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LAS CRUCES COMMUNITY

CONNECTION

Official Quarterly Newsletter of the  City of Las Cruces



Tracking System Could Help ID Stolen Property

The Las Cruces Police Department is now using a personal property tracking system that should help solve more crimes, and identify the rightful owner of lost or stolen goods.

LeadsOnline compares serial numbers of personal property stolen with a national database of items that have been recovered or sold at secondhand dealers, pawn shops or recycle centers.

Residents can register their valuables online by using the LeadsOnline Citizen Property Inventory System called "ReportIt." ReportIt lets citizens securely store serial numbers, item descriptions, pictures and scans of receipts so those items can be easily identified in the event of theft or loss.

To register valuable personal property, visit the ReportIt site at www.LeadsOnline.com.



City Launches Business Assistance Program

The City of Las Cruces Economic Development Office has launched a Business Assistance Program (BAP) designed to assist current and emerging city businesses and would include help in expanding their product or service offerings. It will also assist businesses outside the region to relocate or establish local branches.

A key tool offered by the City of Las Cruces is Business Analyst Online (BAO), a program that provides demographic and business data, and generates reports and maps that provide a profile of the Las Cruces area and its markets to assess the suitability of Las Cruces for relocation or expansion.

Also, information at SizeUp.com can be helpful for business and industry analysis, competitive intelligence, as well as advertising and demographic analysis. 541-2140.

New Uses for Old Tires!

The City's Transportation Department is putting old tires to new, productive use. City vehicles go through approximately 1,500 tires annually. Instead of disposing of them in landfills, the tires are being shredded and reused as landfill cover, septic tank system leach field filler, roadbed material, and potentially an energy source for nearby high-tech, environmentally safe cement plants. The cost to shred is 30¢ per tire versus \$1 each to landfill. 541-2048



Septic Replacement Project

The City of Las Cruces has made the elimination of septic systems within city limits a priority due to the potential for groundwater contamination. One of the primary areas of focus is the Lantana Subdivision located west of Elks Road just north of the Main Street intersection.

Las Cruces Utilities has begun construction on the first of three septic replacement projects that will utilize \$2,250,000 in grants funds secured during the 2014 legislative session. 528-3515



Mayor Ken Miyagishima recognized Las Crucean Bonnie Burn with his Mayor's Distinguished Service Award at the April 6, City Council meeting. Burn was recognized for helping register hundreds of voters during her service as a past president of the League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces.

LCFD Paramedic Program

The Las Cruces Fire Department currently has ten students in a paramedic program at Doña Ana Community College that are scheduled to complete the program in June/July. Their successful completion will increase the number of licensed paramedics to 29. 528-3473



Watch live and archived City Council meetings and work sessions at CLCTV.com

Helpful Phone Numbers

Brigan Library:	528-4000
Utilities Customer Service:	541-2111
Street Lights Out:	541-2505
Recreation Programs:	541-2550
Senior Programs:	528-3000
Human Resources:	528-3100
Animal Control/Weeds: (private property)	528-4100
Crime Stoppers:	526-8000

Updated Animal Control Ordinance & Fees

Pet cats and dogs in the city limits must be licensed through the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley, rabies vaccinated, and microchipped. The annual pet license fee for an intact or unsterilized pet is \$50, for a sterilized pet - \$7, for a sterilized pet owned by, or in the custody of, a person 65 years or older - \$5, and no charge for a qualified service animal.

Anyone seeking to operate a feral cat colony in the city limits must obtain a permit from city Animal Control and pay an initial application fee of \$10 per site and an annual permit fee of \$50 per site. All colony cats must be sterilized, rabies vaccinated, microchipped and ear-tipped.

A special animal permit for chickens or ducks in the city limits must be obtained from city Animal Control for an initial application fee of \$10 per site and an annual permit fee of \$15 per site. 528-4100



Your vehicle can be seized and sold at auction if you have one or more DWI convictions, or if you are caught driving without an ignition interlock or with a revoked or suspended driver's license following a DWI conviction.

Learn more at las-cruces.org
(LCMC. Sec. 27-6. - Vehicle Forfeiture)

"Provide financial resources to inform citizens, meet state and federal financial requirements and support operating departments."



FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
AREA CODE: (575)

- Accounting
541-2151 or 541-2085
541-2043 Fax
- Disbursements
541-2123
541-2356 Fax
- Grants
541-2716
541-2516 Fax
- Purchasing
541-2525
541-2515 fax
- Treasurer
541-2035
541-2039 fax

Maintains financial integrity and accountability to the citizens of Las Cruces through fiscal oversight and safeguarding public assets. Within the Financial Services Department, financial reporting and accounting personnel maintain financial data in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), auditing standards, and federal and state regulations.

Disbursements and Payroll personnel are responsible for payments to vendors for goods and services, preparing payroll for City employees and overseeing travel-related activities.

Grants and Contracts Administration is charged with obtaining state, federal and other grants for City projects and services and meeting all compliance requirements from awarded funding.

Purchasing staff are dedicated to ensuring the effective and efficient acquisition of goods and services in order to provide cost effective and high quality services to the citizens of Las Cruces.

The Treasurer's Office is responsible for cash management, investment management, banking activities, City bonding and debt, and general billing and accounts receivable.

Las Cruces Achieves Top Rating for Fire Suppression Services

Las Cruces has obtained a Class 1 rating from the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO), making it the first in New Mexico and one of only 97 communities nationwide, to achieve the top ranking. The rating, that takes effect July 1, could result in lower insurance premiums for residential and commercial policy holders.



NEW INSURANCE Rating Could Lead to Lower Rates

The Las Cruces Fire Department (LCFD) will notify local insurance companies by mail. A copy of the letter will be available on the Las Cruces Fire Department's website, clcfcd.com.

LCFD encourages residents and business owners to contact their insurance agents to determine how the improved ISO classification may affect insurance premiums. 528-3473.

Watering Fines Added to Utility Bills

Las Cruces residents who violate provisions of the city's water ordinance could now have fines assessed against them on their utility bill, in addition to being issued citations by Codes Enforcement Officers.

1st: No fee - City will educate violators on how to achieve compliance.

2nd: \$20 (optional audit at customer's expense in lieu of fee.)

3rd: \$30

4th: \$40

5th and subsequent: \$50

Each day that a watering violation takes place can be a separate infraction.

Report water waste at 528-4444.