

ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES CITY OF ROSEVILLE Today

December 2007



WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

Utility Exploration Center (UEC) Set to Open with Classes



Next month, the Roseville UEC will celebrate its grand opening on January 27 and immediately begin serving the community as a training site for students, parents, and businesses. For more than a year, the center has been working with area teachers to develop programs that coincide with state education standards, beginning with grades 4 through 6. Students will soon be learning about how electricity works and steps to conserve it, what goes into our waste stream and how to reduce it, and how water flows through the watershed and ways to protect it.

Adults will also be able to take part in classes offered through Roseville's Parks and Recreation program this spring, including training in water-wise gardening, green shopping tips, and composting. The Roseville Shade Tree Program will also hold its community meetings at the center and the center is already planning for its first Earth Day celebration.

"We're getting the center's classes off to a quick start," says UEC Director Bob Garrison, "but this is only the beginning of what we plan

to offer. Stay tuned for classes on energy-saving technologies, green building products, eco-friendly gardening, and more."

Look for these classes in the Winter/Spring Recreation Guide, which comes out early December. Classes can also be viewed online and you can even register online at www.roseville.ca.us/parks.

The center also features a number of interactive exhibits that add fun to learning about ways to preserve and protect our natural resources. Get the latest updates on the center by visiting www.roseville.ca.us/explore.

**Don't forget—
It's time to turn off your
outside irrigation. Let
Mother Nature water
for you.**

An Ounce of Prevention Prevents \$\$\$ Damage

Last winter's freezing temperatures were a chilly reminder that Roseville is not immune to frozen pipes that can easily burst and cause expensive damage.

Protect your home this winter by taking a few minutes to winterize. These few tips can get you started:

- Turn off your irrigation system and drain the lines. Only turn it on if we're going through an unusual dry spell during our October through April rainy season. Water left in the system can freeze and cause pipes to split or burst, often underground where breaks are hard to find.
- Disconnect and drain your garden hoses and store them inside.
- Wrap pipes and valves in unheated areas with heat tape or pipe insulation available at your local home improvement store. Be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation.
- Locate your main water shut off valve so that you can easily turn off your home's water and minimize damage if a pipe should break. Typically, this valve is located next to your home where your main supply line enters.
- If no one will be home for an extended period during winter's coldest months, consider turning off your main valve and hiring a plumber to drain your system. That way there will be no water in your pipes to freeze.

Taking these few precautionary steps before cold weather sets could save you a costly mess. For other useful water saving tips, go to www.roseville.ca.us/savewater or give us a call at 774-5761.





Have You Seen Santa?

Good boys and girls should be on the lookout for Santa's sleigh to be touring through Roseville neighborhoods during the first two weeks of December. For the eleventh year in a row, Santa will be riding on a special sleigh powered by Environmental Utilities and Roseville Electric. **To find out when Santa will be in your area, you can call the Santa Hotline at 746-1388 or go to www.roseville.ca.us to view route maps.**

Don't Let FOG Clogged Pipes Spoil Your Holiday

Those delicious holiday goodies and meals can mean more cooking fats, oils and greases (FOG) going down the drain where they can gather to create clogs and messy spills. Instead, keep your pipes clear by taking advantage of our new (FREE) pickup service to cart away FOG. The city now accepts cooking fats, oils and grease as part of its household hazardous waste pickup service.

Just let the FOG cool and place it in a clear plastic container with a screw-on lid. Then call us at 774-5780 to schedule a pickup of FOG, as well as old batteries, small electronics and other covered items. Residents are allowed one pickup per month.

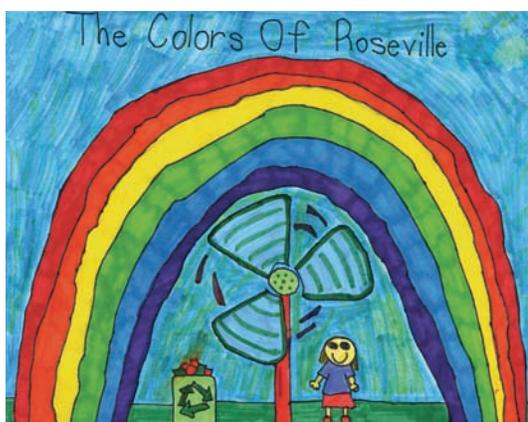


Options Abound for Recycling Christmas Trees

This year, you have more ways than ever to recycle your Christmas tree into mulch chippings or compost. With the addition of green waste pickup, you can now choose from three recycling options:

- 1 Cut your tree into pieces small enough to fit entirely within your green waste bin. Please remember we can't pick up flocked trees and no part of the tree can stick out of the can with the lid closed.
- 2 Bring your unflocked tree to one of our recycling sites on December 29 and 30, 2007 or January 5, 2008. The locations have changed this year, so be sure to check out our web site for your nearest recycling site.
- 3 Let the Boy Scouts take your tree away. Simply place your tree at the curb before 9:00 a.m. on December 29 and 30, 2007 or January 5 and 6, 2008 for pickup. Scouts troops from throughout the city combine their efforts to cover all Roseville streets during their biggest fundraiser of the year. Each home will receive an envelope in advance to mail in or place on the tree with a suggested donation. There's no need to call to arrange pickup or to replace a lost envelope. Simply have your tree at the curb before 9:00 a.m. on any of the days listed and place an envelope on the tree with your donation.

More information on Christmas tree recycling is available on our web site at www.roseville.ca.us/eu or by calling 774-5780.



The winner of the calendar cover is 9 year old Kendall Porter, St. Alban's Country Day School.

We're proud and delighted to once again offer our annual Student Art Contest calendar free to residents and businesses. This year's calendar theme "The Colors of Roseville" brought out our students' vibrant creativity, as more than 200 schoolchildren competed for the honor of having their drawing selected for the calendar's coveted 13 spots.

You can pick up your calendar for free at the Roseville Civic Center, Corporation Yard and at community events. Get yours while they last!

2008 Student Art Calendars Are Here!

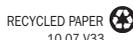


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Comments and suggestions are welcome—please send to the attention of Sean Bigley.

www.roseville.ca.us/eu



Accent the Green this Holiday Season

Trash cans fill up faster, waistlines fill out faster and energy bills rise. It's the holidays—when our best intentions can't stop us from consuming more of just about everything. So this year, instead of vowing not to pig out on Aunt Rita's frosted sugar cookies, try making a couple of small habit changes that will make you less of a consumer and more of a conserver. *Here are some ideas you might try:*

- Instead of wrapping kids' gifts, hide them, plant clues and let kids hunt for their gifts. (You could try this one on adults, too.)
- "Vintage" and "antique" are fancy words for recycled. Think about shopping for gifts at antique stores, thrift shops and estate sales.
- Save boxes and packing material to reuse again and again.
- Keep a plastic container with screw-on lid handy to collect fats, oils and greases for free pickup.
- Declare "Recycle Saturday" and spend the morning going through closets and cabinets for things you no longer use. Donate your items, especially winter clothes, to a local charity.
- Give 'em a tree. A citrus tree, evergreen, or shade tree holiday gift is a welcome gift that just may start a tradition. Or give a bundle of California wildflower or other garden seeds.
- Give yourself away. Instead of buying a present, give someone your time and talent as a gift. Elderly relatives especially appreciate the help.

Your resource awareness sets a good example for children and grandchildren, too. And keeping *green* on your mind this holiday season gives a gift to us all. Happy holidays!

EU HEROES

Each month, an employee is selected to receive the department's Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Outstanding Employees (HEROE) award.

One of our newest team members, **JOHN PETERSON**, a preventative maintenance coordinator received three separate HEROES nominations in August. John's skill in using the department's software applications and willingness to apply his knowledge to improve efficiency earned two nominations. The third came when John agreed to step in and teach a two-day software training course with one day's notice. Welcome to the team, John!



John Peterson

DANNY WAGNER put the "hero" in HEROES in September when he saw a fire starting in a dry, weed-filled field near the Dry Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, where he serves as a member of the wastewater collections team. Danny quickly assessed the potential threat and used a backhoe to create a fire break that protected nearby homes. The fire department arrived and quickly extinguish the fire with no property damage.



Danny Wagner

If there's an Environmental Utilities Department employee who has provided you with outstanding service—please call us at 774-5770.