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City of Rio Dell October 2017 Newsletter

What is Measure X?

675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA. 95562
City Hall: (707) 764-3532
Police Department: (707) 764-5641

City Council Meetings: The City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The City encourages residents to attend the meetings.

City Council Members: Mayor Frank Wilson, Debra Garnes, Gordon Johnson, Tim Marks and Sue Strahan.

Planning Commission Meetings: The Planning Commission meets the fourth Tuesday of each month. The Commission meets at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Planning Commission Members: Chairperson Nick Angeloff, Arnie Kemp, Melissa Marks, Brian Richter, Mike Strahan, Julie Woodall



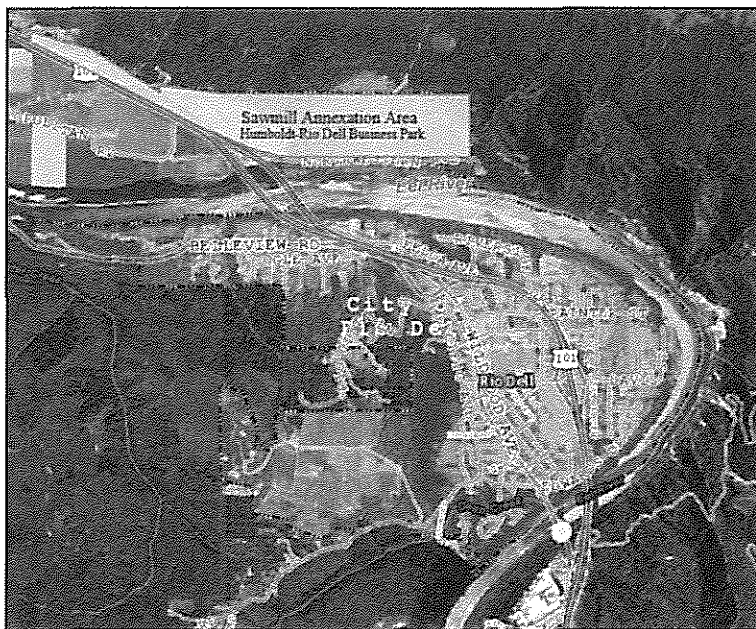
In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in any meeting at City Hall, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (707) 764-3532. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to the meeting.

MEASURE-X CANNABIS BUSINESS TAX



On November 7th Rio Dell voters will have an opportunity to approve Measure-X. Measure-X is a proposed excise tax to be levied on the cannabis businesses located at the Humboldt-Rio Dell Business Park, formerly known as Eel River Sawmills.

The City Council approved Ordinance No. 348-2017 in October of last year. The Ordinance established Section 17.30.195, Commercial Medical Cannabis Regulations. All cannabis activities are restricted to the Humboldt-Rio Dell Business Park (Sawmill Annexation Area).



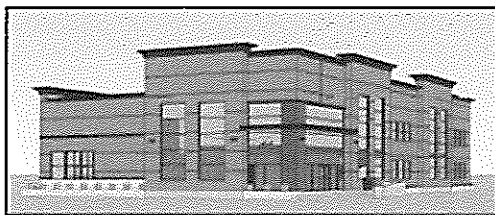
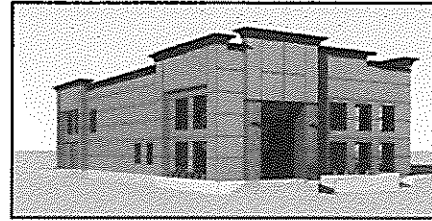
The Council has set high expectations for the development of the Humboldt-Rio Dell Business Park. All new development is subject to the City's Design Review Regulations, including the following Guiding Principles:

- To encourage high quality land/site planning, architecture and landscape design;
- To ensure physical, visual, and functional compatibility between uses; and
- To ensure proper attention is paid to site and architectural design, thereby protecting land values.

The City expects that the redevelopment of the former mill site will result in a premier business park that the City and the region can be proud of. The redevelopment is also expected to

create between 100 and 150 new jobs. In addition, as part of the redevelopment of the site a legacy brownfield will be cleaned-up.

The Planning Commission has already approved three cannabis activity permits for approximately 20,000 square feet of cultivation activity and it's expected that another 100,000 square feet of cultivation permits will be requested. As part of the implementing Ordinance, the City Council elected to set the initial tax rate at \$2.00 per square foot for all commercial cultivation activity.



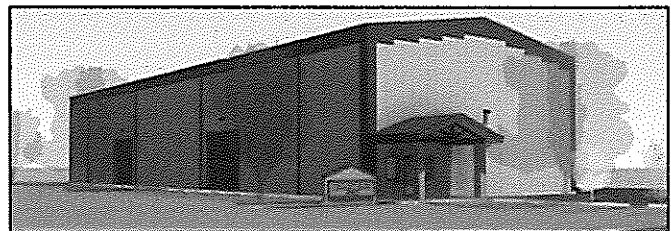
In addition, the Planning Commission has approved applications for manufacturing oils, concentrates, creams and other cannabis products, a testing laboratory, a tissue culture nursery, research and development, packaging, processing and distribution operations. The City Council set the initial rate for

these activities at 2% of gross receipts. It's conservatively estimated that the annual potential revenue will be around \$980,000.

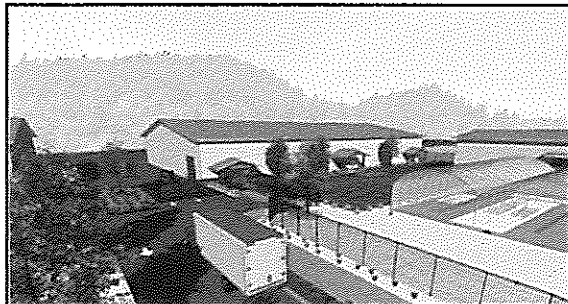


PMD Inc. Proposed Approved Project

Revenues generated from Measure "X" can go towards the City's infrastructure, including streets and parks. The funds can be used to preserve and build up our Police Department and spur additional economic development. The tax proceeds would be subject to the same independent annual audit requirements as other general fund revenue.



Wendt/GreenHeart Enterprises Building



Rio Dell Holdings LLC

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Measure "X" is a comprehensive tax on all aspects of the emerging legal commercial cannabis industry. The tax will only be levied on city approved commercial cannabis operators and not on the general public.

Measure X will help fund basic City services such as street reconstruction and public safety and will help spur additional economic development outside of the cannabis industry.

In 2016, the City Council rezoned the former Eel River Sawmills (now known as the Humboldt Rio Dell Business Park) to allow for tightly controlled commercial cannabis activity at the unused industrial site. This location is far away from residential areas of the City but is within the city limits. Interest in the site has gained tremendous momentum with 50,000 square feet of development already through the Planning Commission. The site is expected to create **100 jobs** and another 50 could be possible. This is the largest economic development activity in Rio Dell's history with over \$8,000,000 in new development.

Under State law, cities and counties are allowed and encouraged to pass revenue measures on cannabis to help fund services to the broader community. Many have already passed such measures. Rio Dell is uniquely positioned to reap tremendous benefits from this emerging legal industry, with estimated revenues of **\$980,000 annually**.

Revenues generated from Measure "X" can go towards the city's infrastructure, including streets and parks. The funds can be used to preserve and build up our Police Department and spur additional economic development. The funds can even be used to *lower your sales taxes* without diminishing public services.

Without Measure "X" the broader community will reap no benefit from these legal developments.

Your **YES** vote will show your support for protecting and enhancing the interests, values and quality of life for the residents of Rio Dell.

Respectfully submitted,

/S/ Graham Hill, Ex Police Chief, City of Rio Dell

/S/ John Beauchaine, Interim Police Chief and President Rio Dell Police Officer Association

/S/ Shane Wilson, Rio Dell Resident

/S/ Frederick Charles Grundman, President Grundman's Sporting Goods

/S/ Linda G. Barsanti, Rio Dell Resident

* This argument was submitted to the County Office of Elections and appears in ballot material for the election and is submitted for informational purposes only. No argument against Measure X was submitted by the deadline.

CITY ATTORNEY'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE "X"

The City Council is submitting to the voters the question of whether to approve an ordinance enacting a tax on commercial cannabis activity within the City of Rio Dell to fund City services and facilities, such as improving police protection, repairing streets and potholes, and improving other City services and facilities.

The ordinance creates a range of tax rates the City Council may impose from time to time. For persons authorized by permit to engage in commercial cannabis cultivation, the tax rate is either: (a) \$0.00 to \$5.00 for each square foot of cultivation space allowed by the permit or (b) 0% to 10% of the business' gross receipts. As part of the ordinance, the City Council elected to set the initial tax rate at \$2.00 per square foot for all commercial cultivation activity, except for persons authorized by permit to operate a nursery, who will be taxed at the rate of 2% of gross receipts. For all other authorized commercial cannabis activity within the City, the tax rate range is 0% to 10% of the business' gross receipts. As part of the ordinance, the City Council elected to set the initial tax rate at 2% of gross receipts.

If the ordinance is approved, the City Council retains the discretion to adjust the applicable tax rate within the range of rates in the future without seeking voter approval. The City Council may not, however, increase the tax rate more than once per calendar year and may not increase the currently imposed rate by more than \$1.00 per square foot or 2% of gross receipts at a time.

The proposed ordinance imposes a tax only upon those persons engaged in commercial cannabis activity under a permit issued by the City. The tax is not imposed upon persons cultivating cannabis for their personal use.

The tax proceeds would be deposited into the City's general fund and be available to support the full range of municipal services. Because this measure does not legally restrict the use of tax revenue to any specific purposes, it is classified as a "general tax," not a "special tax." The tax proceeds cannot legally be taken away by the State. The tax proceeds would be subject to the same independent annual audit requirements as other general fund revenue. The audit report would be a matter of public record.

A "Yes" vote is a vote in favor of the tax. A "No" vote is a vote against the tax. This measure would be approved if it receives a simple majority of "Yes" votes.

/S/ Russell S. Gans
City Attorney for the City of Rio Dell

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure "X". If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the Elections Official's office at (707) 445-7481 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

Animal Control



The Rio Dell Police Department is working with Miranda's Animal Rescue. How we receive animals is still the same and we would like to remind community members animals should not be taken directly to the rescue, but must be brought to the police department. In those instances when there is not an officer at the office, there is a phone at the front door of the police department that will connect you directly to our dispatch service. The dispatcher will assist you in getting in touch with the on-duty officer. Animals brought directly to the rescue without approval of the police department that are from Rio Dell will not be accepted by the rescue. Officers will also respond to pick a dog up when called.

We would also like to take this opportunity to inform community members we are going to take a more proactive approach to animal control this year, particularly with licensing. If you live in city limits and have a dog, the dog is **required** to be licensed. A new license is required **each year** and the license is valid from July 1st through June 30. The license fee for dogs that are spayed or neutered is \$12.00 and the fee for unaltered dogs is \$25.00. We encourage all dog owners to spay or neuter your animals. Licensing can be accomplished at the police department Monday through Thursday between 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM.

Remember it is your responsibility to maintain your dog on your property. While a fence is ideal if it's an outdoor dog, a dog run is also an appropriate way to keep your dog on your property. California law has certain restrictions regarding tethering your dog (California Health and Safety Code 122335). I encourage you to read the full text of the law which is available on line or we can provide you with a copy at the police department. In summary you must not tether your dog to a stationary object unless it is for a reasonable period of time (not exceeding three hours during a 24 hour period).

We have also responded to a number of complaints this year for barking dogs. It is the owner's responsibility to keep their dog reasonably quiet. It has been our experience that dogs left alone for long periods of time are the typical offenders when it comes to barking dogs. For many reasons, barking being only one of them, we encourage people not to leave their dogs unattended for long periods of time.

If you would like more information about animal control laws in our community feel free to come by the police department and we would be glad to answer any questions or provide you with information.

City Council Adopts Personal Cannabis Cultivation Regulations



Proposition 64, the Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA) was approved and became effective November 9, 2016. AUMA legalizes the use of recreational cannabis and creates a State regulatory and licensing system for commercial cultivation, testing, manufacturing and distribution of nonmedical marijuana.

AUMA allows persons 21 years of age or older to possess, plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process not more than six (6) living cannabis plants and possess the cannabis produced by the plants. The City Council adopted Ordinance No. 358-2017 on August 15, 2017. The Ordinance establishes regulations regarding the personal cultivation of cannabis.

In order to eliminate the potential nuisance and health and safety impacts to the greatest extent possible, residential cannabis cultivation and processing for personal use shall be in conformance with the following standards. *Please note that staff will be recommending some minor amendments to allow cultivation in a residence (per State law), excluding kitchens and bathrooms and restricting the cultivation area to no more than 50 square feet.*

- Outdoor cultivation, greenhouse cultivation and cultivation in a residence is prohibited; and
- Indoor cannabis cultivation shall be limited to detached accessory buildings and shall not exceed six (6) plants and one-hundred-fifty (150) square feet or less per residence on a parcel. The maximum allowed interior ceiling height is ten (10) feet; and
- The cannabis cultivation and processing area shall be indoors and secured against unauthorized entry; and
- Grow lights for cannabis cultivation shall not overload the capacity of the branch circuits; and
- All electrical equipment used in the indoor cultivation of cannabis shall be plugged directly into a wall outlet or otherwise hardwired. The use of extension cords to supply power to electrical equipment used in the residential cultivation of cannabis is prohibited. Any electrical or mechanical may require a Building Permit; and
- The use of gas products (CO₂, butane, etc.) for indoor cannabis cultivation is prohibited; and
- No toxic or flammable fumigant shall be used for indoor cultivation unless the requirements of Section 1703 of the California Fire Code have been met; and

- No odor of cannabis shall be detectable from the property boundaries by a person of ordinary senses. To achieve this, the cultivation area shall be, at a minimum, mechanically ventilated with a carbon filter or other superior method to prevent the odor of cannabis from escaping the indoor cultivation area and negatively impacting neighbors and the surrounding community. Ventilation systems shall be installed in a manner that facilitates decommissioning and a return of the cultivation area to non-cultivation uses; and
- From a public right of way, neighboring properties, or neighboring housing units, there shall be no auditory evidence of the cultivation that is detectable by a person of ordinary senses; and
- Cannabis cultivation, processing, or transfers are prohibited as a Home Occupation; and
- No sale, trading, or dispensing of cannabis is allowed on a parcel where cultivation of cannabis occurs; and
- All waste materials shall be disposed of properly. No effluent, including but not limited to waste products, chemical fertilizers or pesticides shall be discharged into drains, septic systems, community sewer systems, water systems or other drainage systems including those that lead to rivers and streams as a result of the cultivation of cannabis; and
- The cultivation of cannabis shall not adversely affect the health or safety of residents, neighbors, or nearby businesses by creating dust, glare, heat, noise, noxious gasses, odor, smoke, traffic, vibration, or other impacts, or be hazardous due to use or storage of materials, processes, products or wastes associated with the cultivation of cannabis; and
- The indoor personal recreational cultivation of cannabis must comply with all applicable state and county laws, including fire and building codes; and
- A waterproof membrane or other waterproof barrier shall be installed to protect the floor of the indoor cultivation area from water damage.
- Cultivation areas must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.
- An annual Permit and Acknowledgement is required. The applicant shall be required to pay the Life-Safety Inspection Fee in effect at that time.

- Upon proper notification consent to a minimum of one additional on-site compliance inspection annually to be conducted by appropriate City officials during regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, excluding holidays). The applicant shall be required to pay the Life-Safety Inspection Fee in effect at that time.

Continued Misuse of Publicly Available Recycling Containers



Eel River Disposal and the City of Rio Dell provide a recycling container in back of City Hall free of charge for residents with recyclable materials. The container is picked up once a week and its contents are recycled through the City's contract with Eel River Disposal. Unfortunately, we have seen a growing trend of people misusing this service. Materials that are not recyclable are being placed into the recycling container, creating a lack of space for users who have recyclable materials. Sometimes this garbage is not even placed inside the container, but instead it is strewn around the container, making the removal and emptying of the container unnecessarily time consuming and potentially dangerous. Some of the inappropriate dumping's has included material such as mattresses, batteries, furniture, used oil, diapers, clothing and styrofoam.



Not Acceptable to Recycle

- ◆ Auto/Mirror or Tinted Glass
- ◆ Blueprints / Overhead Transparencies
- ◆ Carpeting
- ◆ Clothing
- ◆ Hazardous Waste or Containers
- ◆ Crystal / Glassware / Dinnerware
- ◆ Disposable Diapers
- ◆ Light Bulbs or Fluorescent Tubes
- ◆ Metal or Steel Objects: Nails, Wires, Etc.
- ◆ Paper Towels, Napkins or Facial Tissue
- ◆ Shrink-Wrap
- ◆ Pyrex or other Ovenware
- ◆ Styrofoam
- ◆ Wax Coated Cardboard
- ◆ Hypodermic Needles

Remember, it's important to: Rinse food from containers and remove lids. Break down all large items to maximize space. And, to not place items in front of the recycling container, blocking access.

City to Update Addresses

751

This winter the City will begin updating and correcting property addresses throughout the City. There are a significant number of addresses that are out of sequence throughout the City. Emergency responders rely on a uniform numbering system to help find locations when an emergency arises. In addition to being out of sequential order, there are both odd and even addresses on the same side of the street. The City realizes this may be an inconvenience to some, but in the end it could save lives, maybe yours or a loved one.



The City will be starting with the Avenue's Neighborhood (First, Second, Third and Fourth Avenues). The address must be placed on the residence and shall be legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property.

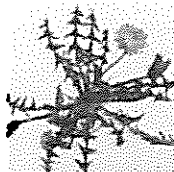


Addresses shall be shown in numbers only and not spelled out. Each number shall be at least 4 inches in height and at least ½ inch in height. The numbers shall contrast with their background. Property owners and occupants shall permanently install the numbers within thirty (30) days of being notified. Those who fail to display the assigned address could be subject to administrative penalties. Again, the intent of updating and correcting addresses is to ensure that emergency personnel can find the location of the emergency in a timely manner. This effort is supported by the Rio Dell Police Department, the Rio Dell Fire Protection District and local ambulance providers. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Karen Dunham, City Clerk at (707) 764-3532.

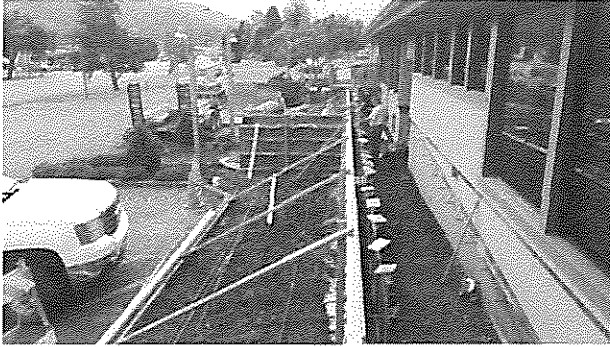


Help Clean Up Rio Dell!

Many of the complaints the City receives each year concern overgrown weeds sprouting in cracks and seams along the sidewalks and curbs of Rio Dell. You can have a positive impact on this situation by spending just a few minutes each year plucking, spraying and otherwise combating these nuisances in front of your home. This helps lift up your neighborhood and improve home values. Under Rio Dell Municipal Code §17.30.310 property owners are responsible to maintain sidewalk facilities and bear all liability associated with dangerous conditions such as trip hazards.



CITY HALL ADA ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS



City Hall's old porch is in the process of being replaced with an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliant structure. The project is made possible primarily through CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds with a small contribution from the City. We apologize for any disruption in access to City Hall while this project is underway.

| PHASE | DESCRIPTION | PHASE COMPLETION | ALTERNATIVE ACCESS |
|-------|----------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | City Hall Main Entrance | 9/18-10/5 | Use Council Chamber Entrance |
| 2 | Council Chamber Entrance | 10/5-11/10 | Use Main Entrance |
| 3 | Police Department Entrance | 11/10-12/8 | Use Main Entrance |

During phase 1 the DROP BOX is not available for payments or other correspondence. If you need assistance accessing City Hall please call 707-764-3532. Thank you for your patience.



Help Prevent Sewage Spills into the Eel River

Used water from our toilets, sinks, showers and washing machines travels from our homes and businesses through a complex maze under city streets to a treatment plant, where bacteria and pollutants are removed before the water is sent into the Eel River. Along the way, a lot can go wrong, potentially spewing dirty wastewater into basements, city streets and waterways. The City's Wastewater plant during dry weather receives about 200,000 gallons a day to treat. During storm events the plant frequently treats 1 to 2.5 million gallons per day, depending on the amount of rain. These storms cause a huge stress on the collection system because the piping was not designed to handle storm runoff, just the sewer flows.



Here's how you can help prevent sewage spills:

In Your Home

- **Minimize water use when it's raining.** Wait to wash clothes or run the dishwasher until the rain stops to lessen the burden on the sanitary system. Reduce water use by installing low-flow toilets and shower heads, and turn off the water when you shave or brush your teeth.
- **Dispose of household chemicals and automotive fluids properly – not down household drains or curbside storm drains.** Anything you put down sinks and storm drains can end up in local creeks and the river or ocean.
- **Don't put fats, oils or grease down the drain.** These substances clog both your plumbing and the sewer system, causing backups.
 - Pour cooled fats, oils and grease into a can with a lid, or mix it with an absorbent material such as cat litter, and put it in the trash.
 - Wipe down greasy pans and dishes with a paper towel. Dispose of the paper towel in your kitchen scrap recycling or in the garbage.
 - Don't use hot water or the garbage disposal to wash grease down the drain. Water cools through the pipes, causing the grease to harden into clogs further along in the sewer system.

- Drop off large amounts of cooking oil – like used oil from a turkey fryer – at grease recycling locations.

On Your Property

- **Inspect your sewer cleanout.** The cleanout typically is a small pipe, about 4 inches in diameter, used to access the lateral line for cleaning. Make sure the cap to the cleanout pipe is on and has not been damaged and replace it, if necessary, to prevent rain water from entering the sewer system.
- **Have your household sewer line inspected and replaced if necessary (or urge your landlord to do so).** A lateral line connects the pipes in your house to the main city sewer pipes. Lateral lines are often old and frequently cause sewer backups from blockages or tree roots.
- **Avoid planting trees and shrubs near your household sewer line.** Plant roots are one of the most common causes of lateral line problems.
- **Eliminate any connections between your storm sewer pipes and sanitary sewer pipes.** Disconnect downspouts and sump pumps if they are connected to the sanitary sewer system. These connections cause spills and are illegal. This seems to be a common occurrence in Rio Dell so please disconnect.
- **Consider installing a gray water system to capture and reuse nearly-clean water for your garden.**

If you are experiencing any sewer backup issues please call City Hall at 707-764-3532 and they will get the Public Works staff to come out to your location. Staff will see if it's a problem we can fix on the City's side or we will let you know if you need to call a plumber.

Do you need a regular and convenient garbage pickup service?

Recology Eel River provides cost effective Garbage and Recycling services to Rio Dell!

Give them a call at **707-725-5156** to see how they can help.

Rio Dell Community Resource Center

We offer a wide variety of services, classes, support groups, referral and health information, and workshops geared toward every member and age group in our Rio Dell community. The Community Resource Center is a non-profit community outreach services of St. Joseph Health-Humboldt County. Services of the Resource Center are available to all community residents, regardless of age, sex, religious affiliation, economic status, or cultural background.

99 Wildwood Ave.

Rio Dell, CA 95562

707-764-5239

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00 Fridays by appointment only.

Commodities:

3rd Thursday of the month, from 10:00-2:00
The Bread For Life Pantry commodities will be the 3rd Thursday of the month (October 19th) from 10-2. If you can't make it on Thursday, please call the Rio Dell Community Resource Center to see how you can still receive your monthly food box.

**We will have a FREE FLU SHOT CLINIC from 11-1 this month.

Emergency Food:

Running low on food this week? Come in and get a bag for your family or just for yourself; no income verification needed.

CalFresh/CalWorks:

Are you currently enrolled in CalFresh or CalWorks? Do you know if you are eligible for either program? Come down to the Rio Dell Community Resource Center and find out how to qualify and apply for both programs. You can also apply for CalFresh, CalWorks and MediCal at www.cyourself.com.

Storytime:

Storytime will be restarting on October 2nd!! Families with Children 0-5 years old are welcome to join us in the Eagle Prairie library room, Mondays from 8:20-9:20. We will develop childhood literacy through stories and crafts. Snack is also provided.

First Five Playgroup:

We have our First Five Playgroup on Fridays, in the Early Head Start classroom (95 Center St), from 10:00-12:00. We have a new Playgroup Leader named Nicole and she's so excited to meet our community families!

Holiday Assistance Sign-Ups:

Rio Dell Community Resource Center will be partnering with other county-wide resources to assist our community with holiday assistance again this year. If you are in need of help with getting toys for your kids, or food for yourself, please come see us; we will not sign you up over the phone.

**Slots are limited and we will be working on a first-come first-serve basis, so hurry in.

Rio Dell Participates in Community Choice Energy

On November 15, 2016 the Rio Dell City Council passed Ordinance No. 345-2016 joining the Community Choice Energy program administered by the Redwood Coast Energy Authority (RCEA). The Council's action followed the results of an informal community survey issued by the City wherein 86% of respondents were favorable to the City's participation in Community Choice Energy.

To learn more about Community Choice Energy, visit:

<http://cce.redwoodenergy.org/>

Or, call 1 (800) 931-RCEA



Please visit www.redwoodtransit.org to find Northbound and Southbound schedules!

We live in *EARTHQUAKE* country. Are you prepared?

Basic Emergency Checklist:

- Bottled Potable Water (1 gallon per person per day)
- First Aid Kit
- Battery Powered Radio
- Rain Gear / Plastic Sheeting
- Fire Extinguisher
- Medication
- Flashlight / Lighting
- Wrench (to turn off gas)
- Plan if separated from children / dependents
- 3 day food supply (infant, animal etc.)
- Bucket
- Regular bleach

Abandoned Vehicles

Abandoned vehicles stored on private property or on public streets are unsightly and contribute to neighborhood blight. Any vehicle left parked in the same spot on the street for more than 72 hours is in violation according to Ord. 173 §§ 33-11.050, 1983.

If you believe there is an abandoned vehicle on a public street in your area, please let us know.

Call (707) 764-5642 or drop by City Hall to fill out a complaint.



DHHS MOBILE OUTREACH

The second Wednesday of every month...



... at the Fire Department.

Mental Health Services

CalFresh

Referrals

Medi-Cal

Assessments

CalWorks/Welfare to Work

Counseling

Fresh Produce Distribution

Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department

Wednesday, October 11

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, please call (707) 441-5010

City of Rio Dell • 675 Wildwood Avenue • Rio Dell, CA. • 95562 • (707) 764-3532