



Town of

# ATHERTON *California*

WINTER

## Winter Residential Energy Efficiency



It's cold out there! As the temperature drops, keep in mind some of the *many* eco-friendly ways to stay warm and reduce monthly utility bills.

Consider a Home Energy Audit. Home Energy Audits evaluate all of the systems in your home and help you make the decision on which upgrades can best reduce your energy usage and monthly bills. For more information, please visit <https://www.bayareaenergyupgrade.org/>.



Purchase Energy Star Appliances. Energy Star Appliances can reduce the carbon footprint of your home and save you money, both in the form of monthly energy bills and mail in rebates. Use the Energy Star rebate finder at <https://www.energystar.gov/rebate-finder> to see specific local offers.

Keep Unused Rooms Closed. When possible, keep rooms that are not heavily used closed off so they don't sap the heat from heavily used ones

Seal Insulation Gaps. Search your walls and windows for any cracks that may let hot air out of your home. They can easily be filled with caulk or expanding foam.

Consider Replacing Windows or Keeping Windows Covered. Replacing existing windows with Low-Emissance coating windows, or covering existing ones with shades or curtains, will prevent heat from escaping your home.

Lower Thermostat and Water Heater Temperatures. Reducing your thermostat and water heater temperatures by just a few degrees, especially when no one is home, can significantly reduce your home's carbon footprint. Considering a programmable thermostat can also help you mindlessly regulate your home's temperature.

For more information, tips, or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our sustainability staff:

Dori Ganetsos  
(650) 752-0544

[dganetsos@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:dganetsos@ci.atherton.ca.us)

*please  
join us*

Do you have an interest or expertise in landscape or landscape design? We'd love for you to be a part of the conversation around landscape design for the new Civic Center. The Civic Center Advisory Committee (CCAC) invites you to their next meeting on Monday, **January 9, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers to discuss landscape designs. Come be a part of the Committee to help decide what it will look like when done!

Theresa N. DellaSanta  
Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk  
650-752-0529

# ATHERTON WINTER PREPARATION



As winter approaches, it is a good time to prepare your households for the heavy rains, power outages and falling debris that inevitably occur throughout our town during a typical wet weather season. Your Public Works Department has worked hard this fall to ensure our storm drainage system performs well during heavy rainfall events. The Town reminds everyone that NOW is the time to make sure your emergency back-up power generators, sump pumps, and other detention systems are in good working order.

This is the best time to assure your flashlights are filled with fresh batteries and in a handy location as well as candles and lanterns to help deal with a small scale power outage. For those concerned with the possibility of small scale flooding issues, the Town offers up to 20 free sandbags to its

residents, free of charge. Residents need only come down to the Public Works Corporation Yard at 99 Station Lane and load them up. The facility is located behind the permit center and is available 24/7/365.

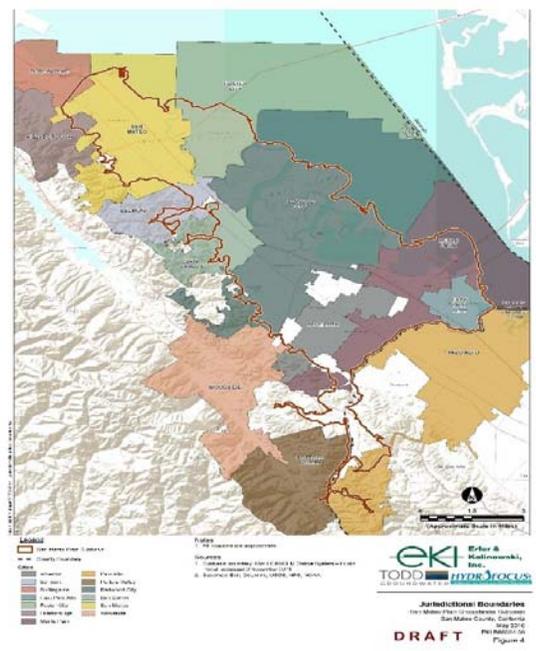
During the worst weather episodes, you can count on your Public Works and Police Departments to be there. Please remember that if you must travel during a storm, to observe our vehicles with their trademark flashing amber lights. This could be a sign of a downed tree or flooding, but it generally marks a worker in the streets away from their vehicle.

So please remember to look out for them while they're looking out for you!

Groundwater has become the focus of attention in San Mateo County and statewide due to issues associated with the ongoing drought and recent regulations to manage this resource. In 2015, the County of San Mateo allocated Measure A funds to perform a baseline assessment of the San Mateo Plain groundwater sub basin, the largest in San Mateo County. This sub basin lies beneath a portion of the county, from approximately Burlingame south to the County boundary, and westward to the town of Portola Valley.

Prior to the completion of the Hetch-Hetchy water supply system, groundwater was the primary source of all drinking water. Overuse and lack of management of the aquifer resulted in negative impacts such as salt water intrusion and land subsidence.

Public and private entities in the Bay Area are turning back to groundwater as supplemental and emergency drinking water resource via supply wells. Currently, the San Mateo Plain sub basin is not being monitored on an ongoing basis.



The County's baseline assessment has a goal to assimilate existing data, identify data gaps, and collect additional data from the sub basin to gain a holistic perspective of the current conditions, usage, and recharge of groundwater. This information is being shared with all stakeholders, as it is collected, to evaluate and collectively discuss the ongoing interactions with this shared resource. For more information, please visit: <http://green.smcgov.org/san-mateo-plain>.



# Traffic Tips

## From Sergeant Kockler

The Atherton Police Department encourages everyone to drive safely, especially during times of rain. With the rain finally arriving in the Bay Area, here are some tips which will lead to safer driving for all:

Turn on your headlights when driving in the rain. Under California law, your headlights must be turned on when your windshield wipers are in continuous operation, and/or you are unable to clearly see a person or other vehicle from a distance of 1,000 feet (California Vehicle Code section 24400(b)).

Slow down and drive at or below the posted speed limit. Remember, just because there is a posted speed limit does not mean that is the safe speed. Many times, the safe speed will be less than the posted speed limit, depending on weather and road conditions (California Vehicle Code section 22350).

Keep your distance. You should keep 1 second of following distance for every 10 miles per hour between the front of your vehicle and the back of the vehicle in front of you. For example, if the speed limit is 30 miles per hour, you should maintain 3 seconds of following distance.

Check the operation of your vehicle's lights to make sure they are working properly.

Replace old and brittle windshield wiper blades.

Don't drive through areas of moving water or streets which are flooded. Find another route to get to your destination.

Turn on the windshield and rear window defrosters if the interior windows begin to fog over. Proper visibility is a must for driving during the rain.

Don't use cruise control while driving during rainy conditions. Cruise control can lead to loss of vehicle control and an increased chance of a collision during rainy driving conditions.

If your vehicle begins to hydroplane (loses contact with the roadway), take your foot off of the accelerator pedal and avoid slamming on the brakes. Remain calm, look where you want the vehicle to go and don't make any sudden erratic movements with the steering wheel.

If you have a traffic question you would like answered, send your question to Sgt. Anthony Kockler at [akockler@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:akockler@ci.atherton.ca.us). He will try to answer as many questions as possible. Also, look for more traffic questions and answers in upcoming issues of The Athertonian.



## New Exercise Equipment has Arrived at Holbrook-Palmer Park

The park has recently had its four existing Par-Course (exercise) stations replaced with brand new equipment. These stations are placed along the approximate 1 mile walking loop that runs around the perimeter of the park. These stations emphasize different exercises for different zones of the body and offer its users a chance to add agility and strength to accompany the normal walking routine. So whether you are a novice looking for light challenge to your fitness routine or a work-out addict looking to challenge yourself to a more strenuous workout, our new facilities may be just what you are looking for. Next time you visit the park, make time to “walk the loop” and see what this new equipment might be able to offer you and your fitness needs.



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## ATHERTON TENNIS KEY

**Holbrook-Palmer Park**

**150 Watkins Avenue**

**The Tennis Court locks will change February 15, 2017**

**New keys will go on sale starting January 16, 2017**



**\$50/ATHERTON RESIDENTS**

**\$200/NON-RESIDENTS**

**(Valid ID Required)**

**NEW KEYS MAY BE PURCHASED AT  
ATHERTON TOWN HALL**

**91 ASHFIELD ROAD**

**8:00-12:00 pm and 1:00-5:00 pm**

**(Monday – Friday)**



The Atherton Police Department would like to announce the retirement of K-9 Karli Vom Donau Ries, effective December 30, 2016. K-9 Karli is 7.5 years old and started her career at the Atherton Police Department with Officer David Gomez in March of 2012 and spent over 4.5 years by his side tracking suspects and missing persons.



Like many K-9's, Karli is a member of Officer Gomez's family and will serve out her retirement years with Officer Gomez, his wife, and their four children.

The Atherton Police Department would like to thank Officer David Gomez for his time as a K-9 handler and wish Karli the best in her retirement.

K-9 Karli's name will be added to the K-9 retirement plaque at the Atherton Police Department as a reminder of her faithful service to Atherton residents. K-9 Karli will also be honored with a Proclamation at the January 18, 2017 Council Meeting.

## ENJOYING ART IN ATHERTON

There are a variety of venues in which to enjoy art in our community! Artist, Michael Killen's paintings, and prints are currently on display in our town center. His paintings depict his deep concern for our world and our environment; each piece being a 'story' which brings the viewer into an awareness of our impact on the environment. Artist Jeanne Gadot's paintings will be displayed at town center from February-March 2017. For more work created by these artists, visit our website.



At the Atherton Library, you may view the artwork of Canada College students studying digital photography. Their work will be on display now through February. During the months of March – May artwork from students at Laurel School will be exhibited. Be sure to enjoy these exhibits when visiting the library.

As you stroll through the park, we hope you enjoy the sculptures the Atherton Arts Foundation (AAF) has provided. It is our goal to add more sculptures in 2017. If you have a sculpture you would like to donate, please contact us on our website. You may also donate to the AAF in order to bring new sculptures to the park for the enjoyment of the community.

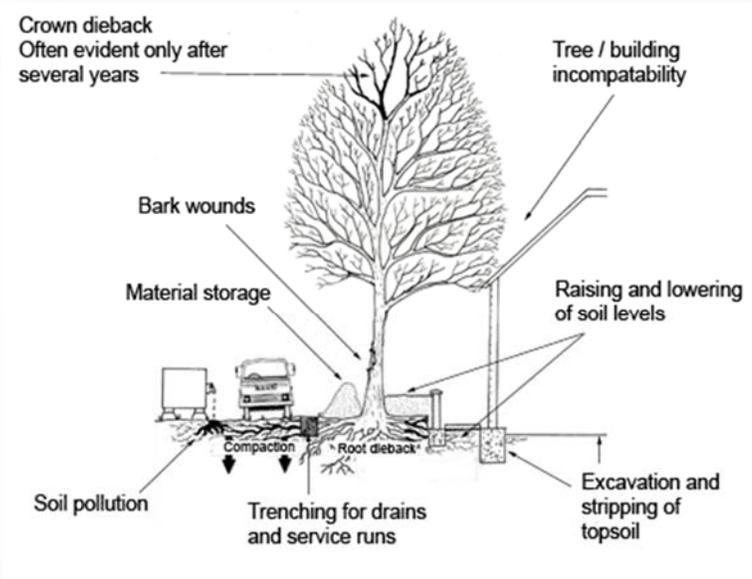
AAF is spreading their wings! We have begun to offer ART CLASSES! Caroline Mustard ([caroline@mobileartacademy.com](mailto:caroline@mobileartacademy.com)) is teaching a mobile devise (i-pad) art class on Tuesday morning, 10-11:30 am in the Garden Room (basement of the main house). You are welcome to stop by and visit with her and/or her students or contact Caroline directly. More art classes are in the works for later this winter, spring and summer. They will be posted on the AAF website.

Calling ARTISTS & AUTHORS: We are looking to contact local artists and authors for a possible April/early May show. If you or someone you know are interested in more information, please contact us via our website.

AAF is a nonprofit foundation whose goal it is to bring a variety of ARTS to the Atherton Community. We'd love your participation and financial help in doing this. Please consider joining and donating to the AAF. Visit us online at: [athertonarts.org](http://athertonarts.org)

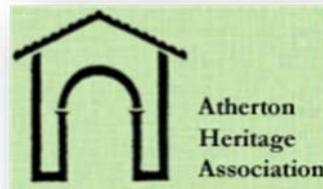
## What is TPZ?

A tree protection zone (TPZ) is a defined area where certain activities are prohibited or restricted to prevent or minimize potential injury to trees, especially during construction or development. The root zone usually extends 1/3 the distance beyond the drip line of the tree and the majority of roots are found within the top 1 to 3 feet of soil, therefore, any activity that damages or disturbs soil may also damage and disturb tree roots. Grading, digging, trenching, covering the ground with asphalt, concrete or landscape plants, excessive foot traffic, or vehicle parking are some of the activities not allowed in the TPZ zone. Root damage robs a tree of energy, dehydrates it, limits the uptake of vital nutrients and may even destabilize the tree. Tree health problems resulting from root damage may be compounded if insects or diseases attack the tree in an already weakened state. Construction-damaged trees will initially appear unscathed, but may take three to five years or longer before evidence of damage (such as canopy dieback) becomes apparent. Healthy trees can survive construction when care is taken to avoid or minimize disturbance within the tree's Tree Protection Zone.



In November, Construction Tree Protection awards were presented at the City Council Meeting to RJ Dailey Construction Co. and Van Acker Construction Associates for exhibiting good tree protection on their construction sites in Atherton. The awards were given to these sites because they paid close attention to the trees on site, installed proper tree protection fencing around the TPZ zones, put up TPZ zone signs, applied mulch, and have shown proper tree maintenance.

For more information about TPZ and activities not allowed in the TPZ zone contact the Town Arborist, Sally Bentz, at [sbentz@ci.atherton.ca.us](mailto:sbentz@ci.atherton.ca.us) or 650-752-0526.



The Atherton Heritage Association is looking for old school yearbooks from our local schools. Don't throw them away; we can use them. Also, we would love to have pictures of your home to help complete our historical collections. The Heritage Room (in the Council Chambers) is open on Tuesdays from 10 until noon, or you may leave the books or photos at the Post Office.  
~ Marion Oster, [meo@rjoster.com](mailto:meo@rjoster.com)

# DISASTER PLAN – DO YOU HAVE ONE?

Disaster can strike quickly and without warning. It can force you to evacuate your neighborhood or confine you to your home. What would you do if basic services--water, gas, electricity or telephones--were cut off? Local officials and relief workers will be on the scene after a disaster, but they cannot reach everyone right away. It is recommended that you are able to care for yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.

## Three Steps to Safety

### 1. Find Out What Could Happen to You

Contact your local Red Cross chapter or emergency management office before a disaster occurs--be prepared to take notes. Be prepared to ask how you can help post disaster

### 2. Create a Disaster Plan

Meet with your family and discuss why you need to prepare for disaster. Explain the dangers of fire, severe weather, and earthquakes to children. Plan to share responsibilities and work together as a team. Don't forget to establish two places to meet in the event of a disaster:

1. Right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, like a fire.
2. Outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home. Everyone must know the address and phone number.

### 3. Create this Checklist

- Post emergency telephone numbers by phones (fire, police, ambulance, etc.).
- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1 or your local Emergency Medical Services number for emergency help.
- Show each family member how and when to turn off the utilities (water, gas, and electricity) at the main switches.
- Check if you have adequate insurance coverage.
- Get training from the fire department for each family member on how to use the fire extinguisher (ABC type), and show them where it's kept.
- Install smoke detectors on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms.
- Conduct a home hazard hunt.
- Stock emergency supplies and assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit.
- Take a Red Cross first aid and CPR class.
- Determine the best escape routes from your home. Find two ways out of each room.
- Find the safe places in your home for each type of disaster.

**GET INVOLVED! JOIN "A.D.A.P.T." Atherton's Disaster and Preparedness Team.** For more information, visit their website at [www.getreadyatherton.org](http://www.getreadyatherton.org)





Town of Atherton  
 91 Ashfield Road  
 Atherton, CA 94027

PRESORTED  
 S T A N D A R D  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 MENLO PARK, CA  
 PERMIT NO. 26

ECRWSS

**Atherton Resident  
 Atherton, CA 94027**

**Town Office's**

Administration	650-752-0500	jherren@ci.atherton.ca.us
Building Department	650-752-0560	mmazur@ci.atherton.ca.us
City Attorney	831-601-1100	wconners@ci.atherton.ca.us
City Clerk/Human Resources/ Assistant City Manager	650-752-0529	tdellasanta@ci.atherton.ca.us
City Manager	650-752-0504	grodericks@ci.atherton.ca.us
Finance Department	650-752-0552	rbarron@ci.atherton.ca.us
Heritage Room	650-688-6540	meo@rjoster.com
Holbrook-Palmer Park Events	650-752-0534	jsimonin@ci.atherton.ca.us
Planning Department	650-752-0544	lcostasanders@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Administration	650-752-0503	jfrew@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Non-Emergency	650-323-8471	
Police Emergency	911	
Police Investigation	650-752-0565	aguarducci@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Commander	650-752-0506	jwade@ci.atherton.ca.us
Police Records	650-688-6500	
Public Works Department	650-752-0570	hluo@ci.atherton.ca.us

**City Council**

Mayor Michael Lempres	650-690-6661	mlempres@ci.atherton.ca.us
Vice Mayor Cary Wiest	650-357-7122	cwiest@ci.atherton.ca.us
Councilmember Elizabeth Lewis	650-533-8830	elewis@ci.atherton.ca.us
Councilmember Bill Widmer	650-530-0078	bwidmer@ci.atherton.ca.us
Councilmember Rick DeGolia	650-793-2800	rdegolia@ci.atherton.ca.us