



Monthly Newsletter

April 2026

WDDNA gave roads staff a tour

Crossing American River Drive can be very challenging for pedestrians. Traffic is heavier now than in years past and some WDDNA members have told us that they are afraid to cross at certain times of the day.

One reason for their concern is that the only crosswalks on our stretch of American River Drive are those associated with Rio Americano and Jesuit high schools. Some members have suggested that the addition of crosswalks at other key intersections might improve pedestrian safety.

To address this issue, WDDNA invited several members of the County Department of Transportation to meet with us and take a tour of American River Drive so they could see for themselves the challenges that pedestrians face getting across that very wide thoroughfare.



We took officials on a tour

On Thursday, March 26, four WDDNA board members and three DOT representatives met near Wilhaggin and American River drives. The DOT group was led by Lu Li, principal civil engineer of the Operations and Maintenance Division.

The meeting began with a brief presentation by one of our deputies, who described the traffic realities he sees while on patrol. Then the WDDNA and DOT teams piled into a minivan we rented for the occasion and toured the area.

As we traveled down American River Drive, we turned down side streets, including Crondall, Ashton and Morris, to point out areas that are often used by speeding teenage drivers on their way to and from school. We pointed out one location where a tree obscures a street sign and the DOT officials promised to get it pruned back.

Finally, we parked on American River Drive as Rio Americano High School was being let out for the day. We walked to Saverien Drive so the DOT team could observe the flood of vehicular and pedestrian activity that impacted traffic in all directions.

Li said DOT officials have urged the San Juan Unified School District to arrange for crossing guards to help manage student outflows across American River Drive during class release times, but the district has declined, citing potential liability issues.

In the past, WDDNA asked Li if the county could add a signal at the Saverien Drive intersection to address the school's impact on traffic. In response to our request, the

department did a traffic study at that spot, but the results did not meet the threshold required for a signal.

Response from DOT

After our visit, Bobby Sidhu, senior transportation engineer, sent the following response to our request for additional crosswalks:

"We reviewed the site conditions at these intersections along with traffic data. These intersections include all-way stop control as well as side street-controlled stop signs. American River Drive is generally wide and has a long crossing distance. Crossing distance shortens with intersections to the east of Jacob Lane. The traffic data, including pedestrian crossing volumes, currently does not meet the marked crosswalk requirements.

"Due to the longer crossing distance, it's our recommendation that the pedestrians should cross at the stop sign controlled intersections. At intersections with all-way stop control, drivers are required to come to a complete stop and yield the right of way to pedestrians. Residents should contact the CHP to enforce stop sign compliance if that is an issue. Moving forward, our team will continue to seek improvement opportunities for the intersections along American River Drive.

"A few other items to note. During our site visit, the traffic engineering team observed traffic conditions along American River Drive during Rio Americano High School dismissal. We did observe higher concentrations of pedestrians crossing at American River Drive and Saverien Drive during dismissal. Yellow crosswalks are currently marked at this intersection due to the school and higher volume of students crossing.

"While vehicle congestion was observed at the Saverien Drive intersection, it's not unexpected to see this level of traffic at a school dismissal where there is parent pick-up traffic mixed with pedestrian crossings. The congestion seems to be dissipated in a short amount of time."

WDDNA plans member portal upgrade

With a constant eye on improving service to our members, WDDNA has begun a project to upgrade the member portal that our members use to access all their member benefits online.

This upgrade is part of an effort to make it easier for everyone, including folks who are not skilled computer users, to more easily find and use their members-only features on our website.

In addition, the project will create a custom portal environment that we will own instead of having to pay the high monthly fee now charged by our current member portal service provider. Thus, over time, the improved portal will also be a cost savings.

Our hope is that the project will be completed by late May. We will keep you posted as things progress.

Rattlesnake advisory

Two hikers in Southern California recently died from rattlesnake bites. Such deaths are exceptionally rare, but it seems prudent to offer the following information from UC Davis Health.

Most rattlesnake bites occur between the months of April and October. Being aware of your surroundings and knowing how to respond when encountering a rattlesnake are key to avoiding a dangerous rattlesnake bite.



If someone is bitten by a rattlesnake

- Get immediate medical attention. In some cases, severe or even life-threatening symptoms may occur within minutes after the bite. In other cases, they may begin after a couple of hours.
- Rattlesnake bites can produce extreme pain and swelling at the location of the bite, excessive bleeding, nausea, swelling in the mouth and throat that makes it difficult to breathe, lightheadedness, drooling and, in rare cases, even collapse and shock.
- Do not apply ice, do not use a tourniquet or constricting band, do not try to suck out the venom and do not use any device to cut or slice the bite site.
- Constricting blood vessels near a rattlesnake bite can lead to amputation. Wash the wound with soap and water and remove wristwatches, rings on fingers or anything constrictive.
- Keep calm, try to avoid exertion and keep the affected extremity below heart level until you can be transported to a medical facility.

How to prevent rattlesnake bites

- Wear boots and long pants when hiking.
- Never go barefoot or wear sandals when walking in areas where you cannot clearly see where you are placing your feet. Wearing hiking boots and long pants offers an extra layer of protection from unexpected encounters with a rattlesnake. These barriers, however, will not provide complete protection against a bite.
- Stay on trails away from underbrush and tall weeds when hiking. Snakes can rest almost anywhere that is hidden from view. This enables them to hide from predators, avoid extreme temperatures and hunt for prey. Because trails tend to have fewer hiding places for snakes, they offer a level of protection for you. Stay on trails to avoid potentially disturbing a rattlesnake in hiding.
- Do not touch or disturb a snake, even if it appears to be dead. Snakes use their hidden position to strike and kill their prey by surprise. Don't mistake their apparent stillness as a safe opportunity to investigate. Even freshly killed snakes may still be able to bite.

Rattlesnake avoidance training for dogs

On Saturday, April 18, a rattlesnake avoidance training session for dogs will be held at Ashton Park.

Hosted by the Mission Oaks Recreation & Parks District, the training session will be conducted by Get Rattled and will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fee is \$125.

[Get Rattled](#) provides training to teach dogs to recognize and avoid the sight, sound and smell of rattlesnakes. Training is provided by either appointment or walk-in, with sessions lasting approximately 20 minutes. To ensure that your dog will have a training opportunity, appointments are advised.

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up a training session for your dog.

Get Rattled provides expert rattlesnake avoidance training for dogs across Nevada, Northern California, Utah and Oregon.

Local event will teach how to avoid scams

If you are interested in learning strategies to identify, avoid and report scams before they impact you or your loved ones, AARP is hosting a local Fraud Prevention Summit where experts will equip you with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the increasingly complex landscape of financial and identity theft scams.

Scam Jam: Fraud Prevention Summit



The event will be held on Tuesday, April 7, at Aggie Square, 4480 2nd Ave., just off Stockton Boulevard not far from the UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. Doors will open at 8 a.m. for registration, networking and resource browsing, with a light continental breakfast provided. The program begins at 9 a.m. and will run until noon. It will feature sessions by representatives from the following agencies:

- CA Health Advocates
- Department of Consumer Affairs
- Department of Financial Protection
- Elder Justice, US Attorney District of CA
- Social Security Administration
- The FBI Sacramento office

Sonia Martinez Satchell from the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office will be the keynote speaker.

There is no charge to attend the workshop and you do not need to be a member of AARP to attend. Parking is free. Because seating is limited, you must register by April 7. To register, send an email to Kris Ritualo at kritualo@aarp.org and include your name, address (with ZIP code) and phone number. You also may email her for additional information.

Zoom event

On Wednesday, April 8, from 9 to 10 a.m., AARP also will host a Zoom event to provide information about methods for managing your digital privacy. Among the topics to be covered will be:

- What to do about cookies
- Essential privacy tips
- How ads target us online
- How to limit tracking
- Where to find browser settings
- Extensions to better control how your information is shared
- Key features of password managers

For information and to sign up for the event, go to <https://events.aarp.org/event/76483586-0cf0-4e82-b1bb-c6f096c42717/summary>.

American River Parkway cleanup

The American River Parkway Foundation will host its annual [Spring Clean-Up](#) on Saturday, April 18.

Spanning seven different locations of the American River Parkway, the clean-up's goal is to remove mass amounts of debris from the Parkway, removing invasive plants, and beautifying the Parkway.

The project is designed to improve the Parkway experience, while also protecting the river ecosystem and improving water quality.

Spring Clean-Up sites and registration links:

- [Ancil Hoffman Park \(Invasive Plant Pulling\)](#)
- [Discovery Park \(Clean-Up\)](#)
- [Howe Ave River Access \(Clean-Up\)*](#)
- [River Bend Park \(DB Mulch & Beautification\)](#)
- [Sunrise Recreation Area \(Clean-Up\)](#)
- [Watt Ave River Access \(Clean-Up\)](#)
- [Cottonwood Gazebo \(Rebuilding\)](#)

Iran scams being reported

According to the Federal Trade Commission, there have been recent reports of imposter, romance and fake charity scams that include an Iran twist. Here are some examples:

- **Scammers contact you unexpectedly about a fraudulent charge.** The call or text appears to come from your bank or a company you know. They say they've detected charges from Iran on your account (a lie). They transfer you to someone who says they work for a government agency like the FTC (that's another scammer) who convinces you to share your bank account information. But government agencies will **never** ask you to share financial information.
- **Scammers pretending to be a friend or love interest in the military ask for money.** Perhaps you've been chatting for a while with someone you met online. Now they tell you they're deployed to Iran. Suddenly you get an urgent request to send them money — maybe because they can't access their bank account or they have a medical emergency. But that's when you know you're likely dealing with a scam.
- **Scammers create fake charities that sound and look official.** They might claim to help people displaced or affected by the conflict in Iran and pressure you to donate. Before you do, go to ftc.gov/charity to learn how to research, what questions to ask and how to spot a charity scam.

If you believe that you've been the victim of a scam, immediately report it to ReportFraud.ftc.gov

Member Q&A

Q: My cat has disappeared. Does the association have a way to share information about her with the neighborhood in case they have seen her?

A: No, unfortunately we cannot help with lost pets. You may want to check with the Bradshaw Animal Shelter. Their website has a list of found cats and dogs that have been turned in by people in the community. [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the shelter's found pet website landing page.

WDDNA is narrowly focused. All we do is hire off-duty deputies and provide security information to our members. We don't have the additional volunteer resources required to

maintain a lost-and-found page on our website or on social media.

We hope you are able to find your pet.

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](mailto:wilhaggin4@sacsheriff.com).

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

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



Try email marketing for free today!