



Monthly Newsletter

January 2024



Annual meeting videos

Once again and despite the rain, we had an excellent turnout at our annual meeting on Dec. 6.

Our featured speaker was Supervisor Rich Desmond, who spoke about the challenge of maintaining our county roads and the ongoing issues associated with homeless populations.

Following Desmond, one of our deputies – Sgt. Gene Goff – spoke about the importance of residential patrols.

And WDDNA Board Member Steve Swatt spoke about our patrol operation and its impact on our neighborhood.

We recorded the meeting and have posted each speaker's presentation on our website. To view them, go to <https://wilhagginna.com/annual-meeting/>.

Disposing of your Christmas tree

Sacramento County offers two Christmas tree mulching options for residents in our area:

- Remove all the decorations, cut up your tree and put it into your Green Waste Organics bin (making sure that the lid will close) OR
- Drop it off at a free Christmas tree mulching site. [CLICK HERE](#) to download a flyer.



One such mulching event will be held Saturday, Jan. 6, from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the SMUD Corporation Yard, 6100 Folsom Blvd.

Or you can take your tree to a county recycling site on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 6-7. Sites nearest our area are

- Kiefer Landfill, 12701 Kiefer Blvd. (Jackson Highway, north on Grant Line Road, right on Kiefer Boulevard), 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- North Area Recovery Station, 4450 Roseville Rd. (Highway 80, north on Watt Avenue, left on Roseville Road) 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Loads in excess of 5 trees must be issued a voucher for the trees to be accepted at no charge. For more information, email SacGreenTeam@SacCounty.gov.

In either case,

- Trees must have all tinsel, lights, decorations, nails and stands removed.
- Flocked trees are not accepted for recycling. They can be cut up and placed in your regular garbage cart.
- If you dispose of a tree in a curbside cart, be sure the lid will close.

How to check your WDDNA membership status

This time of year, we often receive inquiries from members who cannot remember if they have paid their annual dues.

If you are wondering whether your dues are paid for 2024, all you need to do is:

- Go to our website at <https://wilhagginna.com/>.
- Login using the email address of the primary contact for your WDDNA account and your password.
- Your member portal will appear.
- To the left of your membership information, you will see a list of links to our various membership benefits. Select the "Billing" link and its drop-down item called "Invoices."
- If you have paid your 2024 dues, the top invoice will be shown as paid.
- If the invoice has not been paid, you may click on the invoice, then on the Pay Now option and you will be taken to our payment window where you can pay by credit card.

If you have any difficulty logging in, feel free to contact us at wilhaggindeldayona@gmail.com and someone will help you.

Check before you burn

Because of air quality concerns, burning anything in Sacramento County, including using fireplaces and wood stoves, is strictly regulated. If you are planning to burn yard waste or use your fireplace, it is wise to consult the [Check before you burn website](#).

The Sac Metro Air District's annual Check Before You Burn season runs from Nov. 1 to the end of February.

Wood-burning regulation [Rule 421](#) restricts or prohibits the use of all fireplaces, wood stoves, inserts and pellet stoves when fine particle pollution (PM2.5) is forecast to be high. This law applies to residents and businesses in unincorporated Sacramento County and the cities of Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento.

Check Before You Burn is the public outreach program implemented by the Sac Metro Air District. The program provides the public with the same-day and next-day burn status. Residents may check the website for the burn status or call 1-877-NO-BURN-5 (1-877-662-8765).

For the daily Air Quality Index (AQI) forecast, visit the [Spare The Air](#) website.

Burn Day Status Categories

These burn day status categories apply to anyone without an exemption operating a wood-burning device or lighting a fire in Sacramento County from November through February.

Stage 2: All Burning Prohibited: It is illegal to burn any solid fuel, including wood, manufactured fire logs and pellets in any device.

Stage 1: No Burn Unless Exempt: It is illegal to burn unless you use an EPA-certified fireplace insert or stove or pellet stove and it does not emit visible smoke.

To check if your fireplace insert or stove is EPA-certified, go to [Woodstove Database | Burnwise | US EPA](#).

Burning Discouraged: The Sac Metro Air District asks you to voluntarily not burn.

Legal to Burn: There are no restrictions to burn. When it is legal to burn, refer to the [Wood Burning Handbook](#) for tips on burning cleanly and efficiently, reducing smoke from wood burning and alternatives to wood burning.



January home safety checklist

January is a time for resolutions. So, [Safewise.com](#) offers the following suggestions to

add to your list of things to do to start the year off safely.

Create a home inventory – Make a list of the items you'd want your insurance company to know about if your home or property were damaged. Don't forget to add any big-ticket items you got over the holidays.

Update home files – Gather up instruction manuals and warranties and slip them into a single file. But first, check to see if the instruction manuals are available online—you may be able to chuck the physical copy.

Check batteries – Even in our neighborhood, power outages can happen. So, it's a good idea to check batteries and bulbs in flashlights, weather radios and other emergency gear.

Check your range hood filter – Now is a good time to clean your range-hood filter in boiling water and baking soda. This helps keep your kitchen air pure.

Clean your cooling coils – Refrigerator coils are dust magnets. Boost your fridge's energy efficiency by vacuuming the coils regularly.

Inspect pipes – Hopefully, you've already bundled up your water pipes with pipe insulation to save energy, but it's still a good idea to check them for cracks and fractures. Catching a leak before it happens can save you from costly water damage.

Clean filters and vents – If you didn't change your furnace filter this fall, now is the time. Clear debris from your dryer vents and other air vents.

Inspect house structure – Grab a flashlight and inspect exposed beams, foundations and your chimney for cracks, leaks, mold and damage from pests.

Add insulation – If your attic insulation is less than 12 inches deep, it's time to contact a professional to add more.

Test all your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Check fire extinguishers – Confirm that your emergency fire extinguishers are still charged. If the needle on the pressure gauge is in the green, you're all set. Otherwise, get it recharged.

Review your emergency plan – Make sure your family knows what the alarms on the smoke detectors sound like and what to do in case of a fire. If you don't have an emergency plan, Sacramento County has a webpage to help you create one. Go to <https://www.saccounty.gov/Government/Pages/EmergencyPreparedness.aspx>

Replace outdoor light bulbs – It's important to have working outdoor lights for your safety and home security.

Review the list of devices connected to your Wi-Fi – To make sure that someone else isn't using your Wi-Fi and sucking up your precious bandwidth, check the list of devices that are connected to it monthly. For most routers this is as easy as logging into its online dashboard. Make sure to delete any devices you don't recognize.

Reset the Wi-Fi password – Changing the Wi-Fi password every month is a good way to prevent others from hacking into your network and potentially stealing your personal information.

Run a check on your devices – Once a month you should check on the devices around your home to make sure they're functioning properly:

- Update apps
- Run the test mode on your security system's control panel to work out bugs
- Check the status of medical alert devices
- Clean off security camera lenses

Member Q&A

Q: One night a while back I was concerned that teenagers appeared to be using the vacant house next door for a drunken house party. When I contacted the association to get a deputy to respond, I was told that I would need to call the Sheriff's Department, instead. I am wondering why.

A: In cases when a timely response is needed – such as in the case of an unruly house party – we always urge members to contact the department's non-emergency number at 916-874-5115 and report it. That ensures the best possible response. If we do have a deputy on duty, he or she will be dispatched and will respond within minutes. If we don't have a deputy on duty, the dispatchers can call for a regular patrol unit to respond.

Of course, if you believe a crime is being committed, you should always call 911.

Our deputies very often do respond to loud or questionable house parties when they are reported. However, we do not always have a deputy on duty when problems arise.

WDDNA is not able to provide patrols 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We currently support up to 10 eight-hour shifts a week and a few of them are night shifts. However, we cannot always schedule shifts during the time slots we want.

Our deputies work for us on their days off and they only sign up for shifts that they want. Either because of Sheriff's Department staff shortages or because of deputy preferences, we very often have difficulty filling night shifts – particularly those on weekends. As a result, sometimes we simply are not able to hire a deputy on Friday or Saturday nights when parties are more prevalent.

That is why we always urge members to contact the Sheriff's Department's non-emergency number when a quick response is required. And, when you call, after the line answers, just dial 0 to avoid listening to all the recorded messages.

HOW TO CALL FOR HELP

IN AN EMERGENCY

If you have an immediate emergency - if your life or property is in immediate danger, if you feel threatened by someone on or near your property, if you have just become the victim of a crime or if you are witnessing a crime in progress:

- CALL 911 from a land line.
- Or, if calling from a cell phone within Sacramento County, call (916) 874-5111.

TO REPORT A CRIME

There are two ways to report a crime to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department:

1. Call the Sheriff's Department NON-EMERGENCY LINE at (916) 874-5115. To

- bypass the recorded messaging when you call, dial 0 after the line is answered.
2. File a report online through the Sheriff's Department website. Click on this link to begin the process: https://www.sacsheriff.com/pages/crime_report.php

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY (Not an emergency)

If you see someone engaged in suspicious activity but it is not an emergency, call 916-874-5115 (Sheriff's Department non-emergency line).

GENERAL CONCERNS, REPORTS OR QUESTIONS

If you have an issue that can be addressed later, you may contact our neighborhood patrol officers about it. The best way is via **EMAIL at wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com**.

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