



# the BELLFLOWER & CITIZEN

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ONLINE EDITION

November 2015

## Annual Tree Lighting to Brighten the Season

Join the City of Bellflower staff, BUSD students, Downtown restaurants and area residents to celebrate the holiday season at the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting on Friday, December 4 at 6:30 p.m. in Friendship Square (Downtown Bellflower).

Santa Claus will arrive during the event and meet with children one-on-one to take their holiday wishes! The Mayfair High School Vocal Ensemble will entertain attendees with a special performance of holiday songs.

There will also be a rink for scoot-

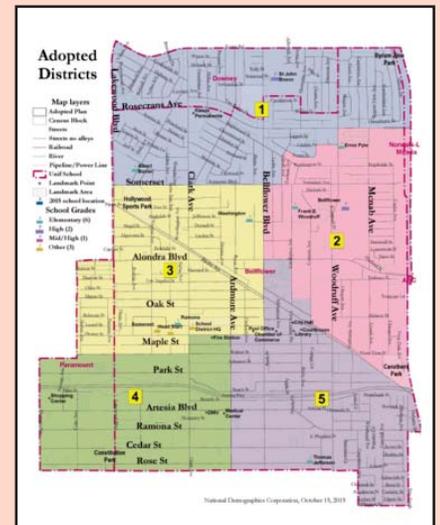
ers and skates (children are encouraged to wear a helmet to enter the rink), along with the Bellflower Recreation In Motion (BRIM) program, and holiday crafts. Refreshments will be served, including complimentary peach cobbler donated by Johnny Rebs' Restaurant, and coffee and hot cocoa provided by Starbucks.

For more information on all City's holiday festivities call the Parks & Recreation Department at (562) 804-1424 ext. 2261 or visit the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org).



## District Map Goes to Ballot

After a series of public hearings, on October 12, 2015, the City Council called a special election to place a measure on the County's November 8, 2016, ballot to allow the voters to decide whether they want to continue to elect their Council Members at-large or by districts. After receiving public input, and with the assistance of a specialized demographer, the City Council selected a map for inclusion with the proposed ballot measure.



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR • CITY HALL CLOSED**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH**

Veterans Day

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH &  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH**

Thanksgiving Holiday



To view the "Adopted Districts" map and for more info on the 2016 ballot measure, visit [www.bellflower.org/districting](http://www.bellflower.org/districting).

# County Prepares for El Niño, Follow #LARain

If El Niño rainfall predictions are correct, this fall and winter could impact drought-stricken CA more than ever. While there is a chance precipitation will be only moderate, there is also the possibility of powerful, drenching rainstorms that can quickly create trouble on many fronts. It's time to get prepared! Provided are 28 tasks to consider to better position yourself against whatever challenges El Niño throws your way.

## HOME

1. Fix your roof leaks before it rains.

2. Clean out your gutters and downspouts before (and after) the first rain to clean off debris.

3. Invest in a generator: If you are susceptible to power outages and require continuous power supply.

4. Install a sump pump: to keep good drainage in low spaces.

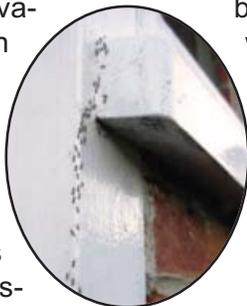
5. Paint the exterior wood trim of your home: Cracks can lead to dry rot and termites.

6. Examine your windows. Dry weather may have caused panes to loosen. Recaulk as needed.

7. Check balcony and deck slopes: Make sure water flows away from the walls and into the drainage system.

8. Do a preemptive strike on any potential ant invasion: wet weather can send ants or other bugs scurrying into your house.

9. Store emergency repair materials (sandbags, heavy plastic sheeting) in a safe dry place.



## AUTO

10. Check your tires. Tires should have at least 50% of tread life left and be correctly inflated to safely handle in wet weather.

11. Purchase new wipers to effectively clear your windshield.

12. Check your car lights.

13. Check your car battery life.

14. Brakes should be checked and worn brake pads replaced, no matter the weather.

## GARDEN

15. Make sure your yard drains properly. If you've substituted impervious hardscape, rock and decomposed granite for lawn, the drainage pattern in your yard may have changed. Water that used to percolate through spongy grass will now flow. Place 3 to 4 inches of organic mulch in beds and areas where water will drain or collect.

16. Turn off your sprinklers.

17. Install rain barrels at downspouts to capture water coming off your roof for later use.

18. Plant winter vegetables in raised beds or elevated rows: Too much water can cause them to rot.

19. Loosen compacted soil/ground to better absorb rain.

20. Have your trees checked for weak and dried out branches.

21. Secure your yard: Reinforce your fencing if needed and store or tie down

anything that might blow.

22. Have materials on hand to divert water: Sandbags, concrete edgers and tubing can effectively channel water away from structures.

23. Talk to your neighbors: If your house lies below another house, you'll want to find out where their property drains. If they've changed the natural flow path, they may be liable for damage caused by storm runoff from their property onto yours.

24. Consider flood insurance even if you're not in a high-risk area: It takes 30 days for any flood policy to become effective.

25. Secure important documents in the cloud or on a thumb drive.

26. Put together preparedness and disaster supply kits for your home and car.

27. Check out Flood Awareness info at [www.floodprepareCA.gov](http://www.floodprepareCA.gov).

28. Prepare now: Experts agree that the toughest time to find solutions is during a rainstorm.

*LA Times article modified from Oct 2016*



# Dispose of Hazardous Waste Properly at Simms Park Collection

The City of Bellflower will team up with the Sanitation Districts and the Department of Public Works to host the annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection on Saturday, November 7 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Simms Park (16614 Clark Ave, Bellflower, CA 90706). This program gives Los Angeles County residents a legal and cost free way to dispose of unwanted household chemicals that cannot be disposed of in the regular trash.

## Items accepted include:

Motor oil, antifreeze, paint, paint thinner, turpentine, cleaners with acids or lye, pesticides and herbicides, household and car batteries, old computers, TVs, sharps and used needles, expired pharmaceuticals and mercury thermometers.

## Items not accepted:

Explosives, ammunition or radioactive materials, waste from businesses will NOT be accepted, regular trash or old tires, white goods such as washers, stoves, refrigerators or air conditioners.



## How to prepare:

In general, there is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 lbs. per vehicle.

Bring items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers.

Be prepared to leave your containers.

Do not mix products together.

For more info visit <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/hhw/index.cfm> or call (800) 238-0172.

## WORKAROUND TOWN

### City of Bellflower

16600 Civic Center Dr. Bellflower  
View full job description at:  
[www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org)

### Recreation Specialist (P/T)

Range: \$12.40 - \$15.09/Hr.

15-20 Hrs per week, M-F

Deadline: Open Until Filled

Performs a variety of specialized and responsible recreation duties and assignments; assists with special department projects and clerical work; may supervise assigned staff as needed; and provide technical assistance to administration, program and event supervisors. Should be able to assist with program and special event promotions, including social media. Possess knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel.

Possession of a valid California Driver License. Must also possess valid First Aid and CPR certification, or be willing to obtain certification within the first three (3) months of employment. Completion of two (2) years of college, preferably with a major in recreation, physical related field education or related fields. Two (2) years of leadership and participation in recreation activities.

### Temporary Maintenance Asst.

(P/T, approx. 29 hrs per week)

\$9.00 / Hr

Continuous Recruitment

Seeking Temporary Maintenance Assistants in the Public Works Department to perform a variety of basic maintenance tasks including streets, parks, landscape, and facility maintenance. May not work over 700 hours in 12 months. This position requires the availability to work a flexible schedule that may require irregular hours, various shifts, weekends and holiday work assignments. High School Diploma or equivalent is required. Basic landscape/facility maintenance experience desired.

**BRING A USED OIL FILTER AND GET A NEW ONE FOR FREE!\***



**CITY OF BELLFLOWER**  
GROWING TOGETHER

O'Reilly Auto Parts  
15766 Bellflower Blvd.  
Bellflower, CA 90706

**SATURDAY**  
November 7, 2015  
10:00am - 2:00pm

\*Residents may receive up to 2 new filters in exchange for 2 used filters. While supplies last.

RESIDENTS WHO BRING IN USED OIL OR USED FILTERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A FREE MOTOR OIL CHANGE KIT!  
RESIDENTS MUST BRING A USED OIL FILTER TO THE STORE TO RECEIVE A NEW FREE OIL FILTER.  
USED OIL MUST BE PROPERLY STORED IN A CLEAN, UNCONTAMINATED CONTAINER.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: [562] 944-4766

RECYCLE USED OIL

20TH ANNUAL  
**EDDY**  
AWARDS

The Eddy Awards® were introduced by the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation in 1996 to celebrate individuals and organizations that demonstrate exceptional contributions to positive economic development in the region. The City of Bellflower was named a finalist for the Most Business-Friendly Award (for the second year in a row) and the winning City will be announced on November 12th! For more information about the Eddy Award or the event visit [www.laedc.org/eddy-awards/](http://www.laedc.org/eddy-awards/).

Celebrating Our First  
Year!!  
Month of October 2015

Men Suits 1st One Full Price 2nd Half Off!!

### New Service Offer!

Men's Shirts Services  
3 or more! Light, Medium, Heavy Starch

Professional Services

### Cathy's Alterations

(562) 920-5900 or (310) 802-9083

16552 Bellflower Blvd Ste C

Bellflower, Ca 90706

**OH NO!  
SANTA'S COOKIES  
ARE MISSING!**

### Interactive Holiday Puppet Show - Auditions Open

Shows: Dec. 3rd-6th & 10th-12th  
\*Several showtimes per evening

**Tickets: \$3** -be sure to keep for ticket  
stub for a valuable Dining Discount

**INFO:** (562) 804-1424 x2249

or visit [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org)

Auditions: [www.bellflowertheater.org](http://www.bellflowertheater.org)



## Brakensiek Programs & Activities

CM Brakensiek Library 9945 E. Flower St. Bellflower (562) 925-5543

### Social Media Marketing Workshop • Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Need to promote your business? Learn how to use social media tools like Facebook and Twitter with business coach Nikola Ahaiwe. Learn how to create an effective social media campaign, grow your following, and generate sales from social media. Sponsored by the Friends of the Bellflower Library.

### Library Book Sale • Saturday, Nov. 14 from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Check out awesome bargains on books, DVDs, and magazines!! Low prices and a great selection.  
Hosted by the Friends of the Bellflower Library.

## Community Applauds Generous Donation



The City of Bellflower recognized residents Stephen Martinez and Lindalee Iverson for their donation to the Brakensiek Library. Their generosity over the past several years has positively impacted the lives of many families in the community. Their most outstanding contribution has been the dozen laptop computers to the Computer Expansion Program which are available for daily checkout by any L.A. County Library cardholder. These laptops are checked out for a variety of reasons such as homework research, online employment applications, surfing the web for leisure, and even to simply watch a DVD movie. The next goal is to purchase a second rack of 12 laptops due to the high demand for available electronic devices among students and young adults. To donate, call Karol Sarkisyan at (562) 940-8559 or email [KSarkisyan@library.lacounty.gov](mailto:KSarkisyan@library.lacounty.gov).