2016
2015

Apple Valley Code Enforcement

TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY
CODE ENFORCEMENT
SENIOR OFFICER
A BETTER WAY OF LIFE

Year In Review

December 2015

CODE ENFORCEMENT IN 2015

Goals

- **Reduce visual blight.**

- **Help maintain property values in Town.**

- **Identify new funding sources to continue Community Enhancement events.**

- **Identify and address new sign code violations to keep all business in compliance.**

- **Maintain a same day response time for health and safety and time sensitive cases.**

Accomplishments

It was a great year for Code Enforcement. Officers handled a total of 5,938 cases in 2015. This is a 12% increase in cases from 2014. Officers opened 4,222 proactive cases in 2015 which was a 26% increase over proactive cases in 2014. Proactive Code Enforcement keeps neighborhoods safe and clean before people call to report a violation. During 2015, Officers were able to catch illegal dumpers in the act, take part in multi-agency sweeps, and abated a total of 11 Marijuana grows throughout the Town. 2015 was also a major transition year for Code Enforcement as the department went paperless with respects to their reports. Not only does this allow the Officers to carry less hard files in to the field, we were able to reduce the environmental footprint left by the department by 65,000 to 75,000 pages per year. Additionally, Code Enforcement has seen a consistent decrease in graffiti. 77% of all graffiti cases in 2015 were opened proactively by Code Officers, which means that Officers identified and removed the graffiti before reactive complaints occurred. Finally, there was a decrease in foreclosed properties in 2015, resulting in less blight throughout town and a sure sign the economy is improving.

CODE ENFORCEMENT 2015 CASES

Top "10" Violations in 2015

Trash and Debris
1089
Illegal Dumping
872
Graffiti
862
Abandoned Tires
479
Overgrown Vegetation
380
Business License
313
Shopping Carts
255
Inoperative Vehicle
235
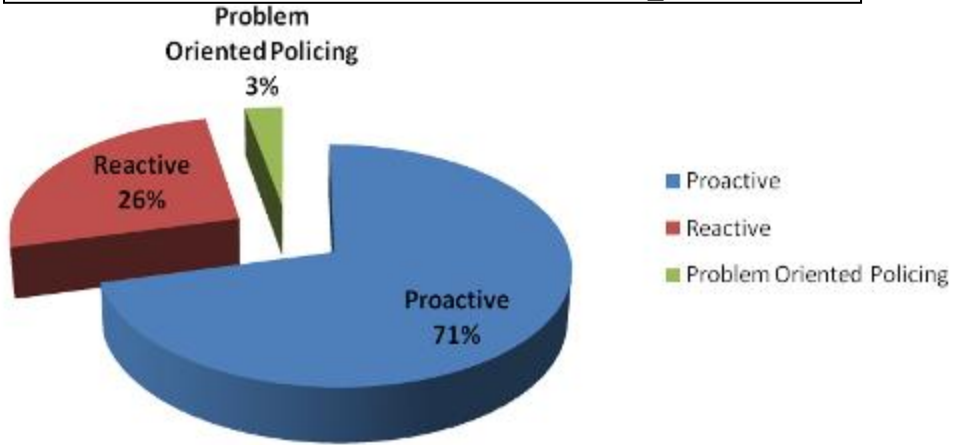**Commercial Vehicle**
149
Prohibited Signs
127

4,222 Proactive Cases Were Opened by Officers

Officers Responded to 1,567 Reactive Cases

149 P.O.P. Cases Were Opened

5,938 Total Code Enforcement Cases Were Opened in 2015

2015 How Cases Are Reported

Problem Oriented Policing
3%

Reactive
26%

Proactive
71%

- Proactive
- Reactive
- Problem Oriented Policing

- Proactive
- Reactive
- Problem Oriented Policing
- Total
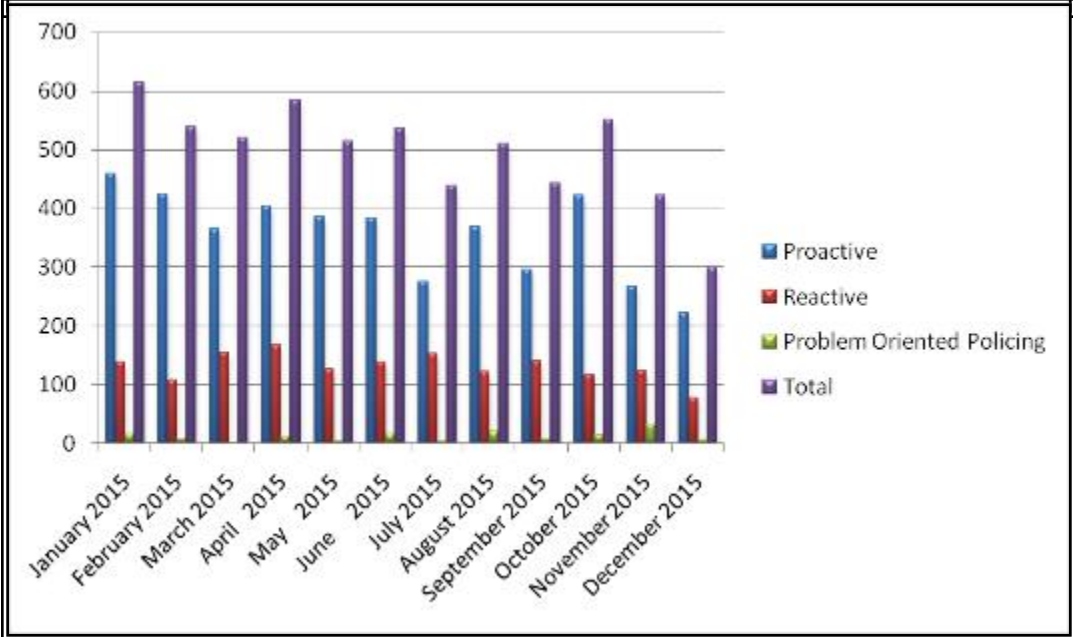
PROACTIVE AND REACTIVE CASES

Trash and Debris
1,089 Trash and debris cases were opened in 2015. Of these cases, 64% were proactive cases opened by Officers and 36% were reactive complaints.
Trash and debris cases accounted for 18% of the 5,938 cases opened in 2015

Top
Violation
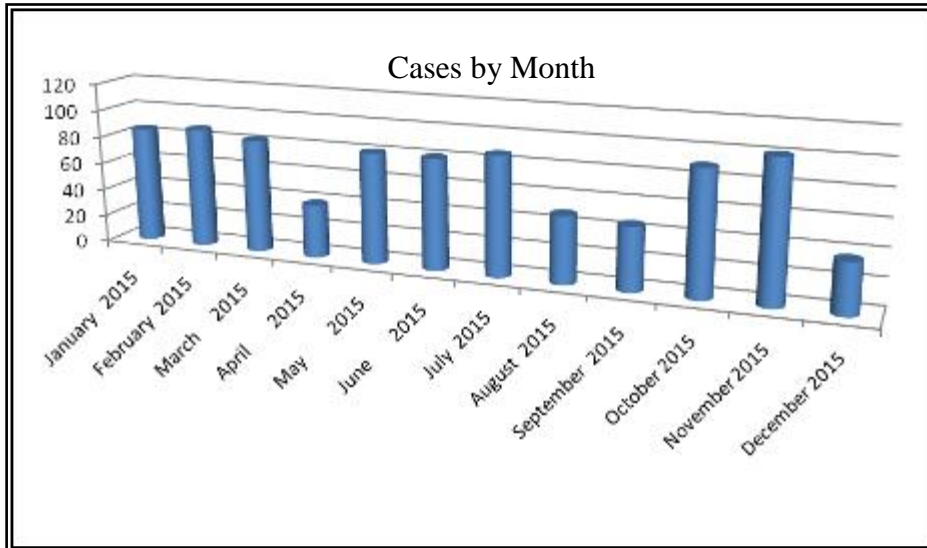For 2015

PROACTIVE AND REACTIVE CASES

Illegal Dumping

872 Illegal dumping cases were opened in 2015. Of these cases 77% were proactive cases opened by Officers and 23% were reactive complaints

Illegal dumping cases accounted for 15% of the 5,938 cases opened in 2015

GRAFFITI ABATEMENT

Cases by Month

Graffiti

862 Graffiti cases were opened in 2015. Of these cases 78% were proactive cases opened by Officers and 22% were reactive complaints.

Graffiti cases accounted for 14% of the 5,938 cases opened in 2015

Code Enforcement has seen a steady decrease in graffiti over the last 5 years.

From the end of 2011 through 2015 graffiti has been reduced by 70%

PROACTIVE AND REACTIVE CASES

Overgrown Vegetation

380 Overgrown vegetation cases were opened in 2015 in which 68% were proactive cases opened by Officers and 32% were reactive complaints.

Inoperative Vehicle

235 Inoperative vehicle cases were opened in 2015 in which 54% were proactive cases opened by Officers and 46% were reactive complaints.

PROACTIVE AND REACTIVE CASES

Prohibited Signs

127 Prohibited sign cases were opened in 2015 in which 97% were proactive cases opened by Officers and 3% were reactive complaints.

Commercial Vehicles

149 Commercial Vehicle Cases were Opened in 2015 in which 83% were Proactive cases opened by Officers and 17% were Reactive complaints.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT

Community Enhancement Events are conducted by Code Enforcement Staff and sponsored by Cal Recycle and Burrtec Disposal through grant funding. The primary purpose of these events is to provide residents of Apple Valley with an avenue to dispose of items for FREE. This supports Code Enforcements desire to obtain "voluntary compliance" from residents. These events improve the relationship between residents and Code Enforcement while removing potential blight issues that decrease property values.

Community Enhancement Events:

- Neighborhood Clean Up

- Tire Amnesty Day

Tire Amnesty Events	2015
Participation from Citizens	326
Tires Collected by Staff	1,098
Total Tires Collected	4,776

Neighborhood Clean Up Events	2015
Total Pounds of Debris Collected	227,076

4,776 tires were removed in 2015 from Apple Valley through the Cal-Recycle Tire Amnesty Grant

These clean up events support Code Enforcement's desire to obtain voluntary compliance, while improving the relationship between residents and Code Enforcement

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE INSPECTION PROGRAM

1,956 Rental properties were inspected in 2015, of that 1,499 properties passed the first inspection

The Town of Apple Valley created the Property Maintenance Inspection Program, which has set the standard for all single family and multi-family rental properties in Town. The program ensures that all rental property owners continually maintain their property which benefits the tenants and owners. This year an increase in the cost to the property owners helped better reflect the cost to run the program.

FORECLOSURE TASKFORCE

133 Foreclosed properties were inspected in 2015, of that, 108 properties contained **NO** violations. The 25 foreclosed properties that contained violations were addressed and abated.

The Town of Apple Valley created the Foreclosure Task Force in January 2008. Since then 3,325 properties have been inspected.

This Program is winding down, as fewer properties are in foreclosure

PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING

In 2015 there were 149 Problem Oriented Policing cases opened in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department. Problem Oriented Policing cases include such things as panhandling in shopping complexes throughout the town, Transients, drinking in public, Marijuana grows, and THC extraction labs that have been located by Code Enforcement.

The Problem Oriented Policing Team (P.O.P.) is a cooperative team of Code Enforcement Officers and Deputies who enforce criminal and nuisance regulations. The P.O.P. program operates on a proactive basis and targets problem areas that generate frequent calls for police or code enforcement service. The team targets areas of the Town where suspected criminal activity exists along with significant municipal code violations. The P.O.P. team provides a multi-agency response to problem areas of the community.

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT CREW

The Community Enhancement Crew Removed 160,480 Pounds of Trash and Debris from Apple Valley in 2015

The Community Enhancement Crew consists of one part-time Community Enhancement Officer and multiple work release inmates. The Community Enhancement Crew removes illegal dumps from the desert when Code Officers can not locate the individual(s) who dumped the items. They also assist with Community Enhancement Events, Public Works, Household Hazardous Waste and other functions throughout the town. The crew works on Saturdays and Sundays.
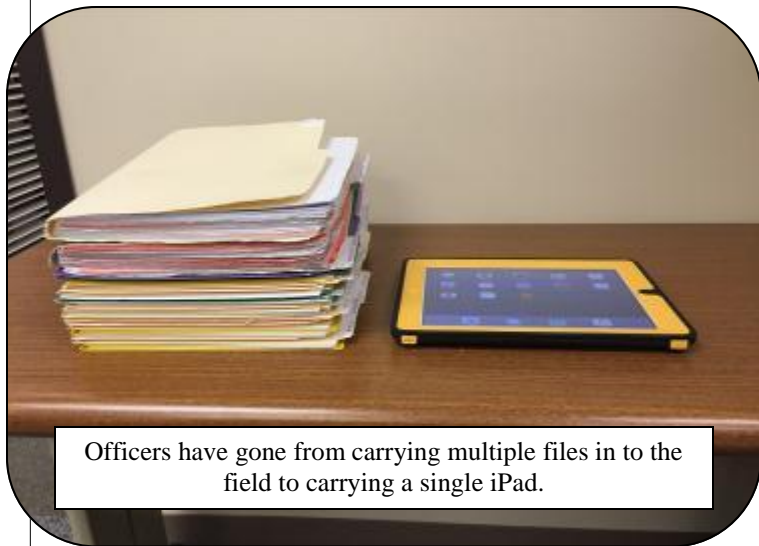
Pounds of Trash Removed by Month
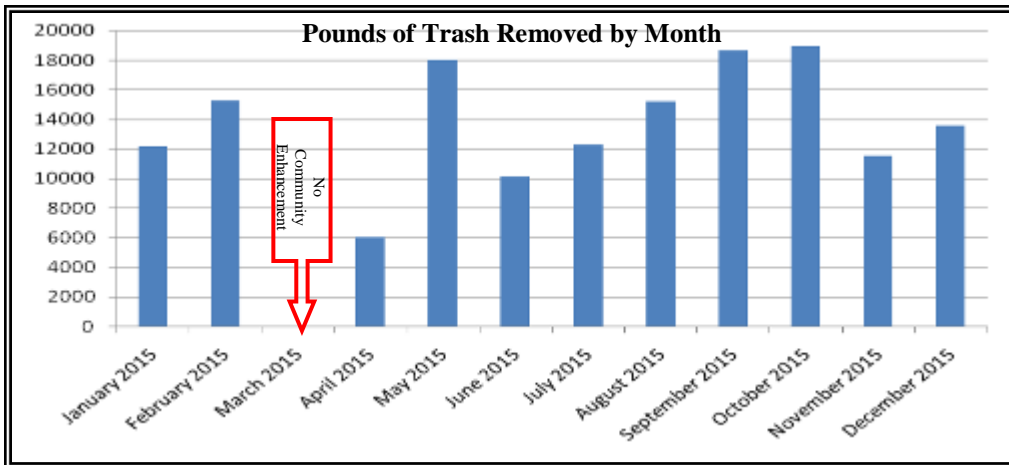
"HOW CODE ENFORCEMENT HAS CHANGED" OVER THE YEARS.

Code Enforcement has gone "Paperless" in the handling of their reports, thus reducing the footprint left by the department annually by 65,000 to 75,000 fewer pages printed.

Empty filing cabinets that once held thousands of case files.

Officers have gone from carrying multiple files in to the field to carrying a single iPad.

Code Enforcement Officers are now using iPads provided by the Sheriff's Department utilizing the "TAGRS" application which catalogs and tracks graffiti offenders county wide.

Code Enforcement has been awarded over $63,000. in grants in 2015. This is an increase of 200% from the $21,000 that was awarded in 2010.

CODE SPOTLIGHT-GRANTS

Code Enforcement staff is continually searching for grant opportunities to help provide for vital programs. Code Enforcement is currently using four different grants all from Cal Recycle. The grants include Tire Amnesty Day, Illegal Disposal Site Abatement, Waste Tire Clean-up Grant, and Beverage Container Recycling Grant.

The Tire Amnesty Grant funds four tire amnesty day events per year. The grant pays for staff time to administer the program and to run the events, advertising from the newspaper and flyers, and it pays for the roll off bins used to collect the tires. From the beginning of this grant until present, well over 100,000 tires have been collected from residents and/or picked up out of the desert. Last year over 5,300 tires were collected during the four events.

The Illegal Disposal Site Abatement grant is a newer grant that pays a portion of the Town's Community Enhancement Officer's salary, County landfill tipping fees, and equipment to pick up dumps out of the desert. This funding is used exclusively to offset the Town's costs of picking up illegal dumps out of the desert to keep the Town looking good.

The Waste Tire Clean-up Grant is also a fairly new grant for the Town. This grant reimburses the Town for staff time and mileage used for picking up illegally dumped tires out of the desert and transporting them to the Public Works yard where they are kept until a Tire Amnesty Day event occurs.

The beverage Container Recycling Grant is money being returned to the Town that was recycled through the CRV fees for beverage containers purchased in Town. This grant funds recycling containers used throughout the Town's parks and facilities. It also funds school educational programs about recycling. Finally it is used by Code Enforcement to fund six neighborhood clean-up events annually. Neighborhood clean-up events are programs where Code Enforcement staff will put roll off bins for trash and recycling on a vacant lot and allow residents to drop off any trash and recyclables free of charge. Staff picks a neighborhood in need and Code Officers go door to door handing out flyers inviting people to the event. Last year 164 tons of trash was collected during these six events. These events are rotated geographically around Town.

CODE ENFORCEMENT GRANT FUNDING

Tire Amnesty Day (2 years): $22,000

Last year over 5,300 tires were collected.

Illegal Disposal Site Abatement (illegal dumping): $12,500

160,000 pounds of trash removed from the desert

Waste Tire Clean-up Grant: $10,700

Last year over 1,000 tires were picked up out of the desert

Beverage Container Recycling Grant: $18,000

Last year 164 tons of trash was collected during neighborhood clean-up events

Total Grant Funds: $63,000

CODE SPOTLIGHT - VARIOUS CODE CASES

62 Unauthorized Removal of Recyclables Cases

26 Lack of Utilities Cases

28 Vehicle for Sale Cases

380 Overgrown Vegetation

40 Abandoned Unsecured Building Cases

32 Occupancy of a Recreational Vehicle Cases

24 Hazardous Obstruction Cases

45 Dead Weeds Cases

45 Camping in Town Limits Prohibited Cases

22 Toxic Material Cases

CODE ENFORCEMENT IS ON THE WEB

Want to find out what's going on in Code Enforcement?

• How to file a complaint

• Community enhancement events

• Graffiti abatement program

• Code Enforcement's monthly report

• Foreclosure Registration Form for real estate agents

Visit us or contact us @ **www.AVCode.org** /

code@applevalley.org

CODE ENFORCEMENT COMPLAINTS WELCOME

Have you ever wondered why Code Enforcement hasn't addressed issues on your neighbor's property? Although Code Enforcement is proactive in searching for municipal code violations, 78 square miles is a large area to cover, and Code Enforcement Officers will not see everything. This is where you can help make Apple Valley a "Better Way of Life." If you see a violation, report it to Code Enforcement using one of the many available options.

When filing a complaint, your name, address and phone number are required. This information remains confidential and is used only for the Code Enforcement Officer to contact you for additional information or to update you on the case.

There are several methods available to file a complaint:

- Call Code Enforcement at **(760) 240-7560**
- Go to **www.AppleValley.org** and click on **"Let us Know"** at the top of every page
- Go to **www.AVCode.org** and click on **"Let us Know"**
- Use the Government Outreach app for smart phones. Search the App Store or

  Marketplace for **"GORequest"**