It takes a Village – Volunteer with the City!

Do you love Westlake Village and are looking for ways to get involved in your community? Are you a student looking to fulfill Service Learning hours? If you answered ‘yes’ to either of those questions, we invite you to sign up to be a volunteer for the City of Westlake Village! The City offers a variety of volunteer options for interested community members.

There are currently 6 openings on the Public Safety Advisory Board (PSAB) that assists the City in raising the overall level of awareness and importance of public safety throughout the community. PSAB Members serve two year terms and typically meet on a quarterly basis. The PSAB promotes public safety education and provides recommendations to the City Council on a wide range of public safety issues, including: community law enforcement, crime prevention, and community relationships; City infrastructure needs and priorities related to streets, sidewalks, and trails; traffic safety-related matters; and public safety issues affecting pedestrians and cyclists. To be considered for the PSAB vacancies, you must reside within the City of Westlake city limits and submit your application by June 23rd, 2023.

Westlake Village’s Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is always looking for residents who want to learn skills that will assist their community in case of an emergency! Team members learn about fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. The CERT team meets quarterly but also volunteers at City events to provide assistance with things such as a first aid table.

If you are looking for other opportunities or want to volunteer at any of our City events, we have more options available! Go to www.WLV.org/Volunteer to sign up. Questions? Call City Hall at 818-706-1613.
Drought Conditions Update

The unprecedented amount of rain we received this winter has drastically improved water supply conditions across the State of California. The Sierra Mountains snowpack as well as reservoirs across the state have significantly benefited from the atmospheric rivers that delivered much needed rain. Due to the improved water supply and Metropolitan Water District lifting its drought declaration, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District customers no longer are restricted to one-day-a-week outdoor watering. Residential customer’s water budgets have also been normalized as of February and no drought factors are being applied.

Now is also the time for residents to transform their landscapes and install water efficient landscaping! We know that dry winters are not uncommon, so now is the time to prepare your yard for the next drought. LVMWD has resources available on their website that can help educate you on how to turn your thirsty turf into resilient landscaping. For more information, please visit LVMWD.com.

Brush Clearance

Los Angeles County Fire Department’s Annual Brush Clearance Notices have been issued to all residents in the Very High Fire Severity Zones (VHFSZ). In an effort to make Westlake Village a safer place, LA County Fire inspects all residential properties that fall in VHFSZ to inspect for defensible spaces. Inspections begin on May 1st but residents do not have to be home, inspectors will typically knock on the front door prior to an inspection. Homes that are required to be inspected will have received a notice directly from the Fire Department. To schedule an appointment, call our local fire station at (818) 889-1626. In order to learn more about defensible spaces, please visit https://fire.lacounty.gov/fire-hazard-reduction-programs/ or call (626) 969-2375.

Rattlesnake Safety Tips

With the weather getting warmer and the sun shining longer, residents often encounter wildlife of all kinds – including rattlesnakes. Rattlesnakes typically avoid people and bites are uncommon. Bites typically occur when a snake feels threatened. Most bites occur between April and October when snakes and humans are most active outdoors. Here are some tips on what to do if you encounter a rattlesnake:

- Always stay alert when outdoors. When it's hot, rattlesnakes need to find shelter out of the sun to keep from overheating: shady places along or under logs, rocks, heavy shrub or woodpiles, and even the foundations of buildings.
- Wear sturdy boots and loose-fitting long pants when hiking or in brushy areas. DO NOT wear sandals or flip-flops.
- When hiking, stay on the trails. Avoid any tall grass, weeds, and heavy underbrush that may be home to snakes.
- Back away if you see a rattlesnake. Don’t wave things at them or provoke them, that is often how bites occur.
- If the snake won’t move off the trail, it’s safest to wait it out or turn back. Don’t try stepping over or around it, unless you can bypass it at a safe distance – and watch where you step.
- Don’t count on hearing a rattler before you see them. Rattlesnakes don’t always rattle before they strike and they can even lose their rattlers.
Sidewalk Inspection Program

The City of Westlake Village has started its regularly scheduled sidewalk inspections. Our Sidewalk Maintenance Program is how the City finds locations that might need maintenance or upkeep in order to ensure the safety and functionality of every sidewalk. The City identifies, evaluates, and prioritizes sidewalk repairs on a 6-month cycle. Each segment is evaluated based on objective criteria that considers cost, time, severity, location, history, and popularity/usage.

Once every stretch of sidewalk is examined and documented, the list of locations and the suggested repair strategies are then sorted and prioritized for the semi-annual cycle of repairs and maintenance. Sidewalk segments that require immediate attention are scheduled for immediate repair. Segments that need attention, but do not pose an immediate concern are scheduled for maintenance and repair. Segments of sidewalk that may need future attention or repair are monitored over the following cycle and documented. All information collected is maintained in the City’s new IRIS asset management database. IRIS allows the City and inspectors to quickly and effectively pull current inspection reports and the history of repairs completed on each segment. By routinely identifying and repairing these sidewalks, Westlake Village promotes safe and effective travel through the community!

Westlake Village Library Books of the Month

The Last Tale of the Flower Bride by Roshani Chokshi  It was magic. In every world, it was a kind of magic.

"No maids, no funny talking, no fainting flowers." Luli Wei is beautiful, talented, and desperate to be a star. Coming of age in pre-Code Hollywood, she knows how dangerous the movie business is and how limited the roles are for a Chinese American girl—but she doesn’t care. She’d rather play a monster than a maid.

But in Luli’s world, the worst monsters in Hollywood are not the ones on screen. Siren Queen offers up an enthralling exploration of an outsider achieving stardom on her own terms, in a fantastical Hollywood where the monsters are real and the magic of the silver screen illuminates every page.

Yellowface by R.F. Kuang  Once upon a time, a man who believed in fairy tales married a beautiful, mysterious woman named Indigo Maxwell-Casteñada. He was a scholar of myths. She was heiress to a fortune. They exchanged gifts and stories and believed they would live happily ever after—and in exchange for her love, Indigo extracted a promise: that her bridegroom would never pry into her past.

But when Indigo learns that her estranged aunt is dying and the couple is forced to return to her childhood home, the House of Dreams, the bridegroom will soon find himself unable to resist. As the house slowly reveals his wife’s secrets, the bridegroom will be forced to choose between reality and fantasy, even if doing so threatens to destroy their marriage . . . or their lives.

Love, Chai, and Other Four-Letter Words by Annika Sharma  Authors June Hayward and Athena Liu were supposed to be twin rising stars. But Athena’s a literary darling. June Hayward is literally nobody. Who wants stories about basic white girls, June thinks. So when June witnesses Athena’s death in a freak accident, she acts on impulse: she steals Athena’s just-finished masterpiece, an experimental novel about the unsung contributions of Chinese laborers during World War I.

So what if June edits Athena’s novel and sends it to her agent as her own work? Doesn’t this piece of history deserve to be told? That’s what June claims, and the New York Times bestseller list seems to agree.

But June can’t get away from Athena’s shadow, and emerging evidence threatens to bring June’s (stolen) success down around her.
Charging Stations

Did you know that you can charge your electric vehicle at the Westlake Village Civic Center and Community Park? There are six Level 2 charging stations available 24/7 at the Civic Center and sixteen stations at the Community Park available from 5:00 AM to 10:00 PM. All of the City's charging stations are part of the ChargePoint network. Users must register through ChargePoint in order to take advantage of the great benefits offered through the City's program such as locating which stations are available, tracking your usage, joining a wait list, or monitor pricing among many other features.

These charging stations are another way the City is furthering our commitment to investing in clean air and sustainable practices. Whether you own an electric vehicle now or are considering one for the future, the City's charging stations ensure you have convenient and affordable access to charging throughout Westlake Village!

SAVE THE DATES

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Mayor
Ray Pearl
Ned E. Davis
Kelly Honig
Susan McSweeney
Brad Halpern

May 10 and 24, 2023

City Council meetings can be seen live on WVTV Channel 10 and via web streaming on www.WLV.org.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

Scan the QR code for a list of important phone numbers including police, fire and utilities.