

September 2021 Utilities and Community Announcements

Make safety a top priority! Please call 811 before digging to have your utility lines marked and avoid a dangerous and costly accident. Read more safety tips at cityofpaloalto.org/safeutility and contact us at UtilitiesCommunications@cityofpaloalto.org to request printed copies of our gas safety awareness brochure.

Wastewater Rates are rising due to rising costs of construction and system maintenance and rehabilitation. These rates are proposed to increase starting in September by 5% or \$1.95 per month for residential customers. Find ways to help lower your utility bill at cityofpaloalto.org/efficiencytips. For more information about Utilities rate changes, visit cityofpaloalto.org/ratesoverview

Hold on to those balloons! Did you know that metallic foil, or Mylar, balloons are a major cause of power outages? In recent years, Mylar balloons have caused several large power outages in Palo Alto. Mylar balloons can explode and catch fire when coming in contact with power lines, creating a dangerous situation. Visit cityofpaloalto.org/safeutility for tips on balloon safety. In the event of a power outage, check cityofpaloalto.org/outagemap for immediate updates.

September is Pollution Prevention Month! Stop pollution by properly disposing of household hazardous waste and medications, or by participating in a creek cleanup. For more information, visit cleanbay.org

Free Garden-Ready Compost – Need more compost than you can make? Don't have time to make your own? Free compost is available Tuesday through Sunday at the Compost Giveaway Station located at Eleanor Pardee Community Garden. Learn more at cityofpaloalto.org/compost or call (650) 496-5910.

There's no better time to go solar! Now through November 30, you can sign up for SunShares to receive discounts on rooftop solar and battery storage from vetted contractors. SunShares aims to make it easy and economical to go solar. Visit cityofpaloalto.org/sunshares to learn more and register.