

# Nevada City Newsletter

July 2009

## Fire Season Safety Tips from the Nevada City Fire Dept.

### Create a Wild land Fire Safety Zone around your home.

You can take steps to reduce potential exposure to flames and radiant heat. Homes built in pine forests should have a minimum safety zone of 100 feet. If your home sits on a steep slope, standard protective measures may not suffice.

- Rake leaves, dead limbs and twigs. Clear all flammable vegetation.
- Remove leaves and rubbish from under structures.
- Thin a 15-foot space between tree crowns, and remove limbs within 15 feet of the ground.
- Remove dead branches that extend over the roof.
- Prune tree branches and shrubs within 15 feet of a stovepipe or chimney outlet.
- Ask the power company to clear branches from power lines.

- Remove vines from the walls of the home.
- Mow grass regularly.
- Clear a 10-foot area around the barbecue. Place a screen over the grill – use nonflammable material with mesh no coarser than one-quarter inch.
- Regularly dispose of newspapers and rubbish at an approved site.
- Place stove, fireplace and grill ashes in a metal bucket, soak in water for 2 days; then bury the cold ashes in mineral soil.
- Store gasoline, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved safety cans and away from the base of buildings.
- Stack firewood at least 100 feet away and uphill from your home.
- Clear combustible material within 20 feet.
- Review your homeowner's insurance policy and also pre-

pare/update a list of your home's contents.

### Protect your home

- Regularly clean roof and gutters.
- Inspect chimneys at least twice a year. Clean them at least once a year. Keep the dampers in good working order.
- Install a dual-sensor smoke alarm on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms; test monthly and change the batteries at least once each year.
- Teach each family member how to use a fire extinguisher (ABC type) and show them where it's kept.
- Keep handy household items that can be used as fire tools: a rake, axe, handsaw or chain saw, bucket and shovel.
- Keep a ladder that will reach the roof.



## Summer in Nevada City

### Summer Nights

July 15, 22, 29  
6:00-9:00pm

### Farmer's Market

Every Saturday beginning  
June 13  
8:00am-12:00pm

### Picnic Pops Outdoor Concerts

July 26 & August 23  
5:00pm at Pioneer Park

### Market Days

Tuesdays  
3:00-6:00pm at Sierra  
Presbyterian Church

### Gold Rush History

A new color brochure for the fine historical museums of Nevada City and Grass Valley has been published by the Nevada County Historical Society. The brochure has maps and also includes historic sites, cemeteries and buildings. The illustrated brochure is available at local museums and Chamber of Commerce Visitor Centers.

## City Wide Yard Sale and Clean Up

Thank you to the many people who, despite the rain, had a yard sale on May 2nd as part of the City Wide Yard Sale. Several families joined us at the Veteran's Building on Pine St. and were able to sell many wonderful items.

The Clean up Day proved to be successful. With the help of Waste Management employees citizens were able to dispose of unwanted items in an easy, efficient manner.

The goal of each event was to give Nevada City a "face lift".

If we all work to keep our property clean with maintained yards, our city will be an even more beautiful place to live. The City hopes to hold these events again on a regular basis, dates and details will be available in future newsletters.

## Department of Public Works

### Measure “S” Update

Measure “S” road paving for 2009 has been completed. A map of the recently paved streets is available on the City’s website ([www.nevadacityca.gov](http://www.nevadacityca.gov)).

Approximately \$220,000 in stimulus funds may be available to Nevada City to pave Broad St. this fall. Broad St. has not been repaved since 1977.

### House Numbers

Please consider putting your house number at the end of your driveway or very visible on the front of your home. If you need assistance from the Department of Public Works or Emergency Personnel, this will make it easier for them to find you. Reflective numbers are especially helpful if crews are responding after dark, but any numbers are helpful.

### Gentle Reminder

Leafs and other yard waste should not be blown into City streets. The debris can cause traffic hazards. Place all yard waste in the appropriate containers for Waste Management. If you do not have a yard waste container, you can contact Waste Management at 274-3090. Yard Waste can also be disposed of at the McCourtney Rd. Transfer Station.

## Life Line Screenings

Over 5 million people have participated in Life Line Screening ultrasound tests for stroke caused by carotid artery disease, abdominal aortic aneurysms and other vascular diseases. Cardiovascular disease is the #1 killer in the United States of both men and women - and a leading cause of permanent disability.

### Consider these statistics:

- 4 out of 5 stroke victims had no apparent warning signs
- 80% of strokes can be prevented

You may think that your physician would order these screenings if they were necessary. However, insurance companies typically will not pay for screenings unless a person has suffered symptoms. Unfortunately, for so many people the first sign of a stroke is a stroke. That is why having a Life Line Screening is so important to keep you and your loved ones healthy and independent. Call 1-800-324-1851 for an appointment (pre-registration is required). A complete wellness package is available for \$149.

**What:** Life Line Screening

**When:** August 21, 2009

**Where:** Nevada City Veterans Building

**Fee:** \$149 for complete wellness package

**For information:**

Call 1-800-324-1851

## Dogs and Hot Cars Don’t Mix

### Facts

- On a 78°F day, a car parked in the sun, even with the windows partly opened, can reach 160°F in minutes.
- Besides unprotected exposure to the sun, the metal of a truck bed can heat up quickly and burn dogs’ feet.
- With only hot air to breathe, a dog’s normal process of cooling through panting fails.
- A body temperature of just 107°F may cause brain damage or death from heatstroke.

If you see an animal locked in a car on a hot day, act immediately and call Nevada County Animal Control 273-2179 or Grass Valley Animal Control 477-4630.



# Parks & Recreation - Nevada City Pool



## Adult Lap Swim & Water Exercise Classes

An **affordable** way to get in shape this summer! Our exercise class aims to **tone** your body, build strength, and get a great **cardio** work out. Prefer to workout at your **own pace**? You can swim laps or do your own exercises.

Dates:	Days:	Times:	Who:	Fees:
May 30-Sept 12	Sat.	11a-12:30p	Adults*	\$4 Drop-in
June 16-Aug 13	T/Th	8:45-9:45a		\$165 5 Pass Punch Card
	T/Th	7-8p		\$100 Season Pass
Aug 18-Sept 10	T/Th	8:45-10:45a		
	T/Th	6-8p		

\*Ages 12 & up may participate, if accompanied by an adult

## Trail Activities

### National Trails Day

June 6 was National Trails Day in Nevada County. Many people were in attendance to see John Olmstead honored with the Bill Nick-erl Award.

There were several hikes and bike rides that took place in connection with the event as well.

Visit the Nevada County Land Trust website to read more about the event and John Olmstead, [www.nevadacountylandtrust.org](http://www.nevadacountylandtrust.org)

### Trail Master Plan

The Nevada County Planning Department is currently developing the Western Nevada County Non-motorized Recreational Trails Master Plan. This plan is intended to be a tool for County staff and decision makers to work with developers to provide recreational trails consistent with a regional trail system. This plan will also make the County and other organizations more competitive for receiving grant funds. This plan entails (1) a map depicting the proposed regional trail routes and

potential connections to existing recreation amenities, (2) goals and policies to provide a framework for working with developers, (3) design guidelines for trail development, and (4) programs to implement the regional trail system. The County is interested in receiving public feedback and building partnerships with other agencies and organizations to implement the regional trail system. A draft of the plan will be available in the coming weeks for public comment. Contact the project planner, Larkyn Feiler, at 265-1254 for further information.

## Deciding if Solar is Right for Your Home

### What is the first step I should take when looking into solar?

Reducing your electricity use will have the quickest and most positive impact on the environment and on your pocketbook. Start with your electricity usage. Pull out your electricity bills. What has your kWh usage been each of the last twelve months? How much are you paying for electricity? What rate plan are you on?

The objective is to understand how much electricity you use, what you are using it for and when you are using it. This information is critical to conservation, energy efficiency efforts and to proper sizing of a solar electric system. Armed with this information do an energy efficiency audit.

**PG&E offers free energy audits to its customers online** at [http://www.pge.com/res/energy\\_tools\\_resources/](http://www.pge.com/res/energy_tools_resources/)

[energy\\_tools.html](#). Print out the audit results, if you do decide to go solar, a copy of the audit will need to be submitted with your solar rebate application.

## Nevada City Newsletter

City of Nevada City  
317 Broad St.  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
Phone: 530-265-2496  
Fax: 530-265-0187  
www.nevadacityca.gov



**REMINDER**.....the Second Unit Leniency Ordinance expires July 31, 2009. Please contact City Planner Cindy Siegfried at 265-2496 to find out information on how to legalize an illegal second unit under this program.

## Did you know?...

*Have a wedding to attend? At Nena Salon Etcetera on Spring St. you can get a haircut, manicure, pedicure and buy a beautiful, hand-blown glass gift.*

*To take care of a sweet tooth stop by the Nevada City **Chocolate Shoppe** on Broad St. Owners Charles & Juanita Scott make chocolate treats daily at the Shoppe. And you will want try one of their gourmet candied apples!*

*In addition to a variety of "one of a kind" furniture, **Taylor Drake** on Spring St. sells artwork by local artists and offer great gift ideas.*

***Penny Lane** on Commercial St. has awesome toys for kids that parents love. Check out their organic, free-trade clothing for infants and toddlers.*

***Dokimos Pharmacy** located next to SPD on Zion St. is our locally owned pharmacy. Their friendly staff will quickly fill your prescriptions, but don't forget to take time to check out their variety of gift options.*

## State Board of Equalization In-State Voluntary Disclosure Use Tax Liability

Effective January 1, 2009 the In-State Voluntary Disclosure Program (Revenue and Taxation Code section 6487.06) provides additional benefits to California purchasers who are not required to hold a seller's permit, but have a use tax liability. The benefits of the In-State Voluntary Disclosure Program include:

- Limits the time the BOE can make an assessment for prior taxes to three years. (Without this section, the applicable statutory period could be as long as ten years.)
- Allows the BOE to waive late filing and late payment liabilities

To qualify for the In-State Voluntary Disclosure Program, a person or business must meet **all** the following conditions:

- Reside or located within California, and have not previously regis-

tered with the BOE;

- Have not previously filed an Individual Use Tax Return with BOE;
- Have not reported an amount for use tax on your Individual Income Tax Return with the Franchise Tax Board
- Are not engaged in business in this state as a retailer;
- Have not been contacted by the BOE for failure to report use tax;
- The purchase is not of a vehicle, vessel, or aircraft; and
- The person or business voluntarily comes forward to the BOE.

Complete and submit all of the following documents listed to your nearest BOE office;

- BOE-38-I, Application for In-State Voluntary Disclosure,
- BOE-735, Request for Relief from Penalty, and
- BOE-400-CSU, California Consumer Use Tax Account Application

**To obtain these forms for more information, please visit the BOE website at [www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov) or phone the Taxpayer Information Section at 1-800-7115.**