



## Monthly Newsletter

### November 2022

---



From left, WDDNA Board President Paul Blaise, Sheriff-Elect Jim Cooper and Brian Smith, WDDNA off-duty office liaison.

### Save the Date

## *Sheriff-elect Cooper to speak at WDDNA annual meeting*

Jim Cooper, who will take office as the new sheriff of Sacramento County in January, will be the featured speaker at WDDNA's annual membership meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

The event, which will begin at 7 p.m., will once again be held at Jesuit High School. Jesuit has generously offered WDDNA the use of space in the Harris Center building adjacent to the gym at no cost to the association.

Several WDDNA board members recently met with Cooper, who is currently wrapping up eight years as assemblyman for the 9<sup>th</sup> Assembly District.

As sheriff, Cooper said he will be keenly focused on homeless issues, as well as rebuilding the department, which remains short-staffed as a result of the pandemic.

Before joining the Assembly in 2014, Cooper served in the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department for 30 years and spent 15 years as Elk Grove's founding mayor and council member.

Following his presentation, Cooper will answer questions from the audience.

The event also will feature Sgt. Ray Forsyth, a WDDNA patrol deputy who will make a brief presentation and answer questions. The evening will wrap up with a free drawing for a pair of solar-powered security lights.

The Dec. 6 gathering is free and open to all residents in the Wilhaggin and Del Dayo neighborhoods. Residents need not be members to attend.

---

## *Just a reminder ...*

It's membership renewal season again. As in the past, if you renew on or before Dec. 31, your dues will be just \$275, a \$25 discount.

You may renew from the invoice you received earlier this month or you can login and go to your Profile Page on the [WilhagginNA.com website](http://WilhagginNA.com) and pay online.

Or, if you prefer, just enclose your check for \$275 made out to WDDNA along with your name and address and mail it to WDDNA, P.O. Box 2273, Carmichael, CA 95609.

And thank you again for supporting our association!

---

## *A direct and compelling headline*

We all know to watch for rattlesnakes on the American River Parkway and even in our back yards, but few of us expect to find one in our home.

In late October, a WDDNA member reported that a neighbor whose home backs up to the levee found a baby rattlesnake in one of her bathrooms. She called 311 to report it and someone from the county animal control office came to capture the snake.

The county agent noted that snakes can get into a home through cracks, holes in vents, under doors and other openings. He found



a two-inch gap under a door which was likely the entry point.

According to experts, snake activity can pick up as the temperatures start to fall. Snakes cannot thrive when temperatures drop below 65 degrees Fahrenheit. So, in the fall they may look for places to go into hiding for winter, during which their metabolism slows down and they become less active.

The best way to prevent snake intrusions into your home is to plug any possible entry points. If you find a rattlesnake in your home, call 311 to report it and request an animal control agent.

Mike Cardwell, a prominent California rattlesnake expert, offers the following facts to keep in mind when living in rattlesnake country:

- Bites by baby rattlesnakes are less dangerous than those of adults, not more dangerous as many people claim. There is lots of evidence that really bad bites are delivered by larger rattlesnakes. Even if the little guys inject all their venom, their venom glands are tiny compared to those of larger rattlesnakes. Venom yield is directly related to snake size.
- Rattlesnakes live on the ground and they rarely climb. So, you should do things like building a rack to keep firewood eight or so inches off the ground and trimming shrubs so you can see the bare ground under them. Don't use bird feeders; they attract rodents and rodents attract rattlesnakes. Cover openings to drain pipes and crawlspaces under sheds, etc., with screen or hardware cloth.
- The rule is that you find female rattlesnakes where there are resources like food and shelter and you find males where there are females. Female rattlesnakes don't move around nearly as much as males and a clean, tidy yard with nothing to eat and no place to hide is not likely to attract a female. Most encounters with people are with male rattlesnakes during spring and fall when they are wandering around looking for females. That's when they often turn up in yards, on paths and all sorts of other places.
- If there's one rattlesnake in your yard, there's a good chance there are other rattlesnakes in your yard. So, take precautions. Watch where you step during warm weather. If you go outside at night, use a flashlight. And if you have toddlers, watch them at all times while they are in the yard. Getting rid of one rattlesnake does not get rid of all rattlesnakes.

---

## *New invasive mosquito found in Carmichael*

The [Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito & Vector Control District](#) has found the invasive mosquito *Aedes albopictus*, commonly known as the Asian tiger mosquito, in Carmichael. It is the first time the species has appeared in Sacramento County.

Just like the *Aedes aegypti* (known as the yellow fever mosquito), which has also been found in our county, the Asian tiger mosquito is small, dark and has white stripes on its legs. Both have the potential to transmit several



dangerous viruses including dengue, chikungunya, Zika and yellow fever. Although these viruses are not currently known in California, the presence of the mosquitoes poses the threat that they could bite returning foreign travelers who may be infected, then spread the disease locally.

Unlike others, however, the Asian Tiger mosquito bites aggressively during the daytime and that is how it was detected here. A Carmichael resident reported being bitten during the day. Vector Control District staff conducted a backyard inspection and found a single mosquito larva in a watering can. In response, field technicians conducted door-to-door inspections in other homes in the neighborhood and found additional adult mosquitoes and larvae.

“Now that we have found this second species of invasive mosquitoes, our goal is to limit their expansion as best we can,” said Gary Goodman, district manager. “We are mobilizing and responding quickly,” added Goodman.

He noted that the mosquitoes lay eggs above water in containers such as flower pots, pet dishes, bird baths, kids’ toys, tin cans, tires and other containers as small as a bottle cap.

Goodman said the district will enhance laboratory surveillance efforts by setting up additional traps in the area to assess the spread of the infestation. Field technicians will continue door-to-door inspections, making appropriate treatments as necessary and talking to residents about preventive measures.

To report a mosquito breeding source or for current information about any treatments planned within Sacramento or Yolo counties, call (800) 429-1022 or visit [www.FIGHTtheBITE.net](http://www.FIGHTtheBITE.net).

---

## *A direct and compelling headline*

This Halloween, don’t let your pet get spooked! Following are a few simple safety precautions from the [Sacramento County Bradshaw Animal Shelter](#):

### **Candy is not for pets**

- All chocolate can be very dangerous for dogs and cats. Symptoms of significant chocolate ingestion may include vomiting, diarrhea,; hyperactivity, seizures, increased thirst, urination and heart rate.
- Candies containing the artificial sweetener xylitol can be poisonous and deadly to dogs. Even small amounts can cause a sudden drop in blood sugar, which leads to depression, lack of coordination and seizures.
- Ingesting tin foil and cellophane candy wrappers can pose a choking hazard or cause intestinal blockage.

### **Decoration safety**

- Pumpkins and decorative corn used for decorations can produce gastrointestinal upset in pets if eaten.
- Keep wires and cords from electric lights and other decorations out of reach of your pets to reduce the chances of injury or electrocution.
- Pets can easily knock over a lit pumpkin and cause a fire. Curious kittens especially run the risk of getting burned or singed by candle flames.

### **Halloween costumes**

- Don't put your dog or cat in a costume unless you know they love it. For a pet not

used to dressing up, wearing a costume can cause undue stress. Instead of a whole costume, consider a bandana or colorful collar.

- If you dress up your pet, make sure the costume does not constrict the animal's movement or hearing, or impede its ability to breathe, bark or meow. Also, try on costumes before the big night. If your pet seems distressed, allergic or shows abnormal behavior, it's time to take the costume off.
- Make sure the costume does not have small, dangling or easily chewed-off pieces that they could choke on.
- If you're dressing up for the holiday, be mindful of what might scare your pet. Many pets can be spooked by masks, hats and heavy costume makeup. If your pet is easily scared, consider a costume that won't conceal your appearance.

### Keep pets in a quiet environment

- Dogs and cats should be kept in a separate room away from the front door during peak trick-or-treat visiting hours. When opening the door for trick-or-treaters, take care that your cat or dog doesn't dart outside.
- If hearing the doorbell ring or the sounds of strangers' voices is stressful for your pet, consider leaving a bowl of candy outside with a sign and refilling as necessary.

### Other thoughts

- Always make sure your dog or cat has proper identification. If your pet escapes and becomes lost, a collar and tags and/or a microchip can increase the chances that it will be returned to you. If your pet already has a microchip, check that it is updated with your current contact information.
- Consider adopting a black cat from the Bradshaw Animal shelter. They are just as wonderful a pet as any other, but only half as likely to find forever homes.

---

## Geek Squad scam

From the Federal Trade Commission

Scammers are at it again. This time they're pretending to be from Geek Squad, Best Buy's tech support service.

Here's what the FTC is hearing about the scam. You get a text message or email that says you were or will be charged hundreds of dollars to renew your Geek Squad membership. If you want to dispute the charge or cancel your membership, the message says you must call a phone number within 24 hours.

If you call the number — which you should NOT do — the scammer might ask for remote access to your computer. If you give it to them, they can install spyware programs on your computer, steal your online banking credentials and drain money from your bank account.

Some scammers may ask for your bank account information to refund your money, then fake a transaction and make it look like they accidentally refunded you too much. To pay them back, they tell you to buy gift cards and give them the gift card numbers and PINs.

Scammers send alarming messages to rattle you. Don't let them. If you think the message is legitimate, contact the company in question using a phone number you know is real. Do not use the number included in the message.

Also check your credit card or bank account for any unauthorized transactions. If you see one, report it to the institution and ask them to reverse it and give you back your money.

Find out what to do [if you paid a scammer](#), or gave them [your personal information](#) or [access to your computer](#).

If you see a scam, report it to the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/ReportFraud).

---

## Member Q&A

**Q:** Are there any rules about how long garbage carts can be left on the street or if they are required to be stored out of sight on your property?

**A:** To our knowledge, the only ordinance restricting placement of garbage cans at the curb in the county is the following:

*12.12.035 Obstructions at Sidewalks, Pedestrian Pathways and Public Road Rights-of-Way.*

*It is unlawful to set out, install or maintain, or to allow the setting out, installation, or maintenance of any of the following items on or along any sidewalk, pedestrian pathway, or street right-of-way: basketball hoops; garbage or recycling cans placed on the street for collection for a period greater than seventy-two (72) hours in any one week; signs; hedges; structures; natural growths; fences; or other obstructions on any sidewalk, pedestrian pathway, or within the street right-of-way. In addition, trees shall be maintained in such a manner that foliage remains trimmed to a minimum height of seven feet above any pedestrian walkway and fourteen and one-half (14.5) feet above any paved roadway or shoulder area. Items placed in the street for pickup and removal in connection with Neighborhood Cleanup Days are exempt from this provision. (Ord. 1441 § 2, 2009.)*

As you can see, there is no requirement that garbage carts be placed out of sight, just that they cannot be left at the curb. The county does provide guidelines for garbage cart storage, but there are no rules requiring a specific type of storage. Here is the link to the county's general instructions about carts: <https://wmr.saccounty.gov/Pages/services.aspx>

---

## 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](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](mailto:wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com).

Wilhaggin Del Dayo Neighborhood Association | 761 Cortland Drive, Sacramento, CA 95864

[Unsubscribe knewton761@att.net](mailto:knewton761@att.net)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by knewton761@att.net in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!