

# SAN RAMON CITY REPORT



Winter 2019



## Holiday Tree Collection and Service Schedule

Alameda County Industries (ACI) of San Ramon will conduct a special one-time tree pick up the week of January 6, 2020.

### PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Place trees curbside on your regular scheduled collection day.
- Lights, decorations & stands must be removed.
- Trees should not be bagged or wrapped.
- Cut tree in half if taller than 6 feet.
- Flocked trees accepted, but will not be composted.
- Artificial trees not accepted. Contact ACI of San Ramon for collection options.

ACI uses a different truck that may service your block earlier or later than their regular trucks. For more information, contact ACI of San Ramon at 925-380-9480 or visit: [www.sanramonrecycles.com/holiday/](http://www.sanramonrecycles.com/holiday/).



The Boy Scouts will also host an Annual Holiday Tree Pick-Up Fundraiser on January 4, 2020. For a \$10 donation, local Boy Scouts will pick up your tree. Visit: [www.sanramonscouts.org/trees](http://www.sanramonscouts.org/trees) or email: [sanramonscouts@gmail.com](mailto:sanramonscouts@gmail.com).



## Holiday Garbage Collection Schedule

Garbage, recycling, and organics will not be collected on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. This year, both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on a Wednesday. Collection on the two holiday weeks will occur one day later than normal, through Saturday. For example, if your collection day is on Wednesday, your collection day for Christmas week will be Thursday, December 26th. If your regular collection day is Friday, your collection day during Christmas will be Saturday, December 28th.

For more information, contact ACI of San Ramon at 925-380-9480 or visit: [www.sanramonrecycles.com/holiday/](http://www.sanramonrecycles.com/holiday/).

DECEMBER 23-28, 2019					
If your collection day is:	Mon. 23	Tue. 24	Wed. 25	Thu. 26	Fri. 27
Your holiday collection day will be:	Mon. 23	Tue. 24	Thu. 26	Fri. 27	Sat. 28

DEC. 30, 2019 - JAN. 4, 2020					
If your collection day is:	Mon. 30	Tue. 31	Wed. 1	Thu. 2	Fri. 3
Your holiday collection day will be:	Mon. 30	Tue. 31	Thu. 2	Fri. 3	Sat. 4



# What Happens to the Recyclables Collected from the Blue Carts and Bins?



Collection vehicles pick up Recyclables and transport them to ACI's Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in San Leandro, then the recyclable material is loaded onto a conveyer system. A combination of mechanized and manual sorting occurs to separate the recyclable materials into marketable commodities. Sorted materials are stored in large volume and then prepared for shipping to recyclers, and these materials are transformed into new products. For a graphic and video of this process, please visit: [www.sanramonrecycles.com/residential/resources/](http://www.sanramonrecycles.com/residential/resources/).

New, strict contaminant thresholds went into effect in January 2018

and were applied to certain grades of paper and cardboard. In addition, restrictions on mixed waste paper and various grades of post-consumer plastics have resulted in very limited markets and lower prices for these materials.

Strict import policies have impacted recycling markets worldwide. Contamination levels in the recycling and organics streams result in higher



costs to collect and process materials and a decrease in marketability of the end product. Proper sorting does make a difference.

- ✓ Place recyclable materials only in your blue recyclables carts and/or bins.
- ✓ Empty and clean all recyclable plastic, metal and glass food containers to prevent contamination.
- ✓ Garbage, Organics and Hazardous Waste, DO NOT belong in any recycling container. What belongs in each waste container? Scan the QR code on the label or visit: [www.SanRamonSort.com](http://www.SanRamonSort.com).

## Street Sweeping Update

Leaf season officially began on October 14th and will continue through part of the winter. Public streets will be swept by Contract Sweeping on a weekly basis. This extra effort to remove excess leaf fall will continue until January 17, 2020. A total of four sweepers have been working their scheduled routes, and staff has the flexibility to re-route if other areas need additional attention. To find additional information about street sweeping, please visit: [www.sanramon.ca.gov/leafseason](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/leafseason).



# Winter Spare The Air Alerts

During winter months, wood smoke is the largest source of air pollution in the Bay Area, accounting for more than one-third of fine particulate matter pollution.

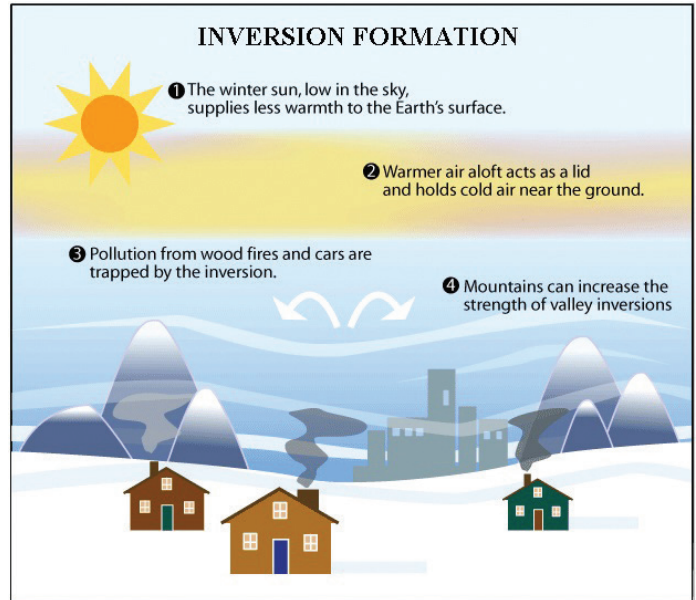


On cool, calm days when there is an inversion layer of warm air acting as a lid over a layer of cold air, wood smoke can build up at ground level to unhealthy concentrations.

When these conditions are expected, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) will call a *Winter Spare the Air Alert*.

*Winter Spare the Air Alerts* can be called between November 1st through the end of February.

On a Winter Spare the Air day, the Air District's wood-burning regulation makes it illegal indoors and outdoors throughout the Bay Area to burn wood, fire logs, pellets, or other solid fuels in a fireplace, wood stove, outdoor fire pit, or other wood-burning device. This regulation applies to both households and businesses.



First-time violators will be given the option of taking a wood smoke awareness class online, by mail, or by paying a \$100 fine. Second violations will result in a \$500 fine, and subsequent violation amounts will be higher.

For more detailed information on how to sign up for Winter Spare the Air Alerts, please go to: [www.sparetheair.org/understanding-air-quality/wood-burning-rule](http://www.sparetheair.org/understanding-air-quality/wood-burning-rule) or call 1-800-HELP-AIR or 415-479-4900.

## New Smoking Ordinance to Take Effect on December 26, 2019

On November 26, 2019, the City Council adopted an ordinance that amends the definition of "smoking" to include "vaping" (use of an electronic smoking device) and to include smoking or vaping of any substance. The purpose of these new definitions is to expand the definition of "smoke," in order to place the same restrictions on all types of smoke and all types of smoke delivery systems. For example, under the new Ordinance, using a vaping pen or smoking marijuana will be prohibited wherever cigarette smoking is currently prohibited. To this end, the pending Ordinance amends the definition of "smoke" and "smoking," respectively, to read as follows:

"Smoke" means the gases, particles, or vapors released into the air as a result of combustion, electrical ignition, or vaporization when the apparent or usual purpose of the combustion, electrical ignition, or vaporization is human inhalation of the byproducts,

except when the combusting or vaporizing material contains no tobacco or nicotine or illegal substances, and the purpose of inhalation is solely olfactory, such as, for example, smoke from incense. The term "smoke" includes, but is not limited to, tobacco smoke, electronic smoking device vapors, marijuana smoke, and smoke from any illegal substance. "Smoking" means inhaling or exhaling smoke from, or carrying, any lighted, heated, burning, or ignited smoke delivery system.



The new ordinance will go into effect on December 26, 2019. As of that date, the following restrictions will apply to smoking of all substances (not only to tobacco), and by all methods (including electronic smoking devices). For more information visit: [www.sanramon.ca.gov/ord495](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/ord495).

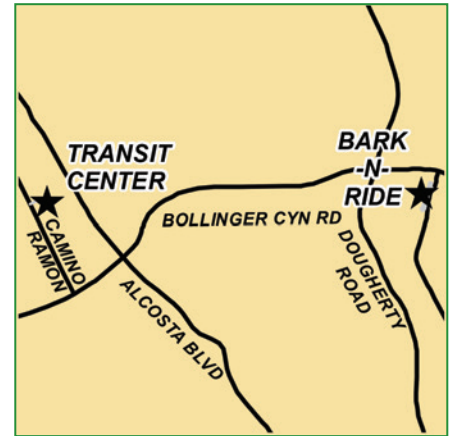
## Incentives for San Ramon Residents Who Try a Commute Alternative to Work

**A**re you interested in making a change from driving alone to carpooling, vanpooling, taking transit, bicycling, or walking to work? Whether you make the switch one day a week or five days a week, driving less can make a difference. The City of San Ramon and 511 Contra Costa provide a variety of commute incentives to get you started on a greener, easier commute to work. Try it today and get PAID!

To decide which options best fit your particular travel needs, visit [www.511contracosta.org](http://www.511contracosta.org).

The City of San Ramon has two Park & Ride lots available: The San Ramon Transit Center (7051 Executive Parkway) and Bark & Ride (1120 South Wedgewood Road).

For more information call 925-973-2650 or visit: [www.sanramon.ca.gov/transportation](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/transportation).



## We Are Prepared for PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff!

**A** "Public Safety Power Shutoff" or "PSPS" is when PG&E deems it necessary to turn off electricity when gusty winds and dry conditions, combined with a heightened fire risk, are forecasted. Specific areas and the number of customers affected depends on the weather and hazardous conditions. On October 9th and 26th, PG&E performed a PSPS to respond to forecasted high wind and low humidity conditions.

### How did we fare?

There were no significant law enforcement incidents or reported traffic collisions directly related to the power shutoffs. A total of nineteen traffic intersection signals were affected, all put in four-way red flash mode. During the second PSPS, the strong wind storm caused the loss of 96 trees, and damage to several street lights, street pole signs, and overhead illuminated street signs.

Police continuously provided roving patrols throughout the City to ensure the safety of the residents, with real-time information provided to the City's Emergency Management personnel. Public Works staff worked day and night to cycle fresh batteries for the signals and remove debris from roadways, sidewalks, and rights-of-way to maintain public safety.

### How is the City prepared?

Concurrent with PG&E's public outreach, the City reaches out to the Community through social media, website updates, email distribution lists, and emergency text message alerts. The outage area is reviewed, standby crew is increased as needed, generators are checked and filled, and charging units for traffic signals at critical intersections are checked.

Prior to and during the PSPS, Police Department and Emergency

Management personnel remain in constant contact with PG&E, the Contra Costa County Office of Emergency Services, and the City's Executive Team, to ensure all have the most accurate and up-to-date information. During the power outage, the Police and Public Works staff are monitoring and responding to incidents and calls 24/7.

### Be Prepared!

For more information on how to be prepared for a PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoff, please visit:

[www.pge.com/en\\_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/outage-readiness.page](http://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/outage-readiness.page)

Follow @CityofSanRamon on Twitter for up-to-date information during an outage.



# A New Transportation Future for Contra Costa County

Contra Costa Transportation Authority's 35-year Transportation Expenditure Plan, totaling \$3.6 billion is allocated to provide safe, efficient, and convenient travel in Contra Costa County. In San Ramon and southwest Contra Costa County, the major improvements include:

- Reduced congestion along I-680 with northbound express lanes and auxiliary lanes.
- Addressing the bottleneck on I-680 at Highway 24 and manage traffic flow.

- Increased parking at BART stations.
- Improved transit reliability with part-time transit lanes, shared mobility hubs, and shuttles to BART/employment centers.
- Improved traffic flow on major roads like Crow Canyon Road and Bollinger Canyon Road.
- Increased funding for school bus programs to reduce congestion around schools.

- Funding for pedestrian/bicycle facilities, including overcrossings.
- Investments to reduce emissions and improve air quality with electric vehicle charging stations, rideshare and bike share services, and zero emission programs.

On the March 3, 2020 ballot, voters in Contra Costa County will decide to support a new ½ cent sales tax measure to implement the proposed Transportation Expenditure Plan.

## Project Tracking and Permit Automation Coming Soon

The Community Development and Public Works Departments are completing an automation project that includes the software system EnerGov Community Development, which automates the City's operations in land use planning, permitting, enforcement case management, and inspections. San Ramon will manage plan reviews in a paperless environment, providing convenience to applicants, and reducing paper waste and travel time for those who choose to use the internet process. The upgrade provides interconnectivity between departments that span the permitting, planning, and licensing processes within the City.

The implementation will include iG Workforce, which are mobile



apps for inspectors and code enforcement personnel to complete in-field tasks entirely online. Building Inspection results are posted from each site and immediately available to the contractor or property owner.

In addition to the development tracking software, the City will implement Citizen Self Service (CSS) applications. The CSS provides a web based option for public access to schedule inspections, check the results of an inspection, submit construction drawings, track a project status, and pay fees related to construction projects.

The CSS services are available 24 hours a day and can be completed from the comfort of the office, home, or from the construction site using cell phones that have internet access.

Staff is planning for a January release of these services, so watch the City's website for go live information and connection options.



City of San Ramon  
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San Ramon, CA 94583  
(925) 973-2500

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**EVENTS DECEMBER 2019 – FEBRUARY 2020**

**December**

**San Ramon Symphonic Band: Holiday Concert – Winter Holiday Express\***  
December 22  
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

**January**

**Friday Foreign Film Series: Shoplifters\***  
January 10  
Front Row Theater

**Disney's Frozen Jr.\***  
January 17-19  
Performed by the students in Bay Area Children's Theater Programs  
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

**Friday Foreign Film Series: The Intouchables\***  
January 24  
Front Row Theater

**San Ramon Historic Foundation: Crab Feed\***  
January 24  
Dougherty Station Community Center

**LeAnn Rimes\***  
January 25  
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center



**Open Space Hike: Creekside to Old Dougherty Road Walk\***  
January 25  
Creekside Park

**Friday Foreign Film Series: Tangerines\***  
January 31  
Front Row Theater

**Bedtime Theater featuring: Emily Butterfly\***  
January 31  
Dougherty Station Community Center

**February**

**Suburban Thunder Improv Comedy: Night at the Improv\***  
February 1  
Front Row Theater

**Friday Foreign Film Series: Faces Places\***  
February 7  
Front Row Theater

**Lady K & the Kings of Swing: What's Jazz\***  
February 8  
Front Row Theater

**San Ramon Senior Foundation: Bingo Lunch Fundraiser\***  
February 8  
Alcosta Senior & Community Center

**Youth Symphony Concert**  
February 10  
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center

**Friday Foreign Film Series: The Insult\***  
February 21  
Front Row Theater

**Foghat\***  
February 22  
Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center



**Open Space Hike: Alamo Creek Trail\***  
February 22  
Souyen Park



\*These events require registration or ticket purchase.

For more information, please visit [www.sanramon.ca.gov/parks](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov/parks) or call (925) 973-3200.

**Contact Information**

**City Council**

- Bill Clarkson, *Mayor*
- Sabina Zafar, *Vice Mayor*
- David E. Hudson, *Councilmember*
- Philip G. O'Loane, *Councilmember*
- Scott Perkins, *Councilmember*
- City Council ..... 973-2530
- City Manager ..... 973-2530

**Department Services**

- Building ..... 973-2580
- Business License ..... 973-2510
- City Clerk ..... 973-2539
- Economic Development ..... 973-2554
- Human Resources ..... 973-2523
- Engineering ..... 973-2670
- Passport Services ..... 973-2539
- Parks & Community Services ..... 973-3200
- Planning ..... 973-2560
- Police ..... 973-2700
- Public Services ..... 973-2800
- Transportation ..... 973-2650

**Facilities**

- Alcosta Senior & Community Center ..... 973-3250
- Dougherty Station Community Center .... 973-3200
- Dougherty Station Library ..... 973-3380
- Dougherty Valley Aquatic Center ..... 973-3335
- Dougherty Valley Performing Arts Center.. 973-3343
- Permit Center..... 973-2574
- San Ramon Community Ctr & Central Park . 973-3200
- San Ramon Library ..... 973-2850
- San Ramon Olympic Pool ..... 973-3240

[www.sanramon.ca.gov](http://www.sanramon.ca.gov)