

December 2021 Utilities and Community Announcements

Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) clog pipes! Incorrect disposal of these substances will eventually cost you time, mess, money and hassle. When poured down a drain or toilet, the water will solidify FOG and coat the interior of your plumbing, possibly leading to backed-up sewage in your home or yard. Learn how to properly dispose of FOG at [cityofpaloalto.org/hazwaste](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/hazwaste)

Do you know how best to keep your home cozy and warm this winter? Check out some of our DIY efficiency suggestions at [cityofpaloalto.org/efficiencytips](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/efficiencytips), or get free virtual assistance with trained professionals by visiting [cityofpaloalto.org/efficiencygenie](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/efficiencygenie) or calling (650) 713-3411.

Confused about what goes in your recycle, compost, and garbage carts? Zero Waste Palo Alto has information and tools to help you figure out what goes where! Visit our What Goes Where Tools page at [cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/wgwtools) for material guides, posters, how-to videos, FAQs, and our online search tool. You can also simply call us at (650) 496-5910.

Prepare for winter storms! Visit [cityofpaloalto.org/storms](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/storms) to monitor storm and creek activity, report storm problems, find free sandbag locations and other helpful resources. Visit [cityofpaloalto.org/creekmonitor](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/creekmonitor) to monitor real-time Palo Alto creek level information and sign up at [sfcjpa.org/floodwarning](https://www.sfcjpa.org/floodwarning) for automatic flood and storm notifications.

Make safety a top priority! Please call 811 before digging to have us mark your utility lines and avoid a dangerous and costly accident. Read more safety tips at [cityofpaloalto.org/gassafety](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gassafety) and contact us at UtilitiesCommunications@cityofpaloalto.org to request printed copies of our gas safety awareness brochure.

Even though California is in a drought, it is still important that we care for our urban forest! Water young trees once a week, and water mature trees monthly or bi-monthly, particularly during hot, dry weather. Be sure to water trees deeply (the top 12+ inches should be wet) and water away from the trunk. Visit [cityofpaloalto.org/trees](https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/trees) for guides and tips on protecting our urban forestry.