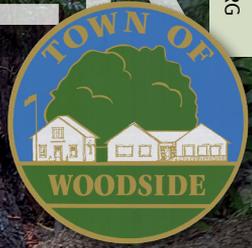


NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWN OF WOODSIDE

WOODSIDER



IN THIS ISSUE

Emergency Preparedness
 Volunteer Engagement Fair
 Town Projects
 Committee Spotlight
 Storm Preparedness

MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Welcome

2023 arrived with a torrent of rain. The Town began responding to the flooding and storm debris issues on New Year's Eve and was engaged in emergency response for most of the two and a half weeks that followed.

In recent years, we have all focused on the threats from wildfire. California has been suffering from historic drought making our landscape drier than it has ever been. As we are reminded in this newsletter by our Emergency Preparedness Committee, earthquakes remain a major threat to the community and Mother Nature has reminded us of the force of major storms.

This newsletter also includes information about how stormwater moves through the Town and our shared responsibilities for it. The important thing to remember is that the Town's stormwater system is a combination of public and private facilities, and it is not unusual for water to flow from one to the other and back again. Like fire, stormwater does not respect property boundaries. Therefore, it is critical that all of us — the Town, residents, and business owners — do our best to keep the system functional. We are all in this together.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Residents of Woodside face severe risks from earthquakes, wildfires, storms, and other natural and artificial disasters. With continuing climate challenges and the State's new housing mandates, tremendous efforts focus on how the Town and its citizens handle these situations.

The Town of Woodside's Emergency Preparedness Committee, or EPC, has been hard at work preparing the Town's emergency infrastructure and educating residents on what they can do proactively and reactively with best practice information.

Along with the committee members, the Town, the Woodside Fire Protection District (WFPD), and Emergency Preparedness in Communities, Inc (EPIc) support the EPC. This combination brings the most current information directly from the authorities, all working together for a unified front.

Fortunately for Woodsiders, EPIc, formerly CERPP, is the parent nonprofit entity of WPV-Ready and WPV-CERT. WPV-Ready (Woodside Portola Valley - Ready) is the local emergency preparedness organization. They formed under the belief that you are the help until help arrives. With guidance from the Town and WFPD, it encourages "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" by providing tools to help residents organize and prepare for disasters.

ACTION ITEM FOR ALL WOODSIDERS



[WPV-Ready.org](https://www.wpv-ready.org) is 'THE' website that provides the most comprehensive local information to help you, your family, and your community to prepare in advance. Please find out how you can stay informed before and during a disaster and what to do in case of an evacuation.

Learn more at [WPV-Ready.org](https://www.wpv-ready.org)



All residents are highly encouraged to register on this website and access the tools to rate their preparedness and connect with Community Leaders.

Sign up directly at [WPV-Ready.org/Registration](https://www.wpv-ready.org/Registration)

SAVE THE DATE

Town of Woodside Volunteer Engagement Fair

June 6, 2023
4:30-6:00 p.m.

Independence Hall
2955 Woodside Rd

Interested in getting more involved with the Town? Join us on Tuesday, June 6, to talk to members of Woodside's volunteer committees and explore opportunities to be engaged with your Town!



WOODSIDE PORTOLA VALLEY-COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Our communities' resiliency depends on our ability to care for each other immediately after major emergency events.

A large earthquake could quickly isolate us for two weeks. You can act by getting to know your neighbors and discussing how to work together. Simple steps can make a huge difference, even lifesaving. Additionally, if you want to learn more about becoming a Community Leader or have questions, email organize@wpv-ready.org.

WPV-CERT (Woodside Portola Valley-Community Emergency Response Team) is a FEMA-guided response team and disaster training group that works alongside WPV-Ready and the WFPD. Through donations, the WPV-CERT mobile command center and response unit trailers were launched into action and are now ready when needed. You may have seen one of the trailers around Town, including at events such as the Woodside Elementary School PTA May Day Parade and the Woodside Recreation Committee's Fun Run first aid station.

As commercial cell towers continue to go down, WPV-CERT has established its unique radio system (with weekly practices) that can connect to the Town, to other CERTs, WFPD, and to San Mateo County emergency resources. You can find out more at WPV-CERT.org.

With generous donations and hundreds of volunteer hours, a communications tower at the Easter Cross base in Emerald Hills was installed. This new system, with a premium backup battery, completes a system of UHF repeaters that provide superior coverage of the fire district and beyond. WPV-CERT also operates a private digital radio system and counts a number of amateur radio operators (HAMs) as its members.

With close direction from the EPC, the Town recently upgraded its emergency radio system. Now, the Town has its way of communicating with the WPV-CERTs, WFPD, local Sheriffs, and San Mateo County anytime, specifically

during a disaster. The Town's staff is currently training on the new radio communications system with GMRS and HAM frequencies.

The EPC has helped the Town to establish itself as the Woodside Town Emergency Center if need be. During the recent storms, the Town Center opened an all-night storm relief "Temporary Evacuation Point" and hosted a sandbag filling station. Important alerts, including flooding closures and other helpful information, were sent through the signups on the WPV-Ready website.

In addition to signing up through WPV-Ready, the EPC encourages every homeowner to partake in money-saving and house-saving programs like the Firewise USA program, and the Town's "Defensible Space and Home Hardening Matching Fund Program." These programs are helping home insurance companies provide newly-required discounts.

Finally, signing up for SMC Alert is a must for all informed Woodsiders! It is the primary source of official emergency alerts. SMC Alert has moved to a new and better service. If you have not visited them in the last few months (or at all), visit them at SMCAAlert.info and enjoy all the new options.



<https://wpv-ready.org>
email: organize@wpv-ready.org

FIND INFORMATION AT

Ultimately, every citizen should do their part in being prepared and informed. Help us all be safer by getting connected to our resources today.

The Town of Woodside EPC meets on the second Wednesday at 5:30 pm.

TOWN PROJECTS SPOTLIGHT

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS

2022 ROAD REHABILITATION PROJECT

The 2022 Road Rehabilitation project included approximately 0.8 miles of new asphalt pavement, 2.4 miles of microsurfacing, 1,000 linear feet of asphalt trail repaving, new pavement striping and markings, and incidental work on twelve streets throughout the Town. Construction was completed between July and November 2022.



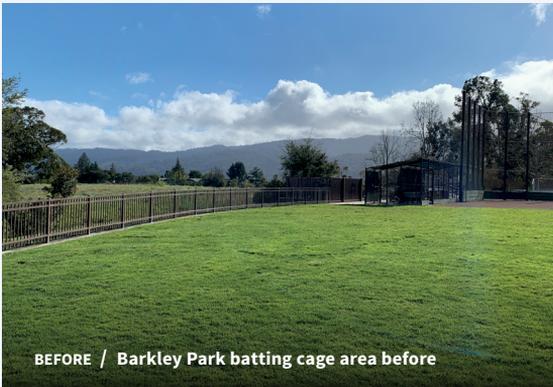
BEFORE / Miramontes Road before construction



AFTER / Miramontes Road after construction

BARKLEY PARK BATTING CAGE

In time for opening day, a 14' wide by 60' long by 12' tall chain link batting cage was constructed along the first base line at Barkley Fields and Park for use by Alpine Little League and other sports leagues that utilize the baseball fields. The project was constructed from July to December 2022 and supported by a State Proposition 68 grant.



BEFORE / Barkley Park batting cage area before



AFTER / Barkley Park batting cage area after

PORTOLA ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

The Portola Road Bridge Replacement Project replaced the original 22' wide bridge with a new 30' wide bridge to address structural deficiencies and deterioration and provide wider shoulders for vehicle/cyclist safety and space for a future multi-use path. Construction commenced in June 2021 and was completed December 2021.



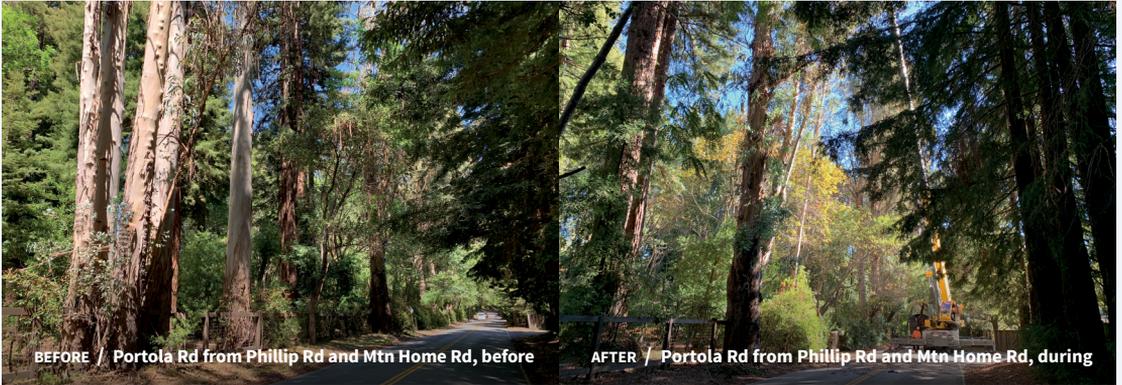
BEFORE / Portola Rd west of Phillip Rd during construction



AFTER / Portola Rd west of Phillip Rd after construction

PORTOLA ROAD EUCALYPTUS TREE REMOVAL

This project removed seven medium/large sized eucalyptus trees along Portola Road between Mountain Home Road and Phillip Road that were deemed hazardous by the Woodside Fire Protection District. The project was completed in late 2022.



UPCOMING PROJECTS

GLENS PATH PHASE 2 AND PHASE 3

The Glens Path Phase 2 and Phase 3 Project will construct a 4' wide walking path along Glenwood Avenue from Canada Road to Ridge Road. The completion of the project along with the already-completed Phase 1 project on Hillside Drive from Alta Mesa to Glenwood Avenue, will provide a continuous path along Glenwood Avenue/Hillside Drive, Canada Road to Alta Mesa Road. Construction is anticipated to occur in Summer 2023.



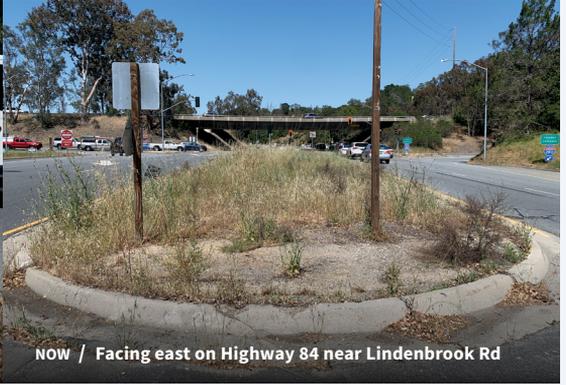
HIGHWAY 84 & KINGS MOUNTAIN ROAD CROSSWALK

This project will install crosswalks across Kings Mountain Road and Woodside Road at the Kings Mountain Road/Woodside Road intersection. The crosswalk of Woodside Road will have solar-powered push button controlled light beacons for increased visibility. High visibility signage and stenciling will also be installed. Construction is expected to occur in Spring/Summer 2023.



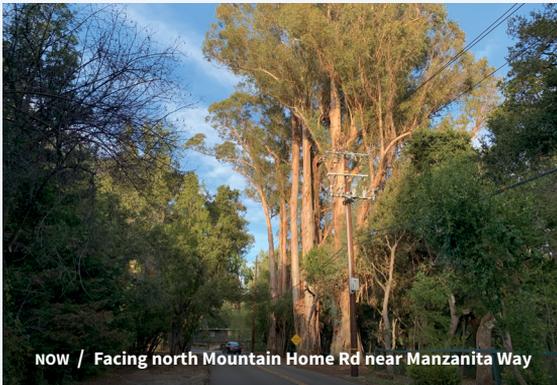
HIGHWAY 84 MEDIAN LANDSCAPING

This project will landscape the medians on Woodside Road within Caltrans right of way just west of I-280 across from the Caltrans Park and Ride Lot. The landscape design includes decorative permeable pavers and native, drought tolerant plants interspersed with natural boulders. Plants include manzanita, rockrose, coffeeberry and coastal gum. The project was initially conceived by the Woodside Landscape Committee with generous support from the Woodside Community Foundation. Construction is anticipated to commence in March 2023.



MOUNTAIN HOME ROAD EUCALYPTUS TREE REMOVAL

Eight eucalyptus trees within the public right of way along the east side of Mountain Home Road between the Mountain Home Road Bridge and Manzanita Way are planned for removal. The trees are immediately above and adjacent to PG&E power lines and thus have been designated for removal by the Woodside Fire Protection District. The project is expected to commence in Spring 2023.



ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to the new Planning Director!



Sage Schaan, AICP CEP, started with the Town as a Senior Planner in July 2008. Since then, he has been promoted to Principal Planner, Deputy Planning Director, and Interim Planning Director. We are fortunate to have such an experienced and knowledgeable professional leading the Planning Department for the Town.

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Submitted by Thomas M. Johnson, Co-Chair

What is the primary purpose of your committee?

The Woodside Arts and Culture Committee (or “WACC” as it is affectionately known) was founded on the belief that bringing people together for the collective enjoyment of cultural programs and activities strengthens our community. At the heart of what we do is the First Friday Series, a multi-faceted range of performances and presentations that take place on the first Friday evening of every month in the year.



What is an exciting project your committee has worked on recently?

When the pandemic hit, our committee members and presenters immediately started making the transition to the Zoom format. This happened almost literally overnight and we were able to continue bringing programs and a much-needed sense of connection to our community. The change in format also led to the creation of our own YouTube channel, which means you never have to miss a First Friday!

One of the recent highlights of the First Friday series was an in-depth conversation with the Honorable Judge LaDoris Cordell. Another was a guided tour of the Sistine Chapel ceiling with noted local artist, Jim Caldwell.

What is a project that your committee is looking forward to working on in the future?

We will be resuming our in-person events very soon. Our audience will also have the option of attending “live” via Zoom as well as the convenience of catching our programs on YouTube. (The only down side to the latter two is missing out on the free wine and appetizers that are enjoyed by the live audience!)

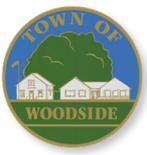
In the coming months, there will be presentations by the irreplaceable Tyler MacNiven of Buck’s Restaurant, Filoli’s esteemed Director of Horticulture, Jim Salyards, and a new exhibit of the Woodside Plein Aire Painters.

How would you describe the ideal committee member?

Our committee is made up of people with a wide range of interests, capabilities and expertise—just like our community! We have artists, tech wizards, business professionals, college students, rocket scientists, teachers, musicians, writers, photographers, naturalists, gardeners and more. The ideal committee member is someone who is passionate about bringing cultural programs to our community and who has a willingness to do what it takes to make it happen.



Above: Past First Friday Event flyers; Below: Backyard Habitat Award; “For Rent”; Shaq’s ears and eye.



TOWN OF WOODSIDE

2955 Woodside Road
Woodside, CA 94062

(650) 851-6790

Storm Preparedness

The series of storms from late December 2022 through mid-January 2023 brought heavy rains to Woodside. The storms caused downed trees, road closures, landslides, blocked culverts, and other impacts, and caused significant flooding and structural damage to some public and private property. The Town, State, and Federal governments have formally declared the storms a disaster, creating the possibility for public and private reimbursement for qualifying storm-related expenses.

Because the vast majority of the land area in Woodside is private, most of the drainage systems in the Town are private. These systems include roof and area drains, surface drainage via sheetflow or swales, above and underground pipes, channels and creeks. The under-driveway pipes in the street that were installed by property owners are also private.

With the exception of the driveway pipes, the drainage system along Town roads, within the

public right of way, and within storm drain easements held by the Town on private property are generally the Town's responsibility. Property owners are responsible for maintaining the drainage systems on their private property. Since the public and private drainage systems are interconnected, it is important that everyone do their part to keep these systems well maintained, particularly right before and during storm events.

Storm related maintenance includes clearing any blockages of debris (primarily sediment, rocks, logs, and vegetation) in pipes, channels, and creeks, and continuously clearing debris at the inlets to these systems during storm events as more debris comes down and enters them during the storm. Water barriers and line drains can be installed at the entrances to driveways to minimize the amount of water that flows down them. That is particularly important for properties whose driveways slope downhill from the road.

If residents have any questions regarding storm maintenance by the Town on public property or private maintenance on their private property, they can contact the Town's Public Works Department at 650-851-6790.



COVER PHOTO /
Full Creekbed
by Sean Rose