



The Posting

A TLMA Code Enforcement Monthly Newsletter

Mission Statement: "To enhance public safety and the quality of life in partnership with communities through fair enforcement of laws and codes."



Director Jay E. Orr



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Watch Where You Park

Riverside County Ordinance 413, which regulates parking, was enacted in order to "further community preservation and protection of the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, property values, and aesthetic qualities." With this ordinance, Riverside County Code Enforcement is regulating and enforcing street parking restrictions and prohibitions for certain vehicles within the unincorporated areas of the county. Code Enforcement officers enforce a variety of parking regulations including the parking of commercial vehicles in residential districts.

Ordinance 413 generally prohibits the parking of any

commercial vehicle in excess of 10,000 pounds of gross vehicle weight on a residential street. Certain exceptions to this regulation apply, such as commercial vehicles engaged in the pick up or delivery of goods, wares, or merchandise.

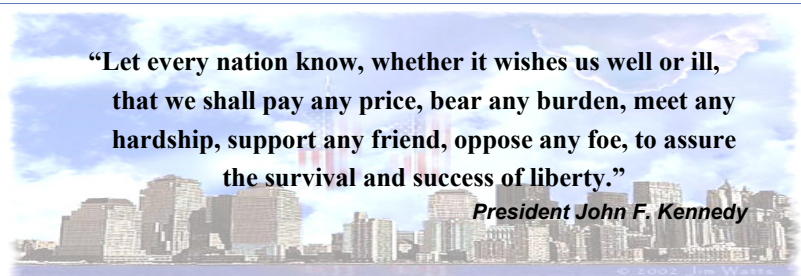
The parking of commercial trailers or semi-trailers on residential streets is prohibited regardless of weight. Code Enforcement Supervisor Mickey Parmele commented, "This is a problem because of the very large number of commercial truckers we have. Lots of them get in late and just take their trucks home." Consequently, most commercial drivers find out about this regulation the hard way. The penalties for

this violation are high and you can receive additional citations every 24-hour period (see chart below). Commercial vehicles should be parked in commercially zoned areas or in a lawfully permitted vehicle storage yard. Signs are strategically posted at the entry points into the county and along major streets and thoroughfares alerting drivers to the commercial vehicle parking restrictions in residential areas. So why not save yourself time and money and just "Park it right and forget the cite!"

Grace Escobar

1st Violation	\$ 250.00
2nd Violation	\$ 500.00
3rd Violation	\$ 750.00

CODE ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION
4080 Lemon Street,
12th Floor
Riverside, CA 92501
Phone: 951-955-2004
Fax: 951-955-8680



"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty."

President John F. Kennedy





This large pallet business was dangerous and unsightly.



Illegal Business Cleared Out

With the leadership of Code Enforcement Officer Diana Parra, officers tackled the investigation of an illegal pallet business located in "Old Eastvale," north of Corona. The dangerous and unsightly illegal business was reported by several neighbors in the community who recently purchased brand new homes in a housing tract adjacent to this business.

Not only was this a fire hazard, the illegal pallet business was also extremely noisy, which disrupted the peaceful

lifestyle of the neighboring community.

When officers arrived to begin the inspection of the 1.86 acres, to their amazement, they found that nearly every inch of this parcel was inundated with wood, pallets, trailers, trash, and debris. After documenting the existing violations, the lead officer issued the business owner a Notice of Violation, directing him to cease operations and to remove all the offensive materials from the property.

Within weeks, the business was shut down and the materials began to leave the property. Soon afterward, the entire property was cleared of all signs of the illegal business.

During a subsequent walk-through with the owner, he commented to the officer, "It looks great, doesn't it?" The property owner took care of this illegal business on his own.

Donna Payne (2)

HARD TIMES, FREE HELP



The current economic climate has caused an increase in the number of people in need of financial assistance. This year, Riverside County Code

Enforcement applied for and received funds to help home owners living in the communities of Ripley, Mesa Verde, Thermal, Oasis, Mecca, Good Hope, Home Gardens, Bell Town, Rubidoux, and Mead Valley. These funds were awarded to the Code Enforcement Department through the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. The department administers these funds through the Voluntary Public Nuisance Abatement Program (VPNAP).

This vital program allows Code Enforcement to provide assistance to struggling property owners for the removal of substandard structures, weeds/vegetation, trash, and/or

excessive outside storage, inoperable vehicles, as well as unoccupied mobile homes. In certain communities such as Mecca, Home Gardens, and Rubidoux, residents may be eligible for property beautification assistance. This program allows the department to select qualified applicants who will receive services from an authorized contractor for fencing installation and repairs, residential landscaping, and residential exterior painting – all free of charge to the resident.

To be eligible, the applicant must reside within one of the above-mentioned communities and be in need of financial assistance to clean up their property. Funds may be used to correct code violations if applicable and assistance through the VPNAP is a onetime grant funded on a first come, first serve basis until grant money is gone.

For more information on this voluntary abatement program, please contact Code Enforcement at (951) 955-2004. Don't wait - help is here and it's **FREE.** *Grace Escobar*

BEFORE



A successful CDBG project in Corona



NOW

Helping with the Menifee Fire

On July 9, 2008, a grass fire broke out in Menifee, just south of "THE RANCH" community. When Senior Code Enforcement Officer Wayne O'Gara arrived on the scene he used his vehicle to block the dirt roads leading to the fire area. This position enabled O'Gara to effectively control access by gawkers and other non-emergency personnel. CHP units were also

successful at blocking the other access point. Due to unpredictable wind conditions and the potential threat to nearby homes, two aerial tankers and one fire attack helicopter from Cal Fire assisted ground crews in putting out the fire.

The fire covered approximately eight acres of dry grassland and the cause is still under investigation.

Wayne O'Gara (3)



Before



Now

Demolished

This vacant structure (left) was an attractive nuisance and posed a danger to public health and safety. Graffiti and other evidences of vandalism made this property a major "eyesore" in the community of Rubidoux.

Just before Code Enforcement issued a seizure warrant to demolish the structure, the property owner hired his own demolition crew and had the substandard building removed. A Riverside Sheriff Deputy said, "It's nice not seeing the eyesore everyday when I arrive at the Jurupa Station."

Special thanks to Code Enforcement Officer Stacey Baumgartner for launching the initial investigation.

Travis Engelking (2)



Back to School Tips



Health & Safety guidelines to discuss with your child:

- Wear brightly colored clothing to increase visibility.
- Use crosswalks whenever possible.
- Obey traffic lights and stops signs.
- Choose a backpack with wide, padded shoulder straps.
- Eat healthy meals - lots of fruits and vegetables.
- Go to bed early to get enough rest.

Develop good homework and study habits:

- Create a quiet environment that offers privacy.
- Set aside ample time for homework.
- Establish a rule that the TV stays off during homework time.
- Be available to answer questions, but never do a child's homework for them.
- Tell them to take periodical breaks to stretch.



Working Together to Gain Compliance



During an initial investigation, Code Enforcement Officer Richard Arriola discovered an occupied, substandard building. Officer Arriola met with the property owners and thoroughly explained the violation and what actions would be required to bring the property into compliance. Officer Arriola made it clear to the owners that if they wanted to keep the building, they would have to obtain building permits and bring the structure up to building code standards; otherwise, the building would have to be removed. The officer agreed to give them time to choose their course of remedial action. One week later, while Officer Arriola was in the area, he saw that the unsafe building had been demolished down to the foundation. Working together can get the job done!



Regina Keyes (5)

Property Owner Takes Ownership

While driving through his assigned area, Code Enforcement Officer Brett Farlow noticed a large, vacant parcel that had numerous piles of trash and debris dumped on it. Officer Farlow advised the owner that illegal dumping was occurring on his property and of his responsibility, as owner, to remove the offensive matter.

During the discussion, the property owner exclaimed, "I'm tired of all the junk that gets put here. I'm going to fix it myself, once and for all!"

Within two weeks, Officer Farlow revisited the property and found all the trash and debris gone. In addition, he noticed a new fence had been installed around the property,

a warning sign was posted for anyone else who might consider dumping on the vacant lot.

Brett Farlow (1)



WARNING:
Illegal Dumping Is a Crime

Riverside County has taken a stance against illegal dumping. Code Enforcement has designated a Special Enforcement Team that conducts random, unmanned video surveillance and patrols on major illegal dumpsites county-wide. If convicted, you can be fined up to \$5000. If the illegal dumping involves commercial quantities, you may be imprisoned up to 6 months and fined \$3000 upon the first conviction, \$6000 upon the second conviction and \$10,000 for a third conviction. Vehicles may be seized and impounded for 30 days when used in the act of illegal dumping, related costs may exceed \$1,000.

To learn more about the proper disposal of your Business Waste Materials or recycling alternatives, contact Riverside County Waste Management Department at 951-486-3200 or visit them online at <http://www.rivcowm.org/>

Calendar of Events for September 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 	3	4	5	6 - Thermal/Vista Santa Rosa Cleanup 8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 - Mead Valley Health and Safety Day 9:00 a.m. - 1:00p.m. - Highgrove Code Resource Fair 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 - El Cerrito Cleanup 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
21	22 	23	24	25	26 Good Hope Code Resource Fair from 4:00-8:00 p.m.	27 - Highgrove Cleanup 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. - Temescal Code Resource Fair
28	29	30				

Supervisor Ashley Shows Appreciation for District 5 Team

District 5 Code Enforcement staff was invited to Mimi's Café to enjoy breakfast with District 5 Supervisor Marion Ashley and Jaime Hurtado, Legislative Assistant.

Supervisor Marion Ashley spoke to District 5 Code Enforcement staff and thanked them for their hard work and visible improvements in his district. He also graciously presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following staff:

Jennifer Miller, Code Enforcement Aide: "For providing consistent, dependable support to officers and staff, always with a positive attitude."

Jacob Dietrich, Code Enforcement Officer: "For your hard work, extensive research, and tenacity in obtaining a quick resolution to the



very complex grading case in the Meadowbrook area."

David Jurden, Code Enforcement Technician: "For an outstanding job with parking enforcement and roadside dumping tracking and processing."

Dawn Burnett, Community Improvement Technician: "For the support you provide in coordinating District Five activities and events."

Mary Overholt (5)



Pictured from left to right; back row: Jacob Dietrich, Tom McMullen, Anthony Green, Danny Pike, Michael Bowles, Michelle Cervantes, Marion Ashley, County Supervisor, Jay Orr, Code Enforcement Director, Susana Orozco, Community Improvement Supervisor, David Jurden. Front row: Richard Arriola, Cynthia Black, Jennifer Morris, Jennifer Miller, Melissa Robles, Regina Keyes, Lori Lyon, Lane Padilla, Mary Overholt, Dist. 5 Supervisor, Ana Carrillo, Tracey Towner, Jaime Hurtado, Legislative Assistant



This structure is now gone.

Three Dilapidated Shacks

As we move forward with the Community Impact Plan in Mecca, the incidents of voluntary compliance continue to increase. Case in point: Senior Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) Hector Herrera and CEO Lucero Iniguez discovered an illegal mobile home park consisting of four substandard structures (three dilapidated shacks and one out-house) located behind the main house.

The officers observed

faulty, exposed wiring that posed an immediate danger to the tenants on the property where children resided.

A task force was assembled to coordinate an emergency tenant relocation. In addition to Code Enforcement, agencies present included Catholic Charities, California Rural Legal Assistance, Riverside County Economic Development Agency, and Riverside County Housing

Authority. Through their cooperative effort, this resourceful group was able to offer each tenant alternative living arrangements and relocation assistance, and the shacks were promptly demolished.

This is yet another great example of teamwork with other agencies and the successful utilization of County resources for the health and safety of community residents.

Lucero Iniguez (4)



Dear Sirs;

I would like to take a moment to give a thank you to our Code Enforcement officers.

We have here in Quail Valley, probably the finest group of Code Officers assigned anywhere in the county. To single anyone out would be difficult. There is, however, one officer to whom we all owe a vote of thanks. Jason Heagstedt, has been assigned here for some time now. He drives around our community each day in an effort to enforce the various codes, from building & safety to various other violations. The community as a whole has come to respect not only his fairness, but his willingness to work with the violators. His goal is not as much to prosecute, but to ensure compliance. Everyone who has been contacted by Jason has come to have a new attitude towards Code Enforcement.

Jason is armed with an uncanny knowledge of not only the codes he enforces, but also has a heart for the community. His sense of fairness, tempered with his sense of duty, work well with most of the people here. We are all thankful for him, and support his efforts. The changes we have seen here in Quail Valley are a direct result of his hard work, and dedication. Thanks Jason, we look forward to your presence here. We appreciate your hard work and dedication to us. Your hard work has brought many visible changes to our community, as well as our way of life.

*Earl McGee, Executive Director
Quail Valley Crime Watch*



Lake Mathews Reserve

The District One Code Enforcement office received a complaint from Brian Shomo, Natural Resources Manager with the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA), regarding two dumped vehicles located in the Lake Mathews Reserve.

Upon follow-up, Code Enforcement Officer Tricia Silva found two vehicles located in a sensitive stream habitat area with large amounts of rubbish inside and around the vehicles. The vehicles were rusted from the water and unfortunately, the

vehicles could not be removed until the trash was removed from the interior of the cars.

Officer Silva contacted Angela Boone-Porcher, Community Improvement Specialist, explained the situation, and asked about available resources to get the rubbish removed.

With Code Enforcement's ability to get the vehicles removed and Waste Management, Inc. graciously donating two 40-yard receptacles, the plan was off to a great start, but the help didn't stop there. Ruben

Rodriguez, a Supervising Ranger with the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Program (MSHCP), donated a tractor, operator, and four volunteers to remove the large items from the site.

Then, Brian and Ruben generously donated the gloves, rakes, shovels, trash bags, and water for the cleanup. Thanks to the collaboration and assistance from RCHCA, Waste Management, Inc., and MSHCP, these vehicles, along with the trash, were removed from the Lake Mathews Reserve.

Tricia Silva (1)



Top: Vehicle full of trash and mud
Bottom: Now the vehicle is gone

"I just wanted to THANK YOU again for all your help. It would have taken me months to do what you guys did in a couple days. I owe each of you big time." - Brian Shomo, RCHCA

Safe and Sound

The principal from James Monroe Elementary School in Bermuda Dunes called Code Enforcement and reported that their students had found trash and hypodermic needles in an empty lot behind their playground.

Code Enforcement and the local Sheriff's station worked as a team and began frequently patrolling the area. Code Enforcement contacted the owners of the empty lot, who then had the lot cleaned and cleared of all brush so that "stranger danger" would not loiter in this area.

What a great stride forward in making this neighborhood safer for our families and children!

Brenda Hannah (4)



Cabazon Illegal Dumping Workshop

Cabazon community residents participated in the Illegal Dumping Workshop, hosted by the Family Services Association. This workshop was held at the James Venable Community Center where approximately 45 residents were served a free lunch while they learned skills on how to report illegal dumping in their community, how to properly dispose of waste, and services offered by their local waste hauler.

The Cabazon community expressed their excitement about the work and dedication that the Department of Code Enforcement has invested into their small community!

Chaka Ferrell (5)

"...I helped him (Officer Green) by taking photos (of the property), and he followed up and took care of the problem. Officer Green does a great job out here!"
Resident,
Leonard Standish

Chaka Ferrell educating the children of Cabazon





PRST-STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Riverside County Code Enforcement

4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor
Riverside, CA 92501

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



Riverside County Code Enforcement

**CHILDREN
AGES 6 -12
WELCOME**

First Annual Neighborhood Conference



The First Annual County Neighborhood Conference will provide communities throughout Riverside County an excellent opportunity to come together and share their knowledge, experiences, and visions to improve this great county we call home. The conference will offer an opportunity for attendees to participate in information-packed workshops, listen to thought-provoking speakers, view a host of exhibits, and engage in unparalleled networking opportunities with other neighborhood advocates across Riverside County. We look forward to seeing you at this very important event. For more information, please call (951) 955-2004.

Agenda for Conference Workshops				
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	Exhibits Open	Registration (Continental breakfast will be provided)		
9:30 - 9:45 a.m.		Welcome: Code Enforcement Director		
9:45 - 10:30 a.m.		Asset Based Community Development	Lush and Efficient Landscaping	Living with Diversity in Your Community
10:30 - 10:45 a.m.		15-Minute Break		
10:45 - 11:30 a.m.		Foreclosure Ordinances 880 & 881	Making Meetings Work	12 Steps of Emergency Preparedness
11:30 - 12:15 p.m.		Lunch Break (Lunch will be provided)		
12:15 - 1:30 p.m.		"Broken Windows Theory" Presented by - Richard Campanaro		



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