

# THE Leaflet

CITY NEWS AND RECREATION GUIDE



SPRING 2021



**RESIDENTS GIVE  
CITY HIGH MARKS  
IN SURVEY**

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**CITY LAUNCHES  
CHOICE ENERGY  
OUTREACH**

**PG. 4**

**SUMMER  
RECREATION  
GUIDE**

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A Message From City Manager  
**DEBRA ROSE**

Finally, there is a light at the end of the tunnel, as Orange County’s “Operation Independence” remains on track to vaccinate 70 percent of OC residents by July 1. That will allow residents, businesses, and the City to return to some semblance of normal after the past year.

At City Hall, the City Council and the management team made quick decisions early in the pandemic that allowed us to weather the financial storm. The City’s structure prepared us, too: Lake Forest is debt-free, giving us more financial flexibility than other cities, and as a contract City, our full-time work force is small enough to quickly adapt to new situations.

Plexiglas shields were installed in City Hall so we could continue serving the public under State and County guidelines. Residents, business owners, and builders continued to visit City Hall to access City services. We served more than 3,400 walk-in customers at our building and planning counters from March to December and our inspectors conducted more than 10,700 in-field and virtual inspections during the same period. We also refused to let the pandemic stop us from burning the midnight oil to keep residents updated from the City Emergency Operations Center during two wildfires.

Our Community Services team set up virtual programs for seniors, organized PPE giveaways and, early in the pandemic, enlisted our Community Emergency Response Team to connect with seniors through regular phone calls.

Using Community Development Block Grants, we gave out more than \$81,500 to Lake Forest businesses hurt by the pandemic. We increased our communication about the regulations and impact of COVID-19 and created a “Community Heroes” program to honor residents stepping up to help others.

We kept parks open because we knew it was important for residents to be able to get outside. We opened the newly renovated Cherry Park and the brand-new Portola Park. We even found ways to use our facilities closed under the Governor’s guidelines, by hosting blood drives, food collections, and food distributions. The 11 Red Cross blood drives collected 468 pints. Since each pint can save up to three lives, the effort helped to save 1,404 people.

So, yes, there’s light at the end of the tunnel, but I think City Hall and all of Lake Forest can be proud that our light continued to shine brightly throughout the pandemic.

*Debra Rose*



## MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month\*

### COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the Wednesday after the first Tuesday of each month\*

### PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the Thursday after the first Tuesday of each month\*

### TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the Monday before the first Tuesday of each month\*

All meetings will start at 6:30 pm  
\*Subject to change; visit all agendas at:  
**[www.LakeForestCA.gov/agendas](https://www.LakeForestCA.gov/agendas)**

The Leaflet is an official publication of the City of Lake Forest and is distributed as a public service to Lake Forest homes and businesses. The City welcomes your comments and questions regarding The Leaflet.

Lily, Brody, Taylor, and Malaki play at the Pop Up Boys and Girls Club at El Toro Park. See **<https://bgclagunabeach.org/lake-forest/>** for program info

# RESIDENTS GIVE CITY STRONG MARKS IN SURVEY

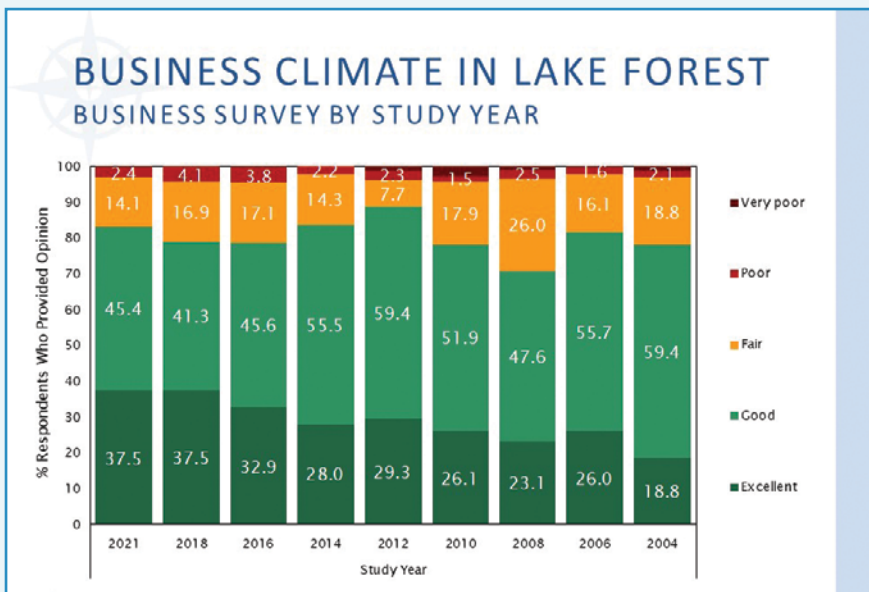
According to the 2021 Resident and Business Satisfaction Survey presented to the City Council in April, more than

**90 percent** of Lake Forest residents rank the quality of life in the City as “good” or “excellent.”

The survey polled more than 610 residents by telephone and email and has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.9 percent, said Dr. Timothy McLarney of True North Research. For the business survey, 200 businesses were contacted, for a margin of error of plus/minus 6.7 percent. McLarney has led the research for the City’s biennial poll since 1998. Surveys were conducted in January.

The City uses the results of the survey to help set spending and other policies as well as ensure the needs of residents and businesses are being met.

In the business survey, nearly 83 percent of respondents ranked the business climate



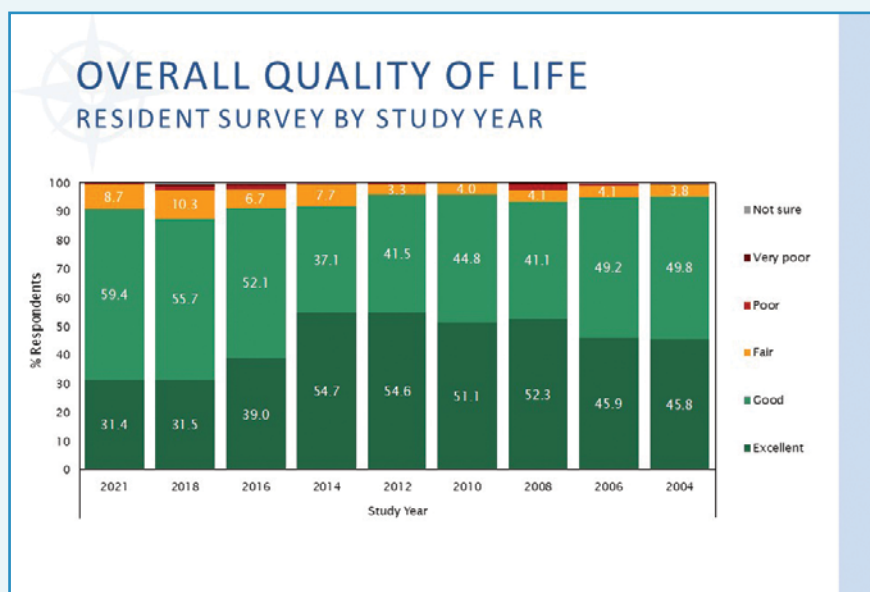
Survey results provided by True North Research

“Excellent” or “Very good.” The response was up from 79 percent in 2018.

The resounding support for the quality of life for residents in Lake Forest is an increase from 2018, when 87 percent of the residents ranked the quality of life as “good” or “excellent.” The City saw other strong results, as 84 percent of respondents said Lake Forest was an excellent or good place to raise a family.

Even more, when residents were asked what would improve the City in an open-ended question, the largest single answer, at 16 percent, was “Not sure” and “Can’t think of anything.” The second most-heard suggestion was for the City to attract new restaurants and stores, at 13 percent. Third on the list was “No changes needed/Everything is fine” at 10 percent.

The survey asks residents about the performance of City departments and other issues. See the full report, and all of the surveys going back to 2006, at [Lakeforestca.gov/2021Survey](https://Lakeforestca.gov/2021Survey)



Survey results provided by True North Research

## LAKE FOREST LAUNCHES OUTREACH CAMPAIGN ON COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION

The City Council directed City staff to launch a community outreach campaign on Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) to gather more information on what options best fit the energy goals of residents and local businesses. The campaign is set to focus on education and gathering community feedback on future steps regarding Community Choice Aggregation.

CCAs are programs that allow local governments to purchase energy on behalf of their communities, while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility provider.

For decades, Southern California Edison (SCE) has been the sole entity that acquired power for a majority of Southern California. Through a CCA, local agencies can also become a power purchaser for consumers, which introduces a new level of competition in the energy market that results in customer choice.

The 2021 Resident and Business Satisfaction Survey found most Lake Forest residents would be interested in joining a CCA if rates were lower, more stable, or came from renewable sources such as solar, wind, or biomass. For businesses, 83 percent said they would support joining a CCA if rates were lower.

Residents would be able to opt out of the CCA and continue receiving their power from SCE if they chose. Joining a CCA could also allow the City to create energy programs, such as rebates, specifically tailored for Lake Forest.

However, the CCA's role is limited to the purchasing of power, not its delivery. Through a CCA, SCE would remain the service provider in all other steps related to the energy delivery cycle: transmission, distribution, metering, and billing.

To read more, or to see previous City Council discussions on CCA, visit [www.lakeforestca.gov/CCA](http://www.lakeforestca.gov/CCA)

## PARK RENOVATIONS CONTINUE

A new round of neighborhood park improvements is underway, even as one of the parks renovated in the last round of projects was honored by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Darrin, Montbury, and Pebble Creek park are under construction. Work began in February and is expected to take six months. The project budget is \$1.5 million.

The renovation of Cherry Park, which was finished in December, earned "Outstanding ADA Project" honors from the Orange County Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Cherry Park is the City's third ADA-accessible park, which allows children and adults of all capabilities to enjoy the newly renovated playground. The equipment is brightly colored and elevated, promising a fun experience.

Borrego Overlook, Regency, Rancho Serrano, and Sundowner parks are also slated for renovations. Those projects are expected to go to bid in June.

### GAZEBOS AND PARK BARBECUE AREAS ARE AVAILABLE FOR RENT AGAIN!

The City is allowed to re-open certain facilities under State guidelines as Orange County continues to emerge from the coronavirus pandemic.

Reserve a spot on the web at [www.lakeforestca.gov/749/BBQPicnic-Shelters](http://www.lakeforestca.gov/749/BBQPicnic-Shelters)

# LOW COST HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS AVAILABLE

Does your home need new stucco, windows, roofs or other improvements? You might qualify for a zero-percent, deferred-interest home-improvement loan, or a 3 percent interest loan through the City's Housing Rehabilitation Program.

The City Council funds the program with federal Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to ensure residents can live in safe, energy-efficient homes. Most home improvement items are eligible for assistance, such as plumbing, electrical, energy and weatherization items, garage doors, fumigation, flooring and other items necessary for the health and safety of occupants.

**Mobile home owners can receive up to \$15,000 and single-family homeowners can receive up to \$30,000.**

The zero percent interest deferred loan has no monthly payments. Total payment on the deferred loan is due if the resident moves and is no longer residing in the home, or when the home is sold, refinanced, or if the title is transferred to another party. The 3 percent interest loan requires monthly payments and is fully amortized over 15 years.

In addition to the income requirements in the chart included in this article, applicants must also:

- Live on the property
- May not have received assistance previously
- Meet the asset limitation
- Have sufficient equity in the home

Homeowners interested in participating in the Housing Rehabilitation Program should pick up an application at City Hall or download an application at [www.lakeforestca.gov/325/Housing-Rehabilitation-Loan-Program](http://www.lakeforestca.gov/325/Housing-Rehabilitation-Loan-Program).

Return completed applications to Theresa Dobbs, 100 Civic Center Dr., Lake Forest, 92630.

Contact Theresa Dobbs at 461-3473 or at [tdobbs@lakeforestca.gov](mailto:tdobbs@lakeforestca.gov) for more information.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	INCOME MAXIMUM
1 Person	\$75,300
2 People	\$86,050
3 People	\$96,800
4 People	\$107,550
5 People	\$116,200
6 People	\$124,800
7 People	\$133,400
8 People	\$142,000

## EXPAND THE FOREST EXPANDING

Just like the seasons, changes are coming to the popular *Expand the Forest* program, in which residents participate to have a tree planted in memory of a loved one.

The program has been so successful that a review of the current parks, and the trees planted as part of the program, found that Cherry, Foothill Ranch Community, and Tamarisk parks are close to capacity. The review also found that other parks would benefit from participation in the program, parks such as Cavanaugh, Regency, and Vintage.

Alton, Concourse, Peachwood, Ranchwood, and Rancho Serrano are the other parks in the program.

Those participating in the program will also have new choices for trees. Last year, Liquid Amber trees were removed. In 2020, the City added the Canary Island Pine and flowering Crape Myrtles in three color choices of white, pink, and purple.

Sycamore (London Plane) and Tristania (Brisbane Box) are also available.

Additionally, the planting time for the trees is moving to

October through December and March through June, which are optimal planting times to ensure healthy trees.

Earlier this year, the program began accepting credit cards as payment for a tree. Registration for an account is necessary through [eLakeForest.com](http://eLakeForest.com). If paid by using a debit or credit card, a 3.29 percent processing fee will be charged. Additional information can be found at [www.lakeforestca.gov/expandtheforest](http://www.lakeforestca.gov/expandtheforest). If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Peggy Samantha, Management Aide, Public Works Department at (949) 461-3493 or by email at [psamantha@lakeforestca.gov](mailto:psamantha@lakeforestca.gov)



Tristania (Brisbane Box) Leaves

# EXPAND THE FOREST DEDICATIONS

Since incorporation in December 1991, the City Council has supported “Expand the Forest,” a program that encourages resident participation in tree planting and provides an opportunity to expand the City’s urban forest. The cost is \$90. For more information, see [www.lakeforestca.gov/expandtheforest](http://www.lakeforestca.gov/expandtheforest).

SPONSOR	TREE SPECIES	LOCATION	DEDICATION
Laura's Family	Crape Myrtle	Alton Park	In loving memory of our beautiful Laura Lynn Mann
Elaine and Nguyen Family	Crape Myrtle	Peachwood Park	In loving memory of Lynn My Lien Vu
Fohrman & Fohrman, Inc.	Sycamore	Foothill Ranch Community Park	Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday. The memory of Alex will continue to grow.
Janet Fohrman	Canary Pine	Rancho Serrano Park	Alex will forever be in our hearts. Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday.
David Hert, father and Clarissa Severin, daughter	Canary Pine	Ranchwood Park	For Andrea and Mom
Diana Ruhman	Sycamore	Concourse Park	In loving memory of Ron G. Ruhman, beloved husband, father and Papa
City of Lake Forest Employees	California Oak	El Toro Park	In memory of Christopher McCullough
Donald & Nancy Cooper	Sycamore	Foothill Ranch Community Park	In loving memory of Geoffrey George Gollands, beloved son
Donald & Nancy Cooper	Magnolia	Foothill Ranch Community Park	In celebration and memory of Virgil & Lougean Cooper, beloved parents
Your family and friends	Tristania	El Toro Park	In loving memory of Nathan Corado 1997-2020. We love you Nathan, always
George Hammond Family	Sycamore	Cherry Park	In loving memory of George Hammond, beloved husband, father and friend. Rest in Peace George Hammond
Bryan Thaxton and the Sawdon Family	Magnolia	Cherry Park	In loving memory of Leslie Thaxton, an amazing sister and friend
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Oliver Lin, to honor my grandson
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Annabel Lin, to honor my granddaughter
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Ming-Chung Tang, to honor my brother-in-law
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Shih-Chung Lin, to honor myself
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Brisbane Box	Portola Park	Ming-Chu Lin, to honor my lovely wife
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Brisbane Box	Portola Park	Shu-Lan Tang, to honor my mother-in-law
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Brisbane Box	Portola Park	David K. Lin, to honor my son
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Brisbane Box	Portola Park	Peggy Lin, to honor my daughter-in-law

## EXPAND THE FOREST DEDICATIONS

SPONSOR	TREE SPECIES	LOCATION	DEDICATION
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Jung-Ho Lin, to remember my father
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Hsieh-Hua Lin, to remember my mother
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Kao-Li Tang, to honor my father-in-law
Shih-Chung & Ming-Chu Lin	Primrose	Portola Park	Oliver Lin, to honor my grandson who brought us happiness
The Lu Family	Crape Myrtle	Borrego Overlook	In loving memory of Arrow (4/1/2009-1/2/2021), a gentle soul, a really good boy, and forever a family member
Tom and Kim Robershaw	Sycamore	Alton Park	In loving memory of Amy Riley
Rod, Karin, Alex, Ethan and Joshua	Crape Myrtle	Foothill Ranch Community Park	In loving memory of W.H. "Bob" Davis, dedicated dad of 3
Rod, Karin, Alex, Ethan and Joshua	Crape Myrtle	Foothill Ranch Community Park	In loving memory of Audrey Davis, caring mom and beloved Nana
Pam & Steve Farley, Martin Meisner	Sycamore	Tamarisk Park	Bill & Barbara Meisner, always in our hearts
Fayha Tariq-Biche	Crape Myrtle	Cherry Park	In loving memory of Rayan Biche, our dear son
Ira Blair	Crape Myrtle	Peachwood Park	In loving memory of Mimi and Vincent Blair
Elizabeth, Jason, Raven, Sage and Ariel	Magnolia	Rimgate Park	In loving memory of Walter Kohnert, dear dad, opa and friend
Mike & Donna Kenyon	Tristania	Peachwood Park	In loving memory of Marvin and Aileen Risdon, wonderful parents
Love always, Mom, Addison and your family	Sycamore	Heroes Park	In loving memory of Adam Franko - Play Ball!
The Joy Family	Sycamore	Concourse Park	In loving memory of Don Joy, a devoted husband, father, grandfather & friend. Always in our hearts
Brenda Lowell	Crape Myrtle	Tamarisk Park	In loving memory of Kenneth "Rusty" Kaiser
Brad Jashinsky	Crape Myrtle	Cherry Park	In loving memory of Eileen Jashinsky, the best mom, grandma and gardener
Vicky Knaack	Crape Myrtle	Peachwood Park	In loving memory of Helen Fuller
Vicky Knaack	Crape Myrtle	Cherry Park	In loving memory of Phyllis Eisenbart
Vicky Knaack	Crape Myrtle	Peachwood Park	In loving memory of Helen Fuller

## EXPAND THE FOREST DEDICATIONS

SPONSOR	TREE SPECIES	LOCATION	DEDICATION
Vicky Knaack	Crape Myrtle	Cherry Park	In loving memory of Phyllis Eisenbart
The Newell Family	Magnolia	Alton Park	In memory of Jean M. Newell
The Karanjia Family	Crape Myrtle	Alton Park	In memory of Perviz Malbari, our mom and grand-mother
The Karanjia Family	Magnolia	Foothill Ranch Community Park	In memory of Perviz Malbari, our mom and grand-mother
The Magnuson Family	Magnolia	Tamarisk Park	In loving memory of Chuck & Sue Magnuson, lovers of God, Jesus, family, travel and music
Villarruel Family	Crape Myrtle	Rancho Serrano Park	In loving memory of Maria Teresa Villarruel, dearly loved mother and grandmother
Lake Forest Garden Club	Crape Myrtle	Cherry Park	In honor of Patti Carlson, Co-President of the Lake Forest Garden Club 2017-2019
Lake Forest Garden Club	Crape Myrtle	Cherry Park	In honor of Stephanie Gilette, Co-President of the Lake Forest Garden Club 2017-2019
Karen Manna-Levin, Annalee and Andrew Levin	Magnolia	Pittsford Park	In loving memory of our beautiful mother and grandmother, Joan May Saba Sissian Manna
William and Bianca Rose	Sycamore	Pittsford Park	In memory of our loving mother and grandmother, Sharon Darling. Always in our hearts
Ed and Kathy Harcharik	Crape Myrtle	Alton Park	Sassy and Bao - pure joy
Ed and Kathy Harcharik	Crape Myrtle	Alton Park	Charlie and Scruffy - our little fur angels
Ed and Kathy Harcharik	Crape Myrtle	Alton Park	Beau - our magic one
Jennifer Weiss and Karen Eyler	Crape Myrtle	Rancho Serrano Park	Raymond Scott Weiss - Happy Birthday Ray! We Love you always!
Anthony, Sarah, Anne and DeeDee Dziabo	Crape Myrtle	Peachwood Park	In loving memory of Emilie Dziabo, wife and mother
The Chen and Chan family	Sycamore	Concourse Park	In loving memory of Roger Chan
The Chan family	Sycamore	Concourse Park	In loving memory of Frances Chan
The Chen and Chan family	Sycamore	Concourse Park	In loving memory of Nelson Chen



## EXPAND THE FOREST: BY THE NUMBERS

- **1995:** Year Established
- **831:** Trees Planted Under Program
- **15,881:** City Trees in Lake Forest

for more information see:  
[www.lakeforestca.gov/  
expandtheforest](http://www.lakeforestca.gov/expandtheforest)



Pink Crape Myrtle

## KEEP LAKE FOREST GREEN WHILE YOU CLEAN

Are you taking advantage of the warmer weather to declutter and clean your home? Not sure what to do with all that stuff you have uncovered?

**Here are a few environmentally friendly tips to get you started:**



**REDUCE** – It is easier to de-clutter when there is less stuff in your home. Only buy what is needed. Reducing the urge to buy impulse items saves money and minimizes clutter in your home.



**REUSE** – Many broken items can be repaired. Online videos and community forums can assist with a variety of repairs. Repairing items can lead to new skills and substantial savings.



**SELL OR DONATE** – Reusable items no longer needed by your family may be needed by another. Donate to a local thrift store or post your items online. Remember to use safety precautions when selling items online.



**RECYCLE** – Magazines, paper, bottles, cans, and other recyclable items can be placed in your recycle bin to be processed back into use.



**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)** – Electronic waste, batteries, motor oil, and other hazardous waste require special handling. The County of Orange manages four HHW collection centers where residents may drop-off HHW free of charge. Visit [www.oilandfills.com](http://www.oilandfills.com) for more information. Additionally, the City holds two HHW collection events each year. The next event will be held May 22-23.

After the work is done, enjoy your clean home knowing you have helped keep Lake Forest Green.

## YOU ARE THE SOLUTION TO RUNOFF POLLUTION!



### SO WHAT IS RUNOFF AND WHY SHOULD YOU BE CONCERNED ABOUT IT?

Runoff is water from rain and outdoor water use that drains from roofs, driveways, patios, sidewalks, and other surfaces, and does not soak into the ground. As runoff flows over these surfaces it picks up pollutants and carries them to storm drains. You should be concerned about runoff because water that flows into

storm drains is not treated at a sewage treatment plant before it is released into our creeks, rivers, lakes, and the ocean.

The key to protecting our waterways is to recognize the common pollutants – trash, pet waste, yard debris, fertilizer, pesticides, engine oil, paint, home solvents, and detergents – and prevent them from entering storm drains. Every day, you can take a few simple actions to prevent runoff pollution and make a positive impact on water quality in Lake Forest.

Unsure of where to begin? That's where we come in! The City of Lake Forest has partnered with all 34 cities in Orange County, the County of Orange, and the Orange County Flood Control District to develop a stormwater program called H2OC. The mission of H2OC is to provide residents and businesses with resources to prevent water pollution and protect our waterways. Think of it as your one-stop shop for all things runoff-pollution-prevention in Orange County.

We all share a connection to water, and it is important that everybody works to prevent runoff pollution. You can make a difference! Learn how at [www.h2oc.org](http://www.h2oc.org) where you'll find all the resources you need, including an events calendar to find an event near you.

Let's keep our waterways sparkling!

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION SET



Residents can drop off household chemicals, electronics, and batteries on **May 22 and May 23** at a Hazardous Waste Collection event sponsored by the City and CR&R.

Paints, automotive products, cleaning products, pesticides, and aerosol cans will be accepted. Officials warn that the chemicals should not be mixed and should be in labeled and sealed containers. TVs and other household electronics and batteries will also be accepted.

The event is open to Lake Forest residents only; identification will be required.

See the calendar at [www.lakeforestca.gov](http://www.lakeforestca.gov) for more information.

**The event runs from  
8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (5/22)  
and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday (5/23)  
at 27051 Towne Center Dr.**