

Rancho San Clemente

Community Association

www.rsgca.com

Spring
2019
Newsletter

Spring is Here

The rains have replenished RSCCA with an abundance of new plant growth. Along with a flourish of beautiful African daisies, cape honeysuckle, and other planned landscaping, comes a resurgence of watershed vegetation covering RSCCA's non-irrigated Open Space areas classified as Very Severe High Fire Zones. Prior to the rain events, RSCCA reduced the vegetation in these areas in compliance with OCFA regulations; and due to robust growth, RSCCA will be revisiting the areas to reduce the vegetation again. RSCCA has added new landscaping along Vista Montana and Calle Del Cerro, and Rio Lindo; and trimmed trees along Calle Del Cerro from Avenida Pico to Rancho Del Mar (formerly Avana).

Enjoy the northern migration of thousands of butterflies, namely "Painted Ladies," that have been seen throughout San Clemente in flight to the state of Washington.

Police Services

We have a new Police Chief— Lt. Edward Manhart

Protocol to Report Trespassing & Police Services

Call Police Dispatch: (949) 770-6011, press 1, then 9, and 1 for dispatch.

You may send a follow-up email to Deputy David Zill, Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) liaison assigned to San Clemente:

Deputy Zill: dzill@ocsd.org Ph: 949 361-8224

Please copy emails to RSCCA c/o Sheryl Sharp, Curtis Management to:

Sheryl Sharp: ssharp@curtismanagement.com Ph: (949) 245-2753

Questions may be directed to Deputy Zill.

Neighborhood Watch

To prevent theft, please park your vehicles in your garage; and if you do not have a garage, remember to lock vehicles parked along the curbside. Thieves on electric bikes, which are quiet with speeds up to 28 mph, have been reported breaking into unlocked vehicles.

Contact Deputy Zill for guidance in organizing a Neighborhood Watch program for your Sub-Association.

Toll Road Update

RSCCA continues to fight construction of the Toll Road (Option 14) through our community. Photos of the worsening landslide on the bluff below St. Andrew's Church along Pico, have been provided to the City Council and TCA Board members, documenting that the unstable Monterey Land Formation is not a suitable pathway for construction of a toll road. RSCCA has shown "before and after" slide presentations as well as engineering reports at TCA board meetings.

To send email input to the TCA board, you may cut and paste the following list of emails into your address bar:

esponse@ocgov.com, tollroadinfo@san-clemente.org,
mmunzing@cityofalisoviejo.com, lisa.bartlett@ocgov.com, Doug.Chaffee@ocgov.com,
jmuller@danapoint.org, rviczorek@danapoint.org, fminagar@cityoflagunaniguel.org, svoigts@lakeforestca.gov, tkelley@cityofmissionviejo.org, tbeall@cityofrsm.org, bmaryott@sanjuancapistrano.org, cpuckett@tustinca.org, phuang@yorba-linda.org, Ryan.Chamberlain@dot.ca.gov, lkring@anaheim.net, councilman@markamurphy.com, Christinashea@cityofirvine.org, FergusonL@san-clemente.org, BaneD@san-clemente.org, katrina.foley@costamesaca.gov, janineheft@cox.net, dpenaloza@santa-ana.org, clerkoftheboard@thetollroads.com

AlertWildfire Cameras

To watch in real time from cameras stationed on the water tower at the south end of the Ridge Route Trail log onto alertwildfire.org and click on Rancho Carrillo 1 & 2. The cameras rotate around for a new image every 15 seconds. An article from Patch is included for interested parties.

Board of Directors

President: Vonne Barnes, Montego
Vice-President: Jerry Anderson, Villagio I
Treasurer: Marjie Butterworth, Vilamoura
Secretary: Ellen McGuirk, Brisa Del Mar
Director: Henry Lobdell, Harbor View
Meetings are on the second Thursday
each month at 6:00 pm at St. Andrews
Church, 2001 Calle Frontera, San
Clemente, CA 92672

Contact the Board

% Sheryl Sharp, Curtis Mgmt
• email: ssharp@curtismanagement.com
• Allegra Cody acody@cutismanagement.com
• Address: Curtis Management
5050 Ave. Encinas, Ste 160
Carlsbad, CA 92008
• Phone: 949 245-2753
• FX: 760-579-4501
• RSCCA: www.rscca.com
• Curtis Mgmt: www.curtismanagement.com

SC Times: ALERTWildfire Cameras

ALERTWildfire Cameras — There are 2 cameras at the south end of the Ridge Route Trail on the top of water towers.

Patch 3.9.19

High-Tech Cameras Keep Watch Over OC's Fire Prone Areas

Seventy of these high-tech cameras will keep a constant watch for smoke in some of South Orange County's hillsides.

ORANGE COUNTY, CA — It is a familiar story to Orange County residents: A thick column of smoke breaks out in the wildland. Maybe residents or fire watchers see and report it early enough, or perhaps the smoke goes unnoticed until Santa Ana winds fan embers into an unstoppable blaze.

As we have learned in Southern California, we are all at the mercy of wind-driven fire and as Orange County Fire Authority has told Patch in the past, "All you can do is get out of the way." The sooner officials know of a potential flare-up, the faster resources can set about extinguishing the fire, saving lives and property in the process.

Today, the University of San Diego and the University of Nevada, Reno, has released multi-hazard camera technology in the hopes of detecting fire as it occurs.

These high definition lenses that make up the ALERTWildfire Camera Network will connect fire departments from Orange County to San Diego, across California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and Idaho to enable time-lapse, high definition imagery that will help firefighters learn about active burn areas in record time. The 70 cameras in southern California, 160 total throughout the project area, have a pan-tilt-zoom function, as well as infrared night-vision for smoke detection at any hour, a UCSD spokesperson said.

In late fall, 2018, officials recruited "fire watchers" to keep an eye on the fire as it occurs. "Joining Orange County Fire Watch is one of the most crucial things a volunteer can do right now to protect Orange County's neighborhoods and open spaces from wildfire," said Orange County Fire Watch Program Manager, Tony Pointer (orangecountyfirewatch.org). "If we come together as a community to get involved

and try to reduce accidental or intentional human ignition sources, we can help preserve and protect Orange County's wilderness and the surrounding community."

Fire officials will have full control of the cameras to monitor fires, triangulate on fire locations at their earliest stages as well as to confirm 911 reports.

"Before the cameras, we relied on reports from fire agencies and the media, as well as on-scene observations by our crews to address wildfire activity in our service area," said Don Daigler, SCE's director of business resiliency, who helps oversee operations during wildfires, severe storms, and earthquakes.

"The fire-monitoring cameras provide real-time images that we can rely on to protect our customers, communities, and equipment from the ongoing threat of wildfires."

Orange County Fire Authority used the cameras, in cooperation with the university and So Cal Edison, for a pilot program in early summer, 2018. Just three months later, in August, Division Chief Brian Norton used those cameras to monitor the Holy Fire as it burned in the Santa Ana mountains.

According to Norton, the cameras showed "the likely time the Holy Fire originated," Norton said. The cameras documented a flare up near Santiago Peak.

"The true functionality of the ALERTWildfire camera network is realized when they are deployed in clusters as it allows for confirmation of 911 calls, situational awareness for first responders, and triangulation to determine the fire location", said Neal Driscoll, geosciences professor at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego and co-director of the project.

Though the infrastructure was originally designed to detect earthquakes, the fire watch system has already proved invaluable, according to officials. The cameras have discovered over 500 fires since their original installation.

Though winter of 2019 has doused Southern California with rain, wildland brush will follow over spring and summer. The Santa Ana winds will blow. The ALERTWildfire network will remain on active watch over the Orange County hillsides so that you can rest easier.

For more information, read: ucsdnews.ucsd.edu

