

District News

Fall/Winter 2023

Newsletter of
Pebble Beach
Community
Services District



Fire protection and
emergency medical services

Wastewater collection,
treatment, and recycling

Recycled water storage
and distribution

Garbage collection,
disposal, and recycling

Supplemental law
enforcement



ZOMBIE FUN RUN!

The District's 9th annual Zombie Race and Emergency Preparedness Fair was a huge hit, selling out early with a long waiting list. Over 500 adults and children traversed the fire roads in Pebble Beach showing off their scary, cute, and hilarious costumes. Everyone enjoyed the food, fun, games, and educational displays on fire safety and disaster preparedness. We thank the over 100 volunteers and District firefighters who made this event a great success once again!

Better rescue by land, air, and sea

PBCSD is always striving to improve emergency response, whether for medical, fire, or ocean emergencies. Here are just a few ways that our stellar responders are safeguarding residents and visitors.



District fire staff members John Trenner (left) and Josh Silveira show off our community's new command vehicle.

New command vehicle boosts readiness

The District recently deployed a new command vehicle which will provide our community and the entire county with a quantum leap in operational readiness. The project was spearheaded by District Fuel Reduction Manager John Trenner, and made possible by a cooperative partnership between the Pebble Beach Community Service District (PBCSD), the Monterey Regional Airport District, and the Monterey Fire Department. Trenner, a former fire chief for the airport, knew that they had an underused emergency vehicle for airplane crashes and could see its potential for a wider variety of emergencies.

"Our community now has a mobile base of operations to meet the needs of law enforcement, fire protection, and emergency medical (Cont. on page 2)

Phase Four utility undergrounding underway

We've come a long way since we began working on the Undergrounding Overhead Utilities program back in 2011. Phase Three of the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year, and includes undergrounding 2.5 miles of PG&E, AT&T, and Comcast primary overhead utility main lines. This marks a significant milestone for the program with undergrounding completed for approximately half of Pebble Beach's 12 miles of primary overhead electrical and communication lines.

The PBCSD Board of Directors recently approved project scope and undergrounding boundaries for Phase Four of the project. Utility design is anticipated to take up to a year to complete, with construction likely commencing in spring/summer of 2025.

"Undergrounding within the (Cont. on page 3)

An AT&T Construction Splicer pulls old wiring in October to complete Phase Three undergrounding. Fiber optic cable will replace wiring to support higher data capacity.



Top plant pick:

TRY THIS FIRESAFE, DEER-RESISTANT NATIVE PLANT IN YOUR YARD!



The fruit of elderberry is an important food source for songbirds.

Our native elderberry, *Sambucus mexicana*, is a beautiful, fast-growing shrub/tree that benefits many wildlife species. Large clusters of cream-colored flowers attract butterflies and bees, followed by large clusters of blue berries prized by songbirds and other animals. The berries are

edible for humans if cooked first, and are used to make medicinal elderberry syrup, a popular remedy during cold and flu season.

In ideal conditions, the shrub can reach 25 to 30 feet high with a spread of about 20 feet. *Sambucus* needs watering initially, but once established it will survive drought conditions, dropping leaves in late summer and fall, and greening up again during winter rains.



Pebble Beach Community Services District

PBCSD is a multi-purpose local government voted into existence by Del Monte Forest residents on July 1, 1982.

PBCSD administrative office

(831) 373-1274
3101 Forest Lake Road,
Pebble Beach, CA 93953
PBCSD.org
tinyurl.com/PBCSD-Facebook
tinyurl.com/PBCSD-Twitter

Garbage collection and recycling

GreenWaste Recovery: 920-6707
Free 24-hour sewer service: 373-1274
If water is overflowing into your home it is an emergency. Call us immediately, day or night.

Fire and medical emergencies

Call 911
PBCSD Board of Directors
President Leo M. Laska
Vice President Richard B. Gebhart
Director Jeffery B. Froke, Ph.D.
Director Peter B. McKee
Director Rick D. Verbanec
General Manager Mike Niccum



The interior of the command vehicle has five computer stations and a conference room.

Better rescue *(Cont. from page 1)*

services—it's a win-win for everybody," said John. "At the District we are using the vehicle to enhance safety at our many large events, and as a much-needed field command center for our drone rescue program."

Battalion Chief Josh Silveira oversaw upgrades for the vehicle, which is equipped with satellite service, computer

stations, a map plotter, telescoping outdoor cameras, and a weather station.

"Satellite service allows our drone pilots to livestream video from remote locations, even with no cell coverage," said Josh. During wildfires, floods, search and rescue, and other emergencies, livestreaming allows Incident Commanders to make split-second decisions to move resources and staff where they can do the most good to save lives and property. "This new command vehicle embodies the true definition of cooperative fire protection," said Josh. "Working together, we now have a whole new level of coverage for the forest, the Peninsula, and the entire county."

Faster ocean rescues

A new launch option for one of the District's two rescue watercraft (RWC—a modified jet ski) can now provide quicker response time for swimmers, kayakers, surfers, divers, and others in distress. While the PBCSD/CAL FIRE Ocean Rescue Program most often uses the RWC parked at Stillwater *(Cont. on next page)*



The RWC tows a rescue board where responders can secure a patient for transport back to shore.



Meet your new Fire Prevention Chief

We welcome **Frank Espinoza** as our new **Fire Prevention Battalion Chief**. Frank oversees fire code inspections, fuel reduction, disaster planning, public education, and defensible space programs for PBCSD and the Carmel Highlands and Cypress Fire Districts.

"Education is the best tool for fire prevention, so we plan to use more community outreach to promote fire safety in the home," said Chief Espinoza. "Crews will also be performing fuel reduction in the forest year-round as weather allows to safeguard homes and keep emergency routes safe."

Frank has 20 years of diverse professional experience as a fire captain, strike team leader, EMS/paramedic coordinator, and leader of Department of Corrections fire crews on major wildfires throughout the state. He also has a strong background in special events coordination, which will be especially helpful as he oversees fire safety at Pebble Beach's world-class events.

"We are fortunate to have a great team at the District with vast experience and expertise," said Frank. "I look forward to working with them, the Board of Directors, and residents to make living in the forest as firesafe as possible."



PBCSD hosted an August RWC class with California State Parks which included beach launch training.

Cove, certain locations such as Spanish Bay and Carmel River State Beach can be reached faster using surface roads. Also, Stillwater Pier is susceptible to storm damage and the RWC cannot be launched there during high surf. To improve response time and provide back-up, the District purchased a beach cart so an RWC can be towed directly onto the sand.

“While it could take 30 minutes to pilot our RWC to Spanish Bay Beach from Stillwater Cove, we can now launch one there in about eight minutes after receiving an emergency call,” said Battalion Chief Josh Silveira.

Helping hikers in distress

When a lone hiker on a forest path injured her leg this summer she called 911, but could not give her location. Cell tower triangulation is little help in the forest, and dense tree cover precluded a drone search. That’s where the District’s new purpose-built, all-terrain rescue vehicle (RTV) came in. The RTV can go places where most vehicles can’t, including on tight trails, steep slopes, and on sandy, muddy, or slick terrain.

“We were able to narrow down the search area using the hikers start time and entry point,” said Battalion Chief Silveira. “Thanks to the RTV we located the patient about 16 minutes after receiving the distress call.” The new RTV is equipped with full advanced life support, the same as if a paramedic engine responded, and is also used to tow the District’s jet ski watercraft for ocean rescues.



The RTV cab can hold six people, plus a stretcher with paramedic attendant.

Undergrounding *(Cont. from page 1)*

Phase Four boundary presents new challenges,” said Nick Becker, Deputy General Manager/District Engineer. “Besides being the largest section we’ve tackled to-date, we will be undergrounding within a heavily forested area between Atajo Way and Spruance Road, where fallen trees have caused widespread power outages during storm events.” Phase Four encompasses three miles of undergrounding beginning on Lopez Road by the Pebble Beach Fire Station, and continuing along Sunridge and Ronda Roads to eventually end at Crespi Lane.



Pebble Beach recyclers rock!

Our 16th annual Big Green recycling event on August 12 was a big hit, with 420 vehicles visiting our drive-through drop-off sites. Pebble Beach residents delivered nine tons of household hazardous waste, 1.51 tons of e-waste, and 450 pounds of pharmaceuticals. We thank ReGen Monterey for salvaging 878 pounds of reusable products that will be offered to the public free of charge at their Last Chance Mercantile. We also thank GreenWaste Recovery, Clean Earth Inc., Pebble Beach Company, PBCSD staff, and District fire personnel for helping make this event a success.

Meet the new Staff Alayna Paxton, Environmental Compliance Coordinator



We welcome Alayna Paxton who joined the PBCSD team in January as our new Environmental Compliance Coordinator. Alayna ensures that the District is in regulatory compliance with agencies such as the Monterey Bay Air Resources District, CalRecycle, the California State Water Resources Control Board, and the Monterey County Health Department. This includes our solid waste franchise service, wastewater collections, and reclaimed water system, as well as generators and other District equipment.

As a member of our engineering team, Alayna assists with permit submittals for capital projects, and updates infrastructure maps and plans for our database and geographic information systems. Recently she updated our emergency action plan for Forest Lake Reservoir, and the sewer system management plan for Pebble Beach.

“My favorite part of the job is working closely with my fellow staff members,” said Alayna. “We work hard and accomplish a lot, but we also have a lot of fun together. It’s nice to be part of a close-knit group!”

District honored for excellence in financial reporting

For the fifth year in a row, PBCSD has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting—the highest form of recognition that can be achieved for government accounting! The award recognizes government entities which demonstrate the highest spirit of full disclosure and transparency. The award was presented by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), which has more than 20,000 members in North America. The GFOA strives to advance excellence in public finance by providing best practice guidance, publications, and training.





Pebble Beach Community Services District
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 Pebble Beach, CA 93953

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PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES Utility lines sag under a fallen tree after a winter storm in the forest.

Prepare for winter storms: four tips

Weather experts are predicting a strong El Niño effect through next spring, bringing wetter-than-average conditions to the Central Coast, California, and beyond. Now is the time to prepare for winter storms in the forest!

1. Keep updated Follow weather forecasts, and download the PulsePoint app (replaces our previous CodeRED app) for up-to-date notifications and warnings for Pebble Beach. Residents will also continue to receive Reverse 911 alerts when necessary. If you have limited mobility or do not drive, make sure your current contact information is in our Emergency Assistance List. Visit PBCSD or call 373-1274 to update. During a fire, storm, or other emergency we will phone you and provide assistance in person if needed.

2. Secure your home Check your roof, gutters, and downspouts for debris or damage before storms hit. For flood-prone properties, the District's self-serve sandbag station is open 24 hours a day behind the fire station on Forest Lake Road—look for the red tarp. Filled sandbags are available on a first come, first served basis. If you need assistance filling or loading bags, or want advice about placement, ring the bell at the front door or call the number below.

3. Stay inside during storms Falling trees and power lines are a hazard in the forest during high winds or storms—run errands before storms hit. Never drive through flooded areas, or enter roads cordoned off with warning tape. If you can't find a way home, come to the fire station for temporary shelter from the storm. Do not approach the shore during high surf—rip currents and rogue waves are extremely dangerous. Soaking rains can cause landslides on steep slopes so be cautious when walking and hiking.

4. Refresh your disaster kit Make sure you can be self-sufficient for three days without water or power. Visit ready.gov for checklists and instructions.

We're here for you—please feel free to call the PBCSD Fire Station at 375-4204, or the Fire Prevention Office at 375-9644 for more information.



NEW EMERGENCY ALERT APP
 The District is now using the PulsePoint app instead of the previous CodeRED app to send emergency text alerts to residents. You can download PulsePoint to your phone or tablet and choose the alerts you'd like to receive.

Can you recycle that?



The What Goes Where app lets you know how to correctly dispose of items in and around the house. Download the app to see if an item should be included in your bulky/reusable pick-up, delivered to a nearby drop-off station, or deposited in one of your carts for pickup. You can also play the What Goes Where Sorting Game to learn how to separate materials and maximize reuse and recycling options! For more information, please call GreenWaste Recovery at 920-6707.

GreenWaste Holiday Garbage Schedule



There will be a one-day delay on garbage pick-up during the days listed below.

Regular Pick-up	Delayed Pick-up
Thurs., Nov. 23	Fri., Nov. 24
Fri., Nov. 24	Sat., Nov. 25
Mon., Dec. 25	Tues., Dec. 26
Tues., Dec. 26	Wed., Dec. 27
Wed., Dec. 27	Thurs., Dec. 28
Thurs., Dec. 28	Fri., Dec. 29
Fri., Dec. 29	Sat., Dec. 30
Mon., Jan. 1	Tues., Jan. 2
Tues., Jan. 2	Wed., Jan. 3
Wed., Jan. 3	Thurs., Jan. 4
Thurs., Jan. 4	Fri., Jan. 5
Fri., Jan. 5	Sat., Jan. 6

Two ways to recycle your holiday tree



Note: remove the tree stand and all ornaments, lights, tinsel and decorations. Flocked trees are not accepted.

1. Curbside pick up January 2 to 20 on your regular collection day (no need to schedule). Please cut tree into 3-foot lengths or shorter and place curbside. After January 20 you can still dispose of small trees in your yard waste/organics cart. For more information, please call GreenWaste Recovery at 920-6707.

2. Drop-off through January 31 Bring any size tree, no cutting required, to the Pebble Beach Company Corporation Yard located at Lopez and Sunridge Roads.



Printed by a certified Monterey Bay Area Green Business on sustainable and/or recycled stock. Please recycle!