

PROFILE



WATER CONSERVATION KEY TO DEALING WITH DROUGHT

State Declares a Drought Emergency - City Declares Level 2 Water Supply Shortage

We've been here before, and we are here once again. Last month, State Officials declared a statewide Drought Emergency, urging all Californians to conserve water, and for water agencies across the State to take water conservation measures. In response to this, the City Council, which acts as the Board of Directors for the Pico Rivera Water Authority declared a Level 2 Water Supply Shortage and enacted mandatory watering measures for residents who are customers of the Pico Rivera Water Authority.

Now in effect, are watering schedules for residents to follow throughout the year until further notice. Through the months of April to October, residents will follow a two-day water schedule. Residents who have even number addresses are able to water on Monday and Wednesday, while residents with odd number addresses are able to water on Tuesday and Thursday. A one-day watering schedule will go in effect November through March. Residents with even addresses can

water on Tuesday, and residents with odd addresses can water on Thursday. Residents are advised to keep the watering brief and to approximately five minutes per station.

Residents who use a sprinkler system are asked to run their sprinklers before 8:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. to minimize water evaporation and to maximize the water reaching lawns and plants to keep them healthy. Weekend irrigation will be prohibited.

In addition to the watering schedule, mandates on swimming pools and spas were included as part of the Level 2 Water Supply Shortage. Residents for the time being will only be allowed to refill pools or spas of any depth that lost water due to natural evaporation up to one foot in depth. Pools and spas that need initial filling will be prohibited. The filling of ornamental ponds will also be prohibited unless it sustains existing aquatic life.

"While we are in a good place as far as our water supply, it's better to act now than later," said City Manager Steve Carmona. "We will

do our part, we hope our residents will do their part to ensure we have an abundant supply of potable for the foreseeable future."

Water conservation continues to be a priority of the City as the State mandates Water Conservation efforts. Throughout the City, there are several landscaped medians and park landscapes that are planted with drought-tolerant plants to reduce the need for watering. Reclaimed water is used to irrigate the grass at Smith Park, Rio Hondo Park, and the Golf Course, as well as the medians on Beverly Boulevard to conserving drinking water supplies.

City crews continue to inspect and repair broken sprinkler heads in street medians throughout the community to eliminate leaks and overspray. Residents are encouraged to continue to report excessive runoff and broken sprinkler heads by using the service request form on the City's website at pico-rivera.org or by calling 562.801.4415.

It's important to note that the restrictions announced are for



residents who are customers of the Pico Rivera Water Authority. Residents who are customers of the Pico Water District may follow a similar plan as outlined by the Pico Water District Board. For more information on water restrictions for the Pico Water District or San Gabriel Valley Water Company, call the following phone numbers:
Pico Water District - 562.692.3756
San Gabriel Valley Water Company - 562.699.1041

For more information about the water restrictions for the Pico Rivera Water Authority, call 562.801.4330.

VIRTUAL CITY HALL

A New Way to Engage

After months of building, and beta-testing with City staff, the City has launched its new and redesigned website. The new website is meant to not only replace the predecessor, but it will serve as a Virtual City Hall, bringing all City services to residents through a website and mobile app.

The COVID-19 pandemic was the catalyst for City staff to start developing a strategy for residents to communicate and conduct City business from the comfort and safety of their own homes. As the pandemic subsides and businesses and offices open up to the public, the need for mobile communication, and to conduct business online, has only increased with no signs of slowing down.

The launch serves as Phase 1 of the overall Virtual City Hall mobile service that will be available to residents. In this phase, several key services will be made available such as Geographic Information System story mapping,

Contract Bidding Portal, City Jobs Portal, Virtual 311 Service Request and Work Order Management System, Code and Parking Enforcement Case Management System, and a City Council Meeting & Agenda Center. In addition, the new Virtual City Hall includes ADA compliancy and features, Smart Document Viewers, and translation to multiple languages.

"This is truly exciting for all of us as we develop this new method of communication and accessibility for our residents," said City Manager Steve Carmona. "Our staff have been working and developing Virtual City Hall and I believe our residents will appreciate our efforts in becoming more accessible and more transparent with the modules that Virtual City Hall will eventually offer."

With the new Virtual City Hall website and app available to residents, City Staff will be working on developing and implementing more modules in

Phase 2 of this project. Future modules include a Central Bill Pay Management Portal, Citywide Events Calendar, Rental Registry and Inspection Program, Municipal Permits and Licensing, Digital Plan Checking, Business License Management, Crime and Safety Data Dashboard, Legislative Tracking Tools, Parks and Recreation Registration and Reservations, and more.

Virtual City Hall will minimize the exposure to COVID-19 or any other common airborne illness by allowing residents to conduct City Business virtually, thereby eliminating the need to visit City Hall.

Virtual City Hall will Enhance City Services and Operations allowing Staff to work more efficiently and provide services to residents with ease.

With more virtual access, Virtual City Hall will increase transparency allowing the public to track progress on capital infrastructure projects, road maintenance and other citywide

performance metrics.

Finally, the new Virtual Hall System will improve the internal and external user experience by consolidating several current programs and software systems into a more user-friendly system where individual residents, businesses, visitors, and stakeholders can view, track and manage nearly every city-related transaction from a single, easy-to-use portal.

"We are embracing technology here in the City. If there is any way we can use it to benefit our residents and make conducting City business easier, we will to its full extent," said City Manager Steve Carmona.

Visit the new Virtual City Hall at pico-rivera.org, and download the Virtual City Hall app, available on both Apple and Android platforms.

PROFILE

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Summer Energy Saving Tips

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO), which manages the California electricity grid is the one responsible for issuing Flex Alerts when power resources are strained. A Flex Alert is a call for consumers to voluntarily conserve electricity when an energy supply shortage is anticipated and typically occurs in the Summer during heat waves. Here are some energy tips that will help you save money and help reduce energy use when a Flex Alert is called this Summer:

- » Turn off unnecessary lights and use natural light
- » Use dishwashers and major appliances before 3:00 PM
- » Wash clothes in cold water, and hang your clothes outside to dry when possible
- » Unplug or turn off electrical devices that are not in use, this can save you up to \$100 on your annual energy costs.
- » Use fans when possible or set your thermostat to 78 degrees, if health permits
- » When safe, let the cool air in at night by opening windows, then close them back up in the morning before the day warms up.
- » Change filters on your appliances regularly to keep them from overworking
- » Adjust your water heater to the normal setting, and the lowest setting when on vacation.

For more great tips visit <https://www.flexalert.org/save-energy/energy-saving-tips>.

Labor Day Holiday Reminder

Monday, September 7, is the Labor Day Holiday. City Hall, along with all other City facilities, will be closed. Trash collection services will be postponed by one day the entire week. There will be no street sweeping or street sweeping parking enforcement on September 5.

For more information on the holiday schedule, log on to pico-rivera.org

Leland A. Cupp American Legion Post 341 Update

Months ago, the City shared an article about the challenges the 100-year old Leland A. Cupp, American Legion Post 341 was facing as it continued to serve its current members.

At the time of publication, many of the kitchen appliances were failing due to age. Unfortunately, the issues continue. A major plumbing issue required the replacement of plumbing throughout the facility at a staggering cost of \$17,000, and the closure of the Post's bar area for over two months.

While Post 341 had insurance, it did not, however, cover a majority of the plumbing costs and damages. With cleanup and rebuilding of this portion going on, work continued on the aging kitchen.

With the help of community members who volunteered their services, the 40-year-old stove was removed, and a new commercial stove that was purchased through generous Go Fund Me donations was installed. Volunteers also donated their time to paint the kitchen, install a new floor at their cost, and made the needed carpentry adjustments to roll the stove into the kitchen.

When all was completed, Post 341 celebrated a grand opening of the facility in early June with local dignitaries and fellow post members. Councilman Elias attended along with members of Montebello American Legion Post members.



The members of Post 341 would like to thank all the volunteers that gave their time and donations to the organization. The Post continues to request monetary donations from the community or to donate whatever they can to help raise enough funds to replace the aging and dilapidated roof. Donations can be made on the Post 341 Building Fund Go Fund Me Page or can be mailed to 4909 Durfee Ave, Pico Rivera, California, 90660. Donations are also accepted at the Post, Wednesday through Sunday, when the Post opens at 2:00 p.m.

Should you have any questions or wish to donate your time, contact the Auxiliary President, Lorraine Mcghghy at 626.217.4343, or Post Commander, Marty Morones at 562.857.4589.



Deputies from the Pico Rivera Sheriff's Station, along with a few volunteers laced up their shoes for a mad dash mile run in support of the Special Olympics during the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Held annually since 1981, the Law Enforcement Torch Run raises awareness and funds for the Special Olympics Programs. This year's run started at South Ranchito Dual Language Academy and ended at the Pico Rivera Sheriff's Station.

Attention Golfers!

The Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Golf Tournament on Friday, August 12, at California Country Club.

Golfers are invited for an afternoon of fun and networking with local business owners and representatives. The afternoon includes raffle prizes, golf competitions on the course, and bonus prizes throughout the course, including an automobile for a hole-in-one.

The cost to participate is \$175 per golfer, which includes a delicious lunch and an awards dinner. The tournament will be a shotgun format and will start at 1 p.m.

For more information about the tournament, or if you wish to register, contact the Chamber office at 562.949.2477.



How Residents Can Help During the Drought

There are a number of ways Pico Rivera residents can help conserve water while the state is in a drought. For example, finding and repairing plumbing leaks, taking shorter showers, use dishwashers and washing machines with full loads only, and turning off the water while you brush your teeth are all ways to conserve water.

Check your sprinkler system for leaks or broken sprinkler heads and then repair them. Planting drought-tolerant landscaping can reduce watering even more. Check at a local nursery or hardware store for ideas on drought-tolerant plants.

More water conservation tips can be found on the State's Water Resources website at water.ca.gov.

PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Dr. Monica Sánchez · Mayor Pro Tem Erik Lutz · Councilmember Gustavo V. Camacho · Councilmember Raul Elias · Councilmember Andrew C. Lara

PROFILE

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The Pico Rivera Profile is produced by the City of Pico Rivera and is distributed to residents and businesses as an educational service. For information about the Profile contact the Media and Communications Division at 562.801.4217.

UPCOMING CITY MEETINGS

All meetings are held in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 6615 Passons Blvd., unless otherwise noted.

City Council Meeting
Visit pico-rivera.org for details.

Planning Commission
Visit pico-rivera.org for details.

Parks & Recreation Commission
Visit pico-rivera.org for details.

This Month on CTV

We're on the air... CTV3 has added some new shows to the line-up. Catch more episodes of The Garage with Steve Butler, and the Car Guy Channel. Additionally, catch local favorites like Huell Howser's California's Gold and live coverage of the City Council meetings. CTV3 can be streamed online at pico-rivera.org.

Spectrum Cable, Channel 3 · Frontier FioS Channel 33 · AT&T U-Verse, Channel 99

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Receive important City news and alerts by subscribing to the City's e-newsletter service. Simply email us at gcastorena@pico-rivera.org

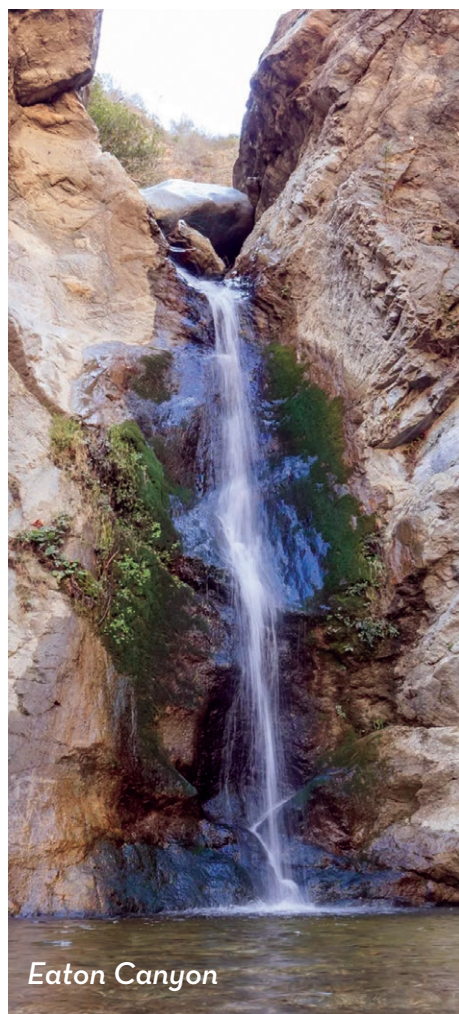
"Outdoor Access for All" Granted to Pico Rivera

The City's Parks and Recreation Department learned last month that it will be receiving over \$481,000 from the California State Parks - Outdoor Equity Grants Program.

The grants program is part of a state-wide project to help advance the "Outdoor Access for All" initiative championed by Governor Gavin Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom and the Natural Resources Agency's "Outdoors for All" initiative.

The funding will help establish hubs for local activities and trips to natural areas for underserved communities. The program also empowers youth and families with outdoor leadership education, career pathways, environmental justice engagement, and access to nature.

Locally, the hub will be at Rio Hondo Park, known as the Rio Hondo Park Nature Program. The program will provide City residents with trips to natural areas that will include exploring the Wetland and Wildlife Center in Huntington Beach, hiking at Eaton Canyon, and nature camping, to name a few.



Eaton Canyon

In addition to the outdoor activities and trips, the program will also provide opportunities for learning and mentoring for program participants through planned speakers from Rio Hondo College, the Pico Rivera Sheriff's Station and the City of Pico Rivera's Office of Sustainability.

The Parks and Recreation Department will have this grant funding for a period of four years. Programming is anticipated to begin in 2023.

For more information about this grant or program, contact our Park and Recreation Department at 562.801.4430.

City to Offer Summer Meal Program



Children ages 18 and under can get free nutritional meals this Summer, thanks to a program offered by the California Department of Education and the United States Department of Agriculture.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department is hosting the Summer Food Services Program at five locations, M-F, through August 5. Breakfast will be served from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m., with lunch available from noon to 1:00 p.m. All meals are served on a first-come, first-served basis at the following locations through August 5:

Pico Park, 9528 Beverly Blvd.

Rivera Park, 9530 Shade Lane

Rio Hondo Park, 8421 San Luis Potosi Place

Rio Vista Park, 8751 Coffman and Pico Road

Smith Park, 6016 Rosemead Blvd.

All meals must be eaten on site. Monthly menus will be available at participating locations and on the City's website.

Volunteers are needed to assist with setup, meal distribution, site supervision, and cleanup. If you would like to volunteer or need more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 562.801.4430.

Parent Teacher Organization Surprises Rivera Fifth Graders

The fifth graders at Rivera Elementary received a send-off that they weren't expecting, thanks to a group of volunteer parents, the school's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

The PTO had been working all year to ensure that this year's fifth grade class get recognized for all of their hard work and dedication this past year.

The persistence and patience of the PTO paid off and had a couple of big surprises for the fifth-grade class. PTO members had been contacting several local organizations and corporations for donations to the fifth-grade class. One big donation came in from the local Chick-fil-A. The local store came through with a huge food donation for the fifth-grade carnival that was held during the last week of school.

The second big donation came as a surprise to the PTO and a bigger surprise to the fifth graders. The school's principal delivered the news to all the fifth graders that the PTO had arranged a special field trip to a place called Dodger Stadium. The Los Angeles Dodgers had accepted the request and provided tickets for all the fifth graders to attend the Dodgers versus Pirates game in early June.

Certainly, a great way to end the year, thanks to the generous donations and the hard work of the school's PTO.



City Staff take on Go Getters



The Pico Rivera Go Getters and staff from Pico Rivera City Hall squared off during the annual Go Getters vs. City Hall Softball Game. After a two-year hiatus, the game took place on Friday, June 3 at Smith Park and featured close to two-dozen staff from various City Departments taking on various members of the Go Getters teams.

In a 10-inning nail-biter, the Go Getters emerged victorious with a final score of 8 to 6. This annual softball game has been a tradition since 1998, with 23 games now in the books. With the Go Getters win, the Go getters have a winning record of 12 wins and 11 losses versus the City Hall team.

For details about the Go-Getters or to join the team, call 562.801.4430.

Summer Time in Pico Rivera

Summer Street Fest

Smith Park · FREE · 5:00 - 10:00 p.m.*

Friday, August 5

National Night Out -
Law Enforcement Exhibits

Anything for Salinas
(Selena Tribute) - 5:30 pm



La Santa Cecilia
8:00 pm

Friday, August 19

Stone Soul
(Motown Tribute) - 5:30 pm

Soto
(Latin/Funk/R&B) - 8:00 pm

Summer Street Fest will also feature a variety of food, special vendors, a Beer Garden, Jumpers and Carnival Games.

**No early arrivals or setups. Guests can arrive after 3 p.m.*

also coming this Summer

MARVNATION

Live Boxing at Smith Park
General Admission - FREE
6:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Saturday, August 27

General Municipal Election to be Held on November 8, 2022

The City of Pico Rivera will conduct a General Municipal Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, for two positions on the City Council for a four-year term.

The nomination period for interested candidates will be open from M, July 18 to F, Aug. 12, 2022, 5:00 p.m. Candidates must be Pico Rivera residents and registered voters in Pico Rivera. A \$25 fee is required to file the nomination papers, together with additional costs for the printing of candidate statements on the sample ballot.

Nomination packets, which are included with the official Candidate's Handbook, are available at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 6615 Passons Boulevard, during regular business hours, beginning July 18, 2022. All required documents must be officially filed with the City Clerk's Office, no later than 5:00 p.m. on F, Aug. 12, 2022. If an incumbent Councilmember fails to file by the Aug. 12 deadline, the final deadline will be extended through W, Aug. 17, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

The City's General Municipal Election is being consolidated with the County of Los Angeles. If you are interested in participating in the election as a vote center worker, contact the County Registrar Records office at 562.466.1373.

EL RANCHO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



photo courtesy of @drknes86

Congratulations to...

The **484** students who graduated from El Rancho High School, the **61** students who graduated from Ellen Ochoa Prep Academy, the **109** students who graduated from Salazar High School, the **591** Middle School Students who have promoted to High School, and the **545** Fifth Graders moving on to Middle School. Congratulations on your academic success and good luck in all your future endeavors.

Jacob Estrada is an exceptional senior attending Ellen Ochoa Prep Academy in the City of Pico Rivera. He has worked very hard during his three years at EOPA. His commitment to his studies has allowed him to graduate a year early. Jacob is on the Principal's Honor Roll and earns straight A's in all his courses. He has participated in the Dual Enrollment with Rio Hondo College since he was in 9th grade. Jacob will be graduating from Ellen Ochoa Prep Academy with his diploma and two associate degrees in general studies with an emphasis in Social Sciences and Social Behavior. Jacob's goal is to transfer from Rio Hondo College and attend UC Irvine, and double major in Criminology, Law & Society and Psychological Sciences. Good luck with all your future endeavors Jacob!



District announces selection of new Superintendent



Last month, the El Rancho Unified School District Board of Education announced the selection of Dr. Marco A. Villegas as the next Superintendent of the El Rancho Unified School District following Dr. Francis Esparza, whose contract expired in June.

The Board of Education was unanimous in its selection of Dr. Villegas as the next Superintendent. Many factors were taken into consideration of his hiring, especially from the community. At the beginning of the search, District consultants

held multiple community open forums, met with board members, staff, parents, and District stakeholders for an overall consensus on what criteria the District should be looking for in the next Superintendent.

Dr. Villegas comes from Pasadena Unified School District, where he most recently served as Associate Superintendent for the past two years. He also served as the Regional Director for the Ontario-Montclair School District in San Bernardino County, and as a site principal in Monrovia Unified and Ontario-Montclair school districts from 2000-2015.

Dr. Villegas received a Ph.D. in Urban Educational Leadership from Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California, and master's and bachelor's degrees from California State University, Los Angeles. He has been an adjunct professor in the Educational Administration Department at Azusa Pacific University and California State University Los Angeles. An experienced educator and leader, he has served as a mentor

for aspiring school administrators and presented at numerous state and national educational conferences over the past ten years.

Dr. Villegas has a successful track record in helping underperforming schools achieve academic success. The schools under his direction have earned numerous awards for outstanding academic achievement. Among the awards his schools have received are the California Distinguished Schools Award, the Title I Academic Achievement Award (3 times), the California Business Education Excellence Award, the Gold Ribbon Award, and the State and National Schools to Watch Award. Earlier this month, the District hosted a meet-and-greet opportunity for students, parents, staff, and community members to meet the new Superintendent.

Dr. Villegas is a resident of Covina and has been married to his wife Veronica for 25 years. They have five children ranging from ages 12 to 23.



Summertime at the Library

Here are the updates for the libraries:
Pico Rivera Library - 9001 Mines Ave.
Rivera Library - 7828 S Serapis Ave.

The study rooms at the Pico Rivera Library are available to use for up to two hours per person/group. Community groups and individuals can reserve the meeting rooms at both Pico Rivera Library and Rivera Library for meetings and events. Please contact either library for additional information, the reservation process, and costs.

The Pico Rivera Library and Rivera Library will be hosting In-person programs for kids throughout the summer! For a list of events, please visit the library's website at website: Visit.LACountyLibrary.org/events and filter by location or event date. Attendance is limited, and advance registration is required. Registration opens one week before each program. You can register online or call the library to register.

The Summer Discovery Program continues and will run until Sunday, August 14. Readers of all ages will be able to sign up online or in-person to read books, complete activities, and win prizes. Both libraries will be giving out activity kits for children, teens, and adults throughout summer. New kits will be available at the beginning of each month.

Take home COVID-19 PCR test kits are available at the Pico Rivera Library as part of LA County's Pick-Up Testing Kit Program. City residents can pick up a PCR test kit, collect their own sample, and return the completed test to the Pico Rivera Library for processing. Residents will be notified of their test results within 24-48 hours. You can pre-register for a kit at picturegenetics.com/covid19/pre-registration or contact the Pico Rivera library to arrange a pick-up.

For more information about library services offered to Pico Rivera residents, call the Pico Rivera Library at 562.942.7394 or the Rivera Library at 562.949.5485.

Rio Hondo College Fall 2022 Registration Now Accepted

Pico Rivera Satellite location to offer more than a dozen classes for local students



Open registration is now underway for the Rio Hondo College Fall 2022 session. Fall semester begins on Saturday, August 20 and continues through Saturday, December 10.

Residents are reminded that they can take many of the classes offered at Rio Hondo College right here at the Rio Hondo Center at Pico Rivera.

The Center at Pico Rivera will offer the following classes for Fall 2022: College & Life Success, Career Exploration and Life Planning, Government of the United States, History of the United States, History of the United States since 1865, Introduction to Chicana/o/x Studies, Introduction to Psychology, Public Speaking, Religion, Magic, Witchcraft, & Superstitions, Spanish I, and Statistics.

A full description of all the above classes is available on the Rio Hondo College website at rio.hondo.edu. The Rio Hondo Education Center at Pico Rivera is located at 9426 Marjorie Street, just across the street from El Rancho High School. For more information about the classes offered at the Pico Rivera Center, call 562.222.1482.



FREE Mulch distribution

The City in collaboration with NASA Services and Whittier Fertilizer Co. will be distributing FREE garden mulch on Saturday, August 20 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Whittier Fertilizer Company, 9441 Kruse Road.

Residents can receive one 33-gallon container of mulch, free of charge. Additional containers can be filled for \$1 each. Residents must bring their shovels and their own containers as there will be none available at the site.

The mulch distribution is part of the City's green waste recycling program. For more information about mulch distributions as well as the City's recycling program, call 562.801.4329.