

****ECRWSEDDM****
 RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Measure L repairs and improvements starting

Last year, Lakewood residents approved Lakewood Measure L to provide locally controlled funding for public safety, for repairs and improvements to the city's aging infrastructure, and to safeguard the city's financial future.

The city has started to use Measure L funds to increase civilian public safety staff who provide valuable support services that increase the amount of time that Deputy Sheriffs can spend on patrol protecting Lakewood neighborhoods. The support staff are one reason why Lakewood's response time for emergency calls is consistently faster than the average throughout L.A. County.

The civilian staff are also creating more opportunities where residents can meet and interact with Sheriff's personnel. For example, look for lots of "Coffee with a Deputy" events throughout the year (both virtual and, hopefully, in-person again soon).

Park and community building repairs and improvements are also starting. Design work has begun, and this summer and fall look for roofing, electrical, HVAC and other projects to commence at Lakewood parks and community facilities,

What is LAKEWOOD MEASURE L?

Local funding for public safety, parks, community buildings, and services in Lakewood.



ties, like the Weingart Senior Center. Some projects will upgrade electrical systems from the 1950s and '60s that are so old that replacement parts are difficult to come by. Some park community buildings will also receive air conditioning for the first time.

"We take very seriously the trust that residents have placed in their city with Measure L," said Lakewood City Manager Thaddeus McCormack. "A Citizens Oversight Committee is monitoring revenues and expenditures related to Measure L, and we look forward to carefully implementing Measure L-funded projects for parks, community buildings, public safety and other key projects to maintain Lakewood's quality of life on into the future."

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"Vets, Pets & Regrets"

Please think twice before using illegal fireworks

Lakewood, like many communities in California, allows the use of "safe-and-sane" fireworks approved by the State Fire Marshal on the day of July 4th only. Safe-and-sane fireworks do not explode or go into the air. Their sound does not travel far. And families can enjoy them responsibly as part of a fun...and safe...July 4th celebration. Their use also benefits Lakewood community groups that sell them at stands throughout the city between July 1-4.

However, some people make the fateful decision each year to purchase and use fireworks that are illegal in California for personal use. These include skyrockets, firecrackers and other explosives...all of which are illegal in California and dangerous to use... especially in highly populated residential neighborhoods like Lakewood.

If you're thinking of using illegal fireworks, did you know the following?

1. **Some combat veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) can be stressed and re-traumatized by illegal fireworks.** The U.S. Marine Corps urges Americans to be considerate of the veterans living among us when it comes to illegal fireworks use. A

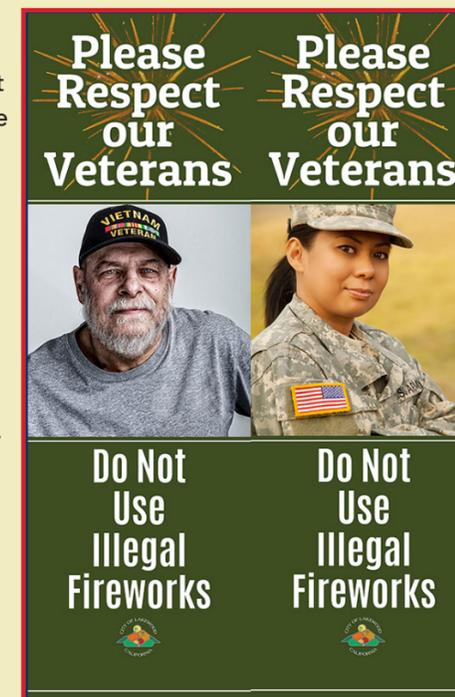
Marine veteran of two tours in Iraq said he can prepare for events like the annual fireworks display that his hometown puts on at a certain time. But the sudden rat-a-tat of firecrackers set off by his neighbors throughout the night transports him back to Baghdad and sets him on edge. Lake-

wood is a community that deeply respects military veterans for their service, so the City of Lakewood urges residents to be considerate of veterans...and think twice before using illegal fireworks in Lakewood.

2. **Pets can also be traumatized by loud fireworks...and more pets run away from home and are lost on July 4th than on any other day.** Like veterans, most pet owners can prepare their animals for a short, one-time event like a planned fireworks show or the use of safe-and-sane fireworks whose sound does not travel far. But there's no preparing for the loud and unexpected sounds of illegal skyrockets, firecrackers and other explosives, including those happening late at night.

What residents can do to help?

• If you think someone is planning to use illegal fireworks, call the city's Illegal Fireworks



Street banners Lakewood will use starting in 2021

Tipline at City Hall at 562-866-9771, ext. 7233, email

Service1@lakewoodcity.org, or

report it on the Lakewood Connect app (prior to July 4th). You can keep your tip confidential.

• To report illegal fireworks use IN PROGRESS, call

the Lakewood Sheriff's Station at 562-623-3500.

• Lakewood's fines for illegal fireworks use can now total over \$2,000...and Lakewood funds extra Deputy Sheriff and civilian support personnel on and around July 4th who are prepared to issue citations and seize illegal fireworks. Lakewood's Special Assignment Officers also carry out undercover operations before July 4th to target the buying and selling of illegal fireworks.

"Lakewood residents can have a lot of fun with safe-and-sane fireworks...and you won't risk harming veterans, pets and other neighbors in the process," said Lakewood City Manager Thaddeus McCormack.

"The problem of illegal fireworks use has grown in recent years throughout California and the nation," said McCormack, "and it doesn't matter whether a community allows or disallows the use of safe-and-sane fireworks. The problem of illegal fireworks is the same in both types of communities. But Lakewood is known throughout Southern California as a city that is doing everything it can to deter the use of illegal fireworks. Please do your part this year to help, so our community can have a safer and more peaceful July 4th holiday."

More Pets Go Missing July 4th Than Any Other Day



DO NOT USE ILLEGAL FIREWORKS

Street banners Lakewood will use starting in 2021

Free shredding of your documents

The City of Lakewood and EDCO are teaming up again to sponsor a FREE shredding event to help residents prevent identity theft by securely shredding sensitive documents and safely disposing of e-waste.

On Saturday, May 15 from 9 a.m. to noon, Lakewood residents can take advantage of easy drive-through shredding and recycling services in the parking lot behind City Hall and Iacoboni Library.

Residents will enter the parking lot behind Iacoboni Library off of Civic Center Way and drive through to access these services:

- ◆ **Shredding:** Bring up to three bankers-style boxes (10" x 12" x 15") per household of sensitive documents such as bank statements and tax records for free shredding on site. *No CDs, DVDs, diskettes or other media.*

- ◆ **Battery disposal:** Bring used household batteries (no car batteries).

- ◆ **E-waste disposal:** Bring TVs, monitors, computer CPUs, keyboards, printers and cell phones.

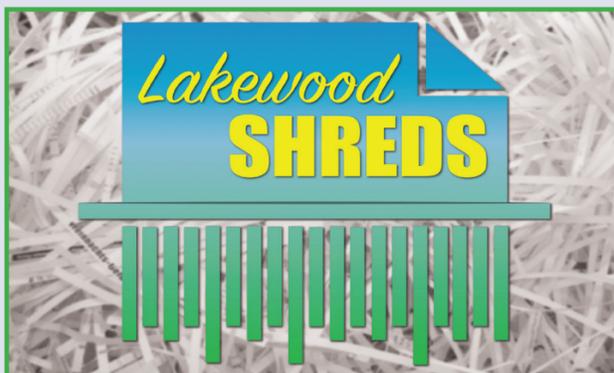
- ◆ **Mulch:** Bring bags or containers to get up to 3 cans/bags per vehicle. As a courtesy, Lakewood employees will shovel the mulch. If you plan to haul your mulch in an open truck or trailer, please remember to bring a tarp to cover your material.

Please do NOT bring these items to the event, as they are hazardous waste:

- ◆ No lightbulbs of any sort
- ◆ No household toxics like paint and insecticides
- ◆ No expired medications or sharps

Hazardous waste and e-waste are accepted on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at EDCO's large transfer facility located at 2755 California Ave. in Signal Hill at no charge to Lakewood residents. Details at www.lakewoodcity.org/HazardousWaste.

The May 15th shredding event is for Lakewood residents only. Pre-registration is not required. The line will close promptly at noon. Be prepared to show proof of residency, with either a driver's license or utility bill. For more information, please call 562-866-9771, extension 2140.



Lakewood Youth Sports player sign-ups

Lakewood Youth Sports baseball, softball and T-ball team signups will take place between April 24 and May 8. T-ball teams are for boys and girls ages 4-5, Coach-Pitch teams are for boys and girls ages 6-7, and baseball and softball teams are for boys ages 8-17 and girls ages 8-17. Register at www.lakewoodcity.org/ecatalog under activities-sports league. There are no registration fees for Lakewood residents. Proof of residency is required. Non-resident registration fee is \$20. Birth certificates must be presented to the office of the park you register to play for by May 22. For more information, call 562-866-9771, extension 2408.

Volunteer coaches needed

A Lakewood tradition since the 1950s has been volunteer coaches who help make teams possible throughout our city. It's a great opportunity to give back to your community. Coaches are needed for baseball, softball and T-ball teams for the summer season at Lakewood parks. Although moms and dads of players make great coaches, it's not necessary to have a child playing to enjoy the volunteer experience. No coaching experience is necessary. City staff will provide the appropriate training. Inquire at any Lakewood park for complete details or call 562-866-9771, extension 2408.

Enjoy the Pan Am Fiesta – virtually

The Pan Am Fiesta normally brings together thousands of people to Mayfair Park, often in close proximity to each other. Due to the pandemic, the Pan Am Fiesta regrettably can't take place as an in-person event for 2021. BUT...we are adapting again with a creative VIRTUAL



Pan Am Fiesta 2021 that will kick off on Thursday, May 6.

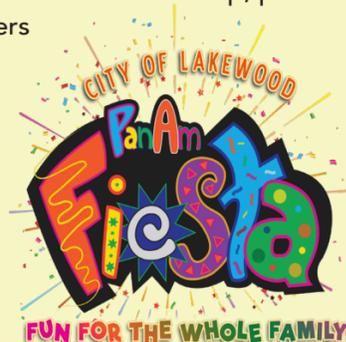
Lakewood city staff and Pan Am volunteers have designed a safe and wonderful way to enjoy the history of the Pan Am Fiesta, along with fun, virtual carnival rides.

Beginning May 6 at www.lakewoodcity.org/PanAm, you'll find the virtual Fiesta experience, including:

- ◆ Carnival rides & Midway games
- ◆ Recipes for carnival foods
- ◆ Children's cultural activities
- ◆ Pan Am Association scholarship, poster and pottery winners

- ◆ Entertainment and Fiesta history, including photos from past events.

The virtual Fiesta experience will be enhanced this year with a Drive-In Movie at the Mall on Saturday, May 8 featuring "Coco." Details at www.lakewoodcity.org/DriveInMovies. Registration for residents begins May 1 at www.lakewoodcity.org/ecatalog.



Lakewood Beautiful nominations due May 9

Nominate your house! Nominate a neighbor's house!

The Lakewood Beautiful program recognizes Lakewood residents who take extra care to keep their homes and yards (and local neighborhoods) looking great.

Studies show that home upkeep and beautification by caring, committed residents keeps crime rates low and property values healthy, thereby benefitting the whole community.

You can help honor those Lakewood residents who go "above and beyond" to keep their home and yards looking beautiful.

There are three ways to honor a home:

- ◆ **Beautiful Home Award.** This is the city's most traditional award, which has honored hundreds of Lakewood homes over three decades. This award recognizes the front-facing exterior and landscaping of a home, displaying exceptional care and pride of ownership.

- ◆ **Jackie Rynerson "Transformation Award."** This honors homeowners who have remodeled

the front-facing exterior and landscaping of their property within the past three years.

- ◆ **Water-Wise Award.**

This honors beautiful homes nominated in

one of the first two categories that deserve extra recognition for landscaping that utilizes water-conserving irrigation devices and plantings.

The nomination deadline is Sunday, May 9, 2021. You can nominate your property or that of a neighbor by going to www.lakewoodcity.org/LakewoodBeautiful or by calling City Hall at 562-866-9771, ext. 3123.

