that the country cannot afford to lose. Electric powered leaf blowers are less polluting and less noisy, but the adverse effects of airborne dust are the same.
5. Leaf blowers have been shown to cause serious damage to soil and landscape plants with their dust-laden 200 mph force winds, which cause dehydration and leaf-burn, retard new growth, clog leaf pores, and spread disease spores, insect eggs, and weed seeds.
6. For lawns of approximately a half-acre, garden rakes are nearly as quick as leaf blowers, and do a better job. In Los Angeles, a contest sponsored by the Department of Water & Power showed that a woman in her late 50s, using a rake and broom cleaned an area faster than electric leaf blowers and nearly as fast as a gas-powered machine - and she did a better job. Rakes cost far less than leaf blowers, they last much longer, and they require no maintenance. For your health, your safety, and the health of your lawn and garden, use a rake, and ask your landscaper to do the same.



For more information about the many adverse effects of leaf blowers can be found at the following websites:  
<http://www.nonoise.org/quietnet/cqs/leafblow.htm#conseq>  
[www.scnc.info](http://www.scnc.info)  
[www.zapla.org](http://www.zapla.org)

## Protect Your Trees: Invasive Shothole Borer Beetle Training

Protect your planted and native trees! The non-native, Invasive Shothole Borer beetle (ISHB) is found throughout Los Angeles and Ventura Counties and is killing numbers of native and non-native trees. Homeowners in and near the Santa Monica Mountains are invited to participate in a one-hour online training which will teach what to look for in your trees and steps that can be taken to prevent the beetles from spreading. The meeting will be held on May 10th from 2pm to 3pm and registration is not required. A link to join the meeting is posted on the home page of the City's website, [hiddenhillscity.org](http://hiddenhillscity.org).



# SAFETY TIPS

**When to call 911.** In an emergency, always call 911! If your call is not an emergency, call the Lost Hills Sheriff Station's business line at 818-878-1808.

**Lock Your Doors.** Always lock the doors and windows of your home and your car. Additionally, keep garages and sheds closed and locked. Never leave keys under doormats, flowerpots, mailboxes or other "secret" hiding places—burglars know where to look for spare keys.

**Protect Yourself from Scams.** If you receive a demand for payment by telephone, email, or other means of communication, to be made in any form for any reason, from someone portraying themselves as a deputy sheriff or other Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department employee, do not comply. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department personnel will never ask for payment over the phone or by email. If you are unsure if a call or email is real, verify the identity of the contact through an independent source, such as by calling the Lost Hills Station at 818-878-1808.

**Drive Safe and Report Dangerous Driving.** Keep an eye out for pedestrians and animals near the road and slow down as you pass by in your car. Be on the lookout for people walking dogs, riding horses, and maintain awareness that children may suddenly run into the street. Residents are encouraged to contact City Hall at 818-888-9281 to report dangerous driving. Include the incident location, time and date, the make of the car, and the license plate number. Upon receipt of the information, a Sheriff's Deputy will be assigned to make contact with the offending party to address and correct the bad-driving practices.



# Deputy Rick Baldi

## on Patrol in Hidden Hills

Last July, the City Council approved funding to create a new full-time Sheriff's Deputy assigned to Hidden Hills. Deputy Rick Baldi is the City's full time Deputy and spends a majority of his time patrolling the City. Rick also helps with follow up investigations and provides guidance to any Deputy responding in Hidden Hills. Additionally, Deputy Baldi coordinates regularly with Covered 6 Security on any incidents that arise. He builds and maintains community relations, provides education to residents, and assists with special events such as the recent Vaccine Clinic, Fiesta, and Halloween.

Deputy Baldi is available to discuss any questions or concerns with residents. In case of emergency, residents are reminded to always call 911. For non-emergency questions or concerns, such as filing a police report, residents can call the Lost Hills Station business line at 818-878-1808 for a same-day response. If you would like to send a non-urgent message to Deputy Baldi, he can be reached via email at [rjbaldi@lasd.org](mailto:rjbaldi@lasd.org).

## Hidden Hills Co-Hosts The Four Cities Covid-19 Vaccine Clinic In Calabasas

On April 16, the City of Hidden Hills co-hosted the Four Cities COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic along with the cities of Calabasas, Agoura Hills, and Westlake Village. The event was held outdoors in the parking lot of the Calabasas/Agoura Hills Community Center with Pfizer vaccine administered by Albertson's Pharmacy. Staff from participating cities worked together to plan and execute the event, a successful collaborative effort recognized by all. Fourteen members of the Hidden Hills CERT team were on-scene as volunteers that day and represented Hidden Hills well. The clinic was an all-day event and 1,080 people in total were vaccinated. Part two of the clinic will be held at the same location on May 7th where patients will receive their second dose of vaccine.



Photo: Deputy Knott, LASD

## Sheriff's Blotter March 2021



	CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2021	YTD 2020	CHANGE
Homicide	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	1	0	1
Robbery				
Armed	0	0	0	0
Strong-arm	0	0	0	0
Assault	0	1	0	1
Burglary				
Residential	0	0	4	-4
Business	0	0	0	0
Garage/Out Bldg.	0	0	0	0
Vehicle (locked)	0	0	0	0
Theft				
Grand (\$950+)	0	0	1	-1
Petty	0	0	1	-1
Vehicle (unlocked)	0	0	0	0
Grand Theft Vehicle	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence / Felony	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence / Misdemeanor	0	0	0	0
Trespassing Calls for Service	9	19	10	9

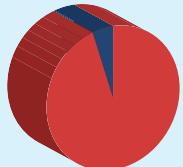
All residents are encouraged to remain alert and to report any and all suspicious activity directly to the Sheriff's Department by calling 911 or 818-878-1808.

### Noteworthy Incidents:

- A resident of Bakersfield was arrested for trespassing in the area of Long Valley Road and Saddle Creek Road. The subject had been advised not to enter the property/community of Hidden Hills before this incident.
- A Van Nuys transient was arrested for stalking and trespassing in the area of Hidden Ridge Road.

## HIDDEN HILLS **FIBER** SURVEY LIGHTNING FAST INTERNET RESULTS

*Would your household subscribe to a City-owned fiber system and internet services provided by a contracted provider that delivers high-speed (1gb symmetrical) broadband internet service for all residents of Hidden Hills?*



**Yes: 94.7%**  
**No: 5.3%**

The results are in! The Fiber to the Home Survey released in March generated an extraordinary 79% response rate from Hidden Hills residents, with approximately 95% of respondents indicating that they are

in support of the project. Based on the results of the survey, the next step for the City is to explore available financing options for the \$5.8 million dollar project. Updates and more information will be shared with residents as it becomes available.

## City of Hidden Hills

6165 Spring Valley Road,  
Hidden Hills, CA 91302  
818-888-9281  
[HiddenHillsCity.org](http://HiddenHillsCity.org)

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# City Council Updates

At their meeting on April 12, the City Council approved sponsorship of two ice cream trucks for upcoming Farmer's Markets, reviewed the results of the Fiber to the Home survey, and adopted an Ordinance regarding further prohibitions on use of leaf blowers in Hidden Hills.

At their meeting on April 26, the City Council discussed various legislation and impacts to Hidden Hills, provided funding to HHCA for the perimeter camera program, and approved an agreement with NHA Advisors to provide consulting services related to funding the City's Fiber to the Home project.

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



## City Council Meetings

Council meetings now begin at 5:30pm, still on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

## Food Trucks in Hidden Hills

Tired of cooking? Check out one of these food trucks coming soon to Hidden Hills. Visit [streetfoodfinder.com/hiddenhills](http://streetfoodfinder.com/hiddenhills) for a complete schedule and to pre-order your food. All the trucks will accept orders for time slots 24 hours in advance. Each truck will limit how many orders they can take in advance, per hour. Food trucks are located at the Community Center.

### Food Trucks Schedule

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| May 3   | Babys Badass Burgers<br>(Burgers, American)               |
| May 6   | 8E8 Thai Street Food (Thai)                               |
| May 24  | Pinch of Flavor<br>(Asian Fusion, Japanese, Mexican)      |
| May 27  | Border Grill<br>(Vegetarian, Mexican, Latin American)     |
| June 24 | Maravilla Latin Cuisine<br>(Cuban, Latin American, Vegan) |



**FARMERS' MARKETS ARE  
CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL FOOD  
OUTLETS & WILL REMAIN OPEN**

\*During the shelter in place you are allowed to visit essential businesses including the certified farmers market\*

- Hand washing stations provided
- No samples will be available
- No communal seating areas
- Practice social distancing
- Wash all produce before consumption!
- Pick up citrus for vitamin C & sunshine for vitamin D.

See you at market!

The Hidden Hills Farmers Market at the Community Center is open on Tuesdays from 2 pm to 6 pm.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR October 9th and 10th 2021 FIESTA

The County of Los Angeles Public Health Department has released guidelines for live and private events as COVID-19 cases continue to decline locally and statewide. The City is closely monitoring updates from Public Health and is planning a modified version of Fiesta that will comply with all safety guidelines at the time of the event. The City's top priority is the safety of residents and the event will be cancelled if more restrictive orders are put in place by Public Health. Stay tuned for more information!

