

ENVIRONMENTAL UTILITIES CITY OF ROSEVILLE Today

February 2012



WATER • WASTEWATER • RECYCLED WATER • STORMWATER • SOLID WASTE

Adopt-a-Creek Program Helps Protect Our Wild Urban Spaces

If you made it down to a local creek this fall and winter, you may have been among the lucky ones who observed one of the largest runs of native Chinook salmon and steelhead trout that our creeks have seen in recent years. Thanks to restoration projects to remove barriers that inhibit fish migrations, such as the one completed this fall on Secret Ravine Creek, our native fish are finding their way to ancient spawning grounds once again. That's big news in the fish world because native fish add genetic diversity that's critical to maintaining healthy salmon and steelhead populations.

Now you can give a hand to the native fish, plants and wildlife that make their homes in our wild urban spaces. The city's Adopt-A-Creek program offers organizations a chance to take part in creek preservation and restorations projects. Current projects include trash pickup and invasive plant removal, with future projects planned to include native tree planting and more ambitious creek restoration projects.

More than 60 miles of creeks run through Roseville's open spaces and many miles need caring groups to keep them clean, help prevent erosion, and keep invasive plants from overrunning and potentially destroying their shores.

- **If your organization would like to take part, please call 774-5751, visit www.roseville.ca.us/adoptacreek or send an email to stormwater@roseville.ca.us.**

FREE Water-Wise House Calls Tailored Just for You

Take advantage of our **free Water-Wise House Call** service—it's a valuable service the city offers to all Roseville residents. A Water-Wise House Call can give you an in-depth look at your water use, or simply help you spot the reason we hung a notice on your door or your water bill suddenly increased. Tailored to fit your needs and the time you have available, this complimentary service can include:

Outdoors We'll evaluate your irrigation system and check for problems that include leaking valves and misguided, mismatched or leaking sprinkler heads. We can also look for drainage problems; provide solutions to prevent runoff; offer irrigation schedule recommendations; and provide irrigation system maintenance, repair or replacement recommendations.

Indoors We can help you spot inefficiencies and leaks in water heaters; plumbing fixtures, including faucets, toilets and showerheads; and appliances, such as dishwashers and washing machines. We'll also leave behind devices for simple fixes, such as new toilet flappers, and let you know about available rebates for water-efficient upgrades.

Water pressure Water pressure that's too high can damage plumbing and irrigation systems, so we can measure and teach you how to reduce your home's water pressure, if desired.

Water Wise House Calls are available Monday through Friday during normal business hours. Give us a call at 774-5761 to schedule your free appointment today.



Congratulations Lisa Brown!

Lisa Brown, administrator of our Water Efficiency Division has been named Statesperson of the Year by the Regional Water Authority (RWA) for her diligence in advancing conservation efforts and elevating the Sacramento region's water-conservation profile.

According to RWA Executive Director John Woodling, "Lisa has been instrumental in getting the message of water conservation and efficiency elevated from the local level to state-wide. The Sacramento region is now being highlighted as innovative and conservation minded as a direct result of her activities. Lisa has truly led the charge in elevating water efficiency to a new level region wide."

RWA is a joint powers authority representing 24 water suppliers and affiliates in the greater Sacramento area. Its primary mission is to help its members protect and enhance the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources.

For more information, see www.rwah2o.org.





Earth Festival Five: Bigger, Better, And Still FREE!

Saturday, April 21 Utility Exploration Center 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our fifth annual Celebrate the Earth Festival.

Our free family-fun day will feature fabulous food, live entertainment, cooking demonstrations, children's art activities, musical performances, alternative-fuel vehicles, kid's video productions, story time at the Riley Library, hands-on exhibits, and more. You'll also get a chance to see the *Peanuts . . . Naturally* traveling exhibit during its final days in Roseville and be able to talk to more than 95 local green businesses.

- For information call 746-1550, visit www.roseville.ca.us/earthday, or drop by the Utility Exploration Center between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

IDEAScape Begins Taking Shape

This year, the Utility Exploration Center will take its sustainability principles outside as it begins transforming a one-acre site behind the center into an interactive green-living showcase. Called **IDEAScape**, the outdoor area will allow visitors to see real-world examples of sustainable gardening, water conservation, recycled materials, permeable paving, solar electricity applications, and more. The site will also feature a scale model of our local watershed showing how water flows into and through our area on its way to the ocean.

Leslie Stone Associates of Sausalito is working with the center to create interpretive exhibits that will allow visitors to enjoy self-guided tours. In addition, IDEAScape will enable the center to offer guided tours and provide a venue for gardening and irrigation demonstrations and hands-on workshops.

IDEAScape sponsorship opportunities are still available to individuals and businesses. Contact Bob Garrison at 746-1551 to learn more.

Living Green

LET'S TALK TRASH

A couple of quick reminders about your green and solid waste containers:

When possible, place all household trash into tied bags before putting it into your outdoor container. Bagged trash is far less likely to fall out of the container and onto neighborhood streets.

Green waste container contents are dumped directly onto a seven-acre compost pad, so please help us keep green waste free of contaminants, such as pet waste, dirt, rocks, and regular household trash.



New Green Living WORKSHOPS

The Utility Exploration Centers is offering a wide variety of classes, workshops and events for children and adults this spring, including:

► **Children's Peanuts Cartoon Drawing Workshop (Ages 8-12)**

- February 11 10:00 a.m. to noon
- March 3 10:00 a.m. to noon
- April 14 10:00 a.m. to noon

Are Peanuts characters among your favorites? Then come learn how to bring them to life with your pencil using simple, easy steps.
\$12 Roseville residents, \$15 General

► **River-Friendly Landscaping: Green-Gardener-at-Home Training Program (10-week course)**

Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

- March 20 River-Friendly Landscaping Principles
- April 3 Introduction to Soils
- April 10 Compost and Mulches
- April 17 Irrigation
- April 24 Landscape Design
- May 1 Right Plant, Right Place
- May 8 Edible Gardens
- May 15 Integrated Pest Management
- May 22 Pruning for Plant Health

Why become a Green-Gardener-at-Home? What we do in our landscapes effects people, plants, animals, and waterways. Join us one night a week for 10 weeks to gain a wealth of information and skills through presentations and hands-on exercises that can help you save money, conserve water, and sustain your healthy landscape. A one-time fee of \$55 for Roseville residents and \$65 for general admission covers all 10 classes.

► **Find Out More**

- Courses are held at the Utility Exploration Center, 1501 Pleasant Grove Boulevard.
- For more information download our 2011-2012 Green Living Guide at www.roseville.ca.us/explore or call 746-1550.

Calling All PEANUTS Fans

Snoopy, Charlie Brown, Woodstock, and the rest of the Peanuts gang are here in Roseville, ready to delight old friends and turn a new generation into fans.

They'll be visiting from February 4 through April 29 as the Utility Exploration Center and Whole Foods® Market proudly sponsor *Peanuts . . . Naturally*, an exhibit featuring Charles Schultz's witty view of our relationship with the natural world as shown through his unforgettable characters.

The free interactive exhibit reveals the answers to such questions as:

- Why Charlie Brown thinks he might be in trouble with the EPA
- What happens when you plant French fries
- Why Lucy is sure the Earth has 48 suns
- And many other delightful mysteries, musings, and misadventures

There's no charge for admission and the exhibit is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Utility Exploration Center is located at 1501 Pleasant Grove Boulevard. For more information call 746-1550 or visit www.roseville.ca.us/peanuts.

