



MILLBRAE NEWS

A Bi-Weekly Newsletter from The City of Millbrae
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4 / SEPTEMBER 2, 2022



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MILLBRAE IN
YOUR SMART
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One More Week to Register for Millbrae's First Citizens Academy!

The City of Millbrae is excited to host its first Citizens Academy starting September 21, 2022. Applications for the program are being accepted until September 9, 2022, at 5:00 PM.

What makes our City great is the Millbrae community. Through collaboration with our residents, community members, and City staff, we are able to create a community that many enjoy visiting, working, and living in. The Citizen's Academy is designed to facilitate an interactive learning environment for residents of Millbrae to be involved in City Government. Citizen engagement plays a critical role in making public institutions more transparent, accountable, and effective and contributing innovative solutions to development challenges.

Through the Millbrae Citizens Academy, residents can learn from City Staff the inter-workings of the City's various departments and municipality government structure. We are excited to host this program and look forward to working alongside our community. Submit your application today by visiting the [Citizens Academy website](#).

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Transit Oriented Development Gateway at Millbrae Project Update:

The affordable apartments at the Gateway at Millbrae Station are approaching readiness to receive a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO). A TCO enables occupancy or partial occupancy of the building before the full building project is complete. In order to acquire a TCO, several inspections must take place to ensure the safety of residents within the building. The City of Millbrae Building Division has successfully accommodated over 5,000 inspections for the overall Gateway project. We are proud to share that our team has been able to fulfill every request. Our team accommodates hundreds of same-day re-inspections in order to further assist this project in a speedy completion. New residents will be able to move into the affordable apartments once the TCO is finalized. To apply for affordable housing, please visit, [The Rollins](#).

Moratorium on Synthetic Grass

The City of Millbrae currently has an Interim Ordinance temporarily placing a moratorium on the installation of artificial turf and synthetic grass within city limits.

It is known that certain types of artificial turf and synthetic grass can create a barrier that prohibits or severely limits the absorption of groundwater. This lack of absorption poses significant risks to the City's storm drain capacity and the overall capacity of the City's storm water system, which has been designed under flow analysis and projections that did not consider impermeable artificial turf and synthetic grass elements.

Additionally, impermeable artificial turf and synthetic grass severely limit groundwater recharge, which is essential to the City's ecosystem. There are numerous studies, including an ongoing study by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, showing that artificial turf and synthetic grass contain a wide range of chemicals, depending on their source materials, which have the capability to leach into the environment and cause irreparable damage to the City's ecosystem and watershed.

There are also many unknown health impacts of artificial turf and synthetic grass. The growing body of research shows that artificial turf and synthetic grass contain toxic chemicals, many of which are known carcinogens. The adoption of appropriate measures to contain the discharge of such chemicals is intended to be addressed in the standards to be developed during the moratorium.

These issues are compounded by the historic drought the state of California is currently facing. City staff is seeing significant increases in the removal of grass in yards in response to the City's and state's water shortage. Left unregulated, the installation of artificial turf and synthetic grass poses substantial risks to the public health, safety, and welfare of our residents. City staff encourages residents to consider drought-tolerant options as an alternative to synthetic grass and artificial turf when designing their future landscaping.





Allow us to introduce you to the Millbrae Parks Unit

Spur Trail



The City of Millbrae would like to introduce our community members to the Parks Unit and the vital work they complete for our Millbrae Community. The Parks Unit is in charge of the landscape maintenance and development of the City's open spaces. This responsibility includes thirteen parks, all the civic facilities, the Spur Trail, the medians and other urban landscaping, the Downtown and commercial areas, and thousands of trees throughout the city. These crews work tirelessly to make our city and community a beautiful place to live, visit, and work in.

In addition to their parks duties, the Parks Unit works with citizens to determine the condition of trees on private property and issues permits for trimming trees. The Unit also coordinates with the Recreation Unit in staging community events. During emergencies, the Parks Unit works with Public Works to meet the needs of the City of Millbrae. If you see our Parks Unit team be sure to say hello and thank these hardworking individuals that help make the City of Millbrae a city to be proud of!



It's Time to Be "Foodware Aware"!

Did you know that one of the biggest contributors to plastic pollution is the foodware that holds your next to-go meal? To address the problem of plastic pollution and protect public health, the City of Millbrae adopted the Disposable Foodware Ordinance that will start being enforced on October 1, 2022.

The Ordinance requires restaurants and other food facilities (e.g., farmer's markets, food trucks, push carts, cafeterias, groceries, etc.) to eliminate disposable plastic foodware and replace it with compostable alternatives made from natural fiber such as paper, sugarcane, or bamboo. Reusable foodware items are also highly encouraged. Cups, bowls, take-out containers, utensils, and straws are just some of the common disposable foodware items that are impacted by the new Ordinance.

If you need utensils, condiment packets, napkins, or other small side items (a.k.a. accessories) when ordering food, especially takeout, please remember to ask for them.

Make sure your favorite restaurants and other food facilities are aware of the new requirements. [Let the County of San Mateo's Foodware Aware Team know if they need assistance.](#)

Check out the [Foodware Aware Website](#) where you can learn more about the Ordinance.





ROAD SAFETY

SHARE THE ROAD AND BE AWARE!

On August 19, 2022, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office conducted a traffic safety operation. This operation focused on the most dangerous driver behaviors that put the safety of people biking or walking at risk.

During the operation, a total of forty-two citations were completed. The violations cited included cellphone use in the car, seatbelt violations, failing to yield to provide the right of way to bicyclists or pedestrians, failing to stop for signs and signals, speeding, and making illegal turns.

The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office offers steps drivers, and pedestrians can take to greatly reduce the risk of getting injured or in a crash:



September is National Preparedness Month and Central County Fire Department is highlighting a few ways to be prepared and stay informed for an emergency.

In the event of a large-scale emergency in our community, important information may need to be quickly sent to you from emergency responders. Subscribing to these public communication opportunities can help you receive the information you need:

- **SMCAAlert** – to receive local emergency or alert information. To register or update your contact information, go to www.smcalert.info.
- **"Know Your Zone"** – for emergency evacuation information. To find out what your zone your home is in, visit: www.myzone.zonehaven.com.
- Are you prepared with an emergency supply kit ready to use at a moment's notice? Visit www.ready.gov/kit for lists of items to keep in your kit. And don't forget to update or rotate supplies with expiration dates.



SAFETY FIRST

DRIVERS

- Follow the speed limit and slow down at intersections
- Stop for pedestrians at marked and unmarked crosswalks
- Never drive impaired

PEDESTRIANS

- Use crosswalks when available
- Be visible to drivers
- Do not walk or run into the path of a vehicle

BICYCLISTS

- Travel in the same direction of traffic
- If there is a bike lane use it
- Obey traffic laws and use hand signals
- Avoid the door zone



What's New in Millbrae Recreation!

For more information about activities and upcoming events, visit our website at bit.ly/milrec

Millbrae Cultural Arts Advisory Committee

MILLBRAE ART SHOW

CELEBRATING MILLBRAE & WHAT'S TO COME!

Are you interested in entering your artistic creations in the Millbrae Art Show?

The show is open to anyone who lives, works, or attends school in Millbrae.

October 21, 6:00-9:00 p.m. (hosted reception)

October 22, 12:00-6:00 p.m.

Millbrae Recreation Center, Great Hall

Registration available online at: bit.ly/mcaacartshow or in person at the Rec Center

Millbrae Recreation Center
477 Lincoln Circle
(650) 259-2360



Please join us for our 6-week "Tech Sessions"

September 8: Safe Internet Browsing

September 15: All About Apps

September 22: Zoom Basics

September 29: Protecting Against Identity Theft

October 6: Avoiding Phishing Scams

October 13: Email Setup

**OPEN TO
ADULTS 55+**

Please **RSVP:**
helpathand@peninsulafamilyservice.org
(650) 403-4300 ext. 4366

**Location: Millbrae Recreation Center, Senior Lounge
477 Lincoln Circle, Millbrae, CA 94030**

Time: 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

PRESENTED BY PENINSULA FAMILY SERVICE
www.peninsulafamilyservice.org

LUNCH CRUNCH

Pilot Program

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

12-2pm



\$12.60 PER MONTH

JOIN OUR LUNCH TIME OPEN-GYM HOURS!



Now Open For Enrollment

Saturdays

October 8-November 12

447 Lincoln Cir, Millbrae, CA 94030

Storytelling through Art: Communicating My Ideas to Others

Ages 5-7

9:00 - 10:00 am

Exploring Problem Solving through Art: Sculpture Arts Focus

Ages 8-11

10:15 - 11:15 am



Adopt-A-Spot

*Bayside Manor and
Hemlock Neighborhoods*

Community Input on Design Meeting
Open To All Neighbors, Businesses
and the Public

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

NORTH CORNER OF HEMLOCK
AND HILLCREST

For more Information:
Contact Andrea Pappajohn, Environmental
Program Manager
apappajohn@ci.millbrae.ca.us 650.259.2444



EVENTS

Millbrae 2022 Art & Wine Festival



Labor Day Weekend – September 3 & 4



Beats, Brews & Vines

ON BROADWAY



6:00-8:00 PM 5:00-7:00 PM
9/15 THU **10/20 THU**
AS IS BAND POLKAGEIST WEST
OKTOBERFEST!

for more information visit: bit.ly/milrec

300 BLOCK OF BROADWAY IN DOWNTOWN MILLBRAE

MILLBRAE GOES TO THE MOVIES

JOIN US FOR A FREE MOVIE
IN THE PARK!

In The Heights



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 7:40 P.M.
MOVIE STARTS AT DARK
MILLBRAE CENTRAL PARK

