



Apple Valley Road work resumes

Nearly six years since we began, the Town of Apple Valley is on the home stretch of the 10-mile, \$20 million Apple Valley Road Improvement Project.

Work resumed in February between Yucca Loma Road and Sitting Bull after an eight-week suspension. The road is being widened to four lanes with a landscaped center median, bike lanes and sidewalks.

Originally started in August, work was stopped when a late November storm uncovered drainage issues in the original construction sequencing. To ensure traffic access regardless of weather, plans had to be re-engineered. Cooley Construction was able to resume work as soon as the Town received the new plans from RBF Consulting, the engineer of record. A temporary road will be built on the west side, providing north and south bound traffic flow while the 54" storm drain is laid down the middle and the east side is reconstructed. Traffic will then be moved to the east side while the west side is fully reconstructed. The re-sequencing actually provides a more efficient construction schedule.

Even with the eight-week delay, work is expected to be complete in October as originally scheduled.

The one mile stretch is the final piece of the 10-mile Apple Valley Road Improvement Project, begun in 2002. This main north-south artery, which carries upwards of 20,000 cars per day. Improvements have included widening, landscaping, bike lanes and four traffic signals.

Each phase of the project has brought about immediate improvements in traffic flow and safety. More information about this and other road improvement projects in Apple Valley is available on the Town's new website at: www.applevalley.org. Click on Project Updates, or call the Engineering Department at 240-7000 x 7352.

Retail opportunities continue to grow

Retail opportunities continue to grow

With 2.5 million square feet of new retail development in the last few years, more and more Apple Valley residents are finding they never have to leave town to meet their shopping needs. Here is an update on the major town projects.

Jess Ranch Marketplace (Apple Valley and Bear Valley Roads): Construction began in February on the third and final phase of this 770,000 square foot retail center. Located between Jess Ranch Parkway and the Mojave River, Cinemark Theater, Best Buy, Bed, Bath & Beyond and 24-Hour Fitness will soon be joining the growing family of retail, restaurants and professional services available in this location.

Apple Valley Commons (Highway 18 and Dale Evans Parkway): Our second Lowe's store opened in January, joining the region's first Super Target, which opened last July in this 733,000 square foot center. Verizon Wireless, Ultimate Gear and Carl's Jr. are open for business in some of the outlying buildings, and a number of permits have been pulled for additional tenants. Office Max and Ross have been confirmed as additional anchor tenants. Log onto the town's new website at www.applevalley.org Click on Project Updates, for more information.



Meeting Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings take place in the Council Chambers at 14955 Dale Evans Parkway

Town Council
2nd & 4th Tuesday, 6:30 pm.

Planning Commission
1st and 3rd Wednesday, 6 pm.

Parks and Recreation Commission
1st Thursday, 7 pm.

Equestrian Advisory Committee
2nd Wednesday, 7 pm.

Historical Advisory Committee
3rd Thursday, 2 pm.

Disaster Council
January 8, 1:30 pm.
Fire Station #336
19235 Yucca Loma Road

Household Hazardous Waste
1st & 3rd Saturday
10 am. – 2 pm.
Public Works Yard
22411 Highway 18
Information: 240-7000 x7522

Event Calendar

Unless otherwise noted, call 240-7000 for information.

February
13 Rabies Clinic
16 Special Apples Recreation Night
19 Tri-Star Basketball Skills-Contest
23 Appliance Drop Off Day
26 Spay Day USA

March
15 Mattress Drop Off Day
15 Special Apples Spring Fling-Dance
22 Eggstravaganza
22 Bunny Run
29 Annual Youth Track Meet

Dig Alert 811

How do you avoid hitting underground facilities?

The easiest way is to call Underground Service Alert of So. Cal., a.k.a. DigAlert.

Now you can simply just dial 8-1-1 from any phone, anywhere, nationwide. It's that easy. For more info, visit: www.call811.com.

Get a running, dancing, dribbling start in 2008!

Check out what the Community Services Department has to offer this season! We provide a full spectrum of recreation, sports, educational and equestrian programs for children, teens, adults and families. Leagues, classes, special events, after school programs, swim lessons, sports tournaments and leagues are just a few of the opportunities available to residents of Apple Valley. Call 240-7880 or check out our website at: www.applevalley.org for information on all of the events listed below or to find out more on what we offer.

Special Apples Recreation Night

All disabilities age 13 and over are invited to enjoy crafts, games and socializing on Saturday, February 16 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall Recreation Center for just \$2 per person. Learn how to play new and exciting games, meet new people and take home a self-made craft. Bring your favorite snack to share. Drinks will be provided.

Special Apples Spring Fling Dance

All disabilities age 13 and over are invited to come out for a night of dancing and fun Saturday, March 15 from 6-8 p.m. at the James Woody Community Center Ward Room for just \$2 per person. Dress in your favorite 50's clothes. Poodle skirts and BIG hair are a must! Dance to the oldies, new school and your favorite hits. Learn new dances and meet new people! Refreshments will be served.

Annual Tri-Star Basketball Skills Contest

Youth ages 8 – 13 are invited to come on out Tuesday, February 19 from 6- 8 p.m. at the James Woody Community Center Gym completely free for this special feature of the youth basketball season! Girls and boys compete in dribbling, shooting and passing contests. Winners receive awards and can advance to higher levels of competition. This event is proudly co-sponsored by the Apple Valley Optimist Club.



Annual Youth Track Meet

Break out those running shoes and come take part in this free event for ages 8 – 12 on Saturday, March 29 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Granite Hills High School track. Pre-register at the Town Hall Recreation Center until Friday, March 21. There will be no late or on-site registrations. Events include the 50M and 100M, 200M, 400M, 800M and 1600M runs. Individuals can also sign up for the softball throw and standing long jump. There will also be an exciting 1600M school relay race to conclude the event. Volunteers are needed.

Bunny Run: 5K Walk & 5K/10K Run

Kick off the spring season in the Town of Apple Valley by running (or hopping!) in the annual Bunny Run Saturday, March 22.

Check in at 7 a.m.; Race starts at 8 a.m. Pre-register by March 20 for \$13.50 or pay \$15 up until the day of the race. 5K walkers are free. Separate awards will be given to men, women and children in seven different age divisions. A signed liability waiver is required for all participants. Commemorative race T-shirts are available for only \$10. Ages 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Business licenses 101- what you need to know

With commercial projects in full swing across town, town staff has been busy reviewing plans, issuing permits, and inspecting construction projects. One other important step in opening a new business is getting a business license. In the Town of Apple Valley, the Finance Department administers this program.

The primary focus of the licensing procedure is to insure that businesses are in compliance with the town's planning and building policies, and in compliance with our business tax provisions.

The Town of Apple Valley has 3651 licensed businesses, including those outside Town limits but serving our residents. In 2007, we issued 976 business licenses. Of those, 542 were within Town limits and 256 were home based businesses. This generated \$244,337 for our general fund, which is primarily spent on public safety.

Who needs a business license?

Anyone conducting business within Town limits is required to obtain a business license. In Municipal Code language that means, "any and all trades, professions, vocations, occupations, callings, operations, rendering of service, conduct of affairs, trade or commerce, of whatever kind or nature conducting or commencing business within city limits". Independent contractors and professionals in construction, cosmetology and massage therapy, as well as doctors or dentists working in hospitals, offices, and clinics are also included. Even non-profit organizations must have a business license.

How much does it cost?

The business license fees depend on the number of owners and employees working here in Apple Valley. Fees range from \$50 for five or fewer, to \$200 for 21 employees or more. Some industries may require special fees; for example massage therapy business license fees are currently \$111.80, and the therapist is required to provide additional licensure from other entities.

For further information regarding Town of Apple Valley business licensing, or to verify if someone you are planning to do business with has a license, please call (760) 240-7000 x 7707.

Business Websites:

Better Business Bureau.....www.bbb.org
Board of Equalization.....www.boe.ca.gov
California Home Page.....www.ca.gov
Cal Gold.....www.calgold.ca.gov
Contractors State License.....www.csfb.ca.gov
Dept. of Consumer Affairs....www.dca.ca.gov
Franchise Tax Board.....www.ftb.ca.gov
Internal Revenue Service.....www.irs.gov

San Bernardino County:

www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us

Chamber of Commerce:

www.avchamber.org



Be careful what you flush!

In the last issue of Our Town we talked about some of the main causes of "SSOs", or sanitary sewer overflows. Fats, oil and grease (FOG) are washed down the sink, clogging your own pipes or the main sewer lines and creating a big mess – in your home, business, road or storm drain.

As bad as FOG is, it's easy to understand how it gets there. What is hard to explain is all the other stuff we pull from our sewer lines and pumping stations on a daily basis – mops, kitty litter and even bed sheets and blankets! These items will often cause SSOs, spilling untreated wastewater, which can cause health hazards, damage homes and businesses, and threaten the environment. Residents served by the Town's sewer collection system are asked to steer clear of the sewer when disposing of the following items: diapers (adult and baby), cleaning wipes, dental floss, latex gloves, feminine-hygiene products and rags, along with the items mentioned above. *Thank you!*

Winter water tips

Here in the High Desert the change of seasons can be sudden and dramatic. Take a few minutes to prepare for winter by following these tips. First, reduce sprinkler times, as lower temperatures mean less evaporation. Also set watering times to mid-morning and early afternoon to prevent icy roads and sidewalks. Adjust your sprinkler heads year-round to prevent over-spray. Check your vehicle's tires for proper inflation and tread wear, and check your antifreeze level to prepare for our occasional icy conditions and snowy days. Be sure your windshield is fully defrosted before putting your car in drive.

Household hazardous what?

Did you get a new flat-screen television for Christmas and now need to get rid of the old Magnavox cabinet model? Do you need to clear old paint, fertilizers and pesticides out the garage to make room for your new (hybrid) car? Do you change your own oil and oil filters? None of these things are legal to put in the trash or the landfill any longer, so where can they go?

A visit to Apple Valley's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Center will solve your hazardous waste problems. Located in the Public Works Yard at 22411 South Outer Highway 18, the HHW Center accepts all of the above materials free of charge from residences.

Open the first and third Saturday of each month, from 10 am to 2 pm, HHW averaged almost five tons of televisions and computer monitors per month in 2007. On busy days, staff may serve over 150 people in just a four hour period.

The HHW Center is authorized to accept only residential waste; no radioactive or explosive waste, and no biohazards.



Home-generated medical sharps such as syringes are accepted from Apple Valley residents, only. Other materials accepted at the HHW Center include pesticides, auto batteries, medications, paint thinners, auto and furniture polish, herbicides, drain cleaners, antifreeze, fertilizers, poisons, household chemicals, paint, hobby/art supplies, aerosol cans, oven cleaner, batteries, rodent poisons, gasoline, pool chemicals and adhesives, sealers and solvents. Business waste cannot be accepted. If you need to dispose of business-generated hazardous waste, contact the County HHW-program at: 1-800-OILYCAT for assistance. Questions about a specific type of material may be directed to Municipal Services at 240-7000 x 7522, or visit our website:

www.applevalley.org/Index.aspx?page=27

Thank you for your cooperation, and have a clean and green 2008!

Crime Free Multi-Housing expanded to rental homes

Reducing crime on rental property presents a unique challenge for law enforcement. Apartment renters may not have the same commitment to their neighborhood as homeowners, and often are not motivated to improve the safety of the community. At the first sign of criminal activity renters can just give notice, pack up, and leave.

The solution was the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program; a coalition of police, property managers, and residents of rental properties work together to keep crime out of rental properties. Starting in February, the program has also been expanded to include single family homes being used as rental property. The Crime Free program doesn't imply that there IS no crime in a designated area, but rather to warn that there are serious consequences for anyone affiliated with illegal activity in the area.

The Apple Valley Police Department joined the Crime Free Program with two goals: to see a decrease in calls for service and an increase in safety for our rental properties. Some incentives for program participation include training by law enforcement, certification, police issued signs, and advertising privileges.

We held our first Crime Free Multi-Housing phase 1 training in December and over 40 owners and managers attended. Those who attended learned how to keep illegal activity off of their rental property, as well as tenant screening, property management, fair housing laws, working with law enforcement, fire safety, code enforcement, and many legal issues. Are you ready to make a change? Are you ready to take a stand against crime and make your community a safer place to live? Participate in the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program to make your rental property a safer living environment for your residents. For more information call Shira Mathis, Crime Free Multi-Housing Coordinator at (760)240-7400 x 7457.



Green Apple Valley tips

Every gap in your house that leads to the outside costs you money. Consider using weather strips at the bottom of external doors; they only cost a few bucks and will pay for themselves.

Heavy drapes over windows will dramatically reduce your heating and cooling costs; with the added benefit of cutting down on noise.

Use putty to seal gaps around loose window panes.

Turn off your heater 15 minutes before going to bed if possible. This can save dozens of hours in heating time over a season.

Heat rises, so a ceiling fan during winter can help push heat down.

Rabies Clinic

This year the Town of Apple Valley will be hosting six low cost vaccination clinics. One of the vaccination clinics will be held at our **Annual Paws ~N~ Claws 2008 Pet Fair** August 23rd between 10 am. – 2 pm.

All other dates are as follows:

Saturday, April 12th, 10 am. – 12 pm.

Wednesday, June 18th, 5 pm. – 7 pm.

Wednesday, October 15th, 5 pm. – 7 pm.

Saturday, December 13th, 10 am. – 12 pm.

For more information call the Animal Services and Sheltering at 240-7000 x 7555.



Dog Vaccines

DHPP-C \$15

Bordetella \$10

Rabies \$ 6

Cat Vaccines

Annual Vaccine

(FVRCPC) \$15

Leukemia \$15

Rabies \$ 6



Spay & Neuter Day USA

February 26 is Spay Day USA. As part of a national campaign to promote spay/neuter as a simple, humane and effective way to end the tragedy of euthanizing homeless pets, the Town of Apple Valley Animal Services and Sheltering will be offering promotions for Town residents. We will be offering opportunities to win cat & dog gift baskets to reward responsible pet owners who have spayed and neutered their cats and dogs. You can receive a raffle ticket for spaying or neutering your cat or dog in February, or show proof of spay or neuter prior to February, for a maximum of 4 chances to win. Raffle winners will be pulled March 28th.

For more information call the Animal Services and Sheltering at: 240-7000 x 7555.

Express Plan Check program launched

In line by 9:30, in construction by noon. That's the goal of the new Express Plan Check program for the Town of Apple Valley. Offered each Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon at Town Hall, a building inspector and a planner are available for over-the-counter plan checks and rechecks.

The Express Plan Check program will help owner/builders, and local developers, contractors and investors. The program applies to small projects such as patio covers, detached garages, room additions of less than 1000 square feet and any rechecks on other small residential and commercial projects. Permits for these projects can be issued immediately, as long as other agency and/or department review and approvals have been completed or are not required.

The Town's development services divisions - Planning, Building & Safety and Engineering – are housed in one department of Economic and Community Development, creating a one-stop shop for developers of all size. This efficient structure has enabled the Town to review and approve over 2.5 million square feet of commercial retail projects over the last two years.

Further evidence of the Town Council's commitment to business-friendly ideals include a recent action to double the size of commercial and industrial buildings, from 25,000 to 50,000 square feet, that require only the approval of the Director of Economic and Community Development. The Council also adopted the North Apple Valley Industrial Specific Plan, a 5100 acre industrial zone with permitted uses and development standards already in place, allowing a project to go from submittal to construction in as little as 120 days, a time frame unheard of in today's industrial development climate. For more information about the Express Plan Check program, please call 240-7000 x 7200, or visit the town's website at: www.applevalley.org.

General Plan Advisory Committee Meetings

The General Plan provides the blueprint for development in the community. The General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) will be addressing the Land Use Element Policies and Map of the General Plan and providing recommendations to the Planning Commission.

The public is invited to attend any of the GPAC meetings, all of which take place at 6:30 p.m. in Town Council Chambers on the following dates: February 25, March 10, March 24 and April 14, 2008

Volunteers needed for "P.R.E.P. Team"

The Apple Valley P.R.E.P. Team is looking for residents who are willing to help our community when it is needed most – during a disaster. P.R.E.P., Prepared Responders for Emergency Perils, consists of over 200 volunteers who are trained and prepared to respond. With our growing community, more volunteers are needed! Volunteer training is scheduled for the spring so this is the perfect time to register.

The Apple Valley P.R.E.P. Team consists of three groups:

1. Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.): The 24 hour training course includes first aid, triage, light search and rescue, fire safety and more. Specialized teams consist of the Sandbag Team and the Emergency Operations Center Team. Training schedule: Saturdays; February 23, March 1 and March 8; 8:00 am. to 5 pm. each day.

2. Friends of Animals During Disaster (F.A.D.D.): Training is provided on disaster preparedness, team organization and the components of the Town's Animal Emergency Evacuation & Shelter Plan. Volunteers should be familiar with the care, feeding and treatment of animals prior to joining. Saturday, April 5th.

3. Emergency Communications Services (E.C.S.): It is recommended that volunteers have a Technician License and be outfitted with standard amateur radio equipment consisting of a radio that can operate on 2 meters (at a minimum). Training on your own.

For more information about the Apple Valley P.R.E.P. Team, call Cindy Serrano, Apple Valley Emergency Services Manager, at 247-7618. Pre-registration is required and classes fill up quickly – call now!

New website launched

Did you know that business licenses come under the Finance Department? Or that Municipal Services is where you would find recycling programs? With the new Town of Apple Valley website, you don't have to! A completely overhauled Town website was unveiled in mid-January. As we countdown to our 20th Anniversary in 2008 we need our web site to reflect our personality – a blend of our home-town character with our professional attitude.

Intuitive navigation makes it easier for visitors to find what they are looking for. Opening with eye catching images from Apple Valley landmarks and history, the front page features links to the most frequently requested information, such as recreation classes and project updates. Main menus then guide users to six subject areas including About Apple Valley, Community, Business, Your Government and Departments & Services. The final menu, "I Want To", gives thirty options grouped into categories such as Get, Apply For, or Visit.

Another new feature is a customizable e-News subscription. Visitors can click on Get e-News and then pick just those categories of news they wish to receive from the Town. Agendas, events, public hearings, and road closures are just a few of the choices. Some other benefits of the new site include:

- New features - print-friendly versions of the web pages; email buttons to send pages to friends; centralized news, calendar and downloadable documents; a site index; eNews registration.
- Improved look and feel - New page layouts and a cleaner look provide visitors with an improved user experience.
- Improved accessibility - for persons with disabilities who use assistive software. The address is still the same, at www.applevalley.org. We want to know what you think about the new design, and anything else. Every page includes a "Let Us Know" button where problems, questions, compliments and complaints can be submitted on any town service.

For more information call 240-7000 x 7070.

Town Information

Timothy J. Jasper, Mayor
 Bob Sagona, Mayor Pro Tem
 Peter Allan, Councilmember
 Scott Nassif, Councilmember
 Rick Roelle, Councilmember
 James L. Cox, Interim Town Manager

How To Reach Us

Emergencies	911
Police (business calls).....	240-7400
Police Dispatch after hours.....	245-4211
Town dispatch after hours.....	961-6001

Town Hall	240-7000
Department EXTENSIONS – Dial: 240-7000, plus:	
Animal Control.....	x 7555
Building & Safety.....	x 7101
Economic Development.....	x 7900
Finance.....	x 7000
Personnel.....	x 7600
Planning.....	x 7200
Public Information.....	x 7072
Public Works.....	x 7500
Town Clerk.....	x 7800
Town Manager.....	x 7051
Transit.....	x 7522

Other Town Departments & Services (dial direct)	
Code Enforcement.....	240-7560
Parks & Recreation.....	240-7880
Trash (AVCO).....	245-8607
Emergency Preparedness.....	247-7618

Contact Us

E-mail: applevalley@applevalley.org
 Website: www.applevalley.org

Get e-News: Have news from Apple Valley delivered right to your inbox. Just visit www.applevalley.org and click on the "Get e-News" link in the top right corner.

Our Town is published bi-monthly by the Public Information Department.

Questions or comments on the newsletter should be directed to Kathie Martin, Public Information Officer, at 240-7000 x 7072.



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