

August 2024 Utilities and Community Announcements

Palo Alto's Annual Consumer Confidence Report on water quality conditions for 2023 is now available. Read about your water supply and water quality at cityofpaloalto.org/waterresources

Wet Your Whistle, Not the Recycling. While it may be healthy for you to be well hydrated, liquids and food can ruin the recycling. Make sure you're Recycle-Ready: pour out liquids, scrape out food, and wipe out oily or sticky residue. Bottles and containers need to be empty of food and liquid. For more information, visit cityofpaloalto.org/RecycleReady or call (650) 496-5910.

Don't rush to flush! Avoid flushing anything down your toilet except toilet paper and human waste. Flushing other items, such as sanitary pads, wipes, or diapers, causes sewer backups into homes and streets, and can contribute to pollution in creeks and the San Francisco Bay. Visit cleanbay.org for more info.

In recent years, wildfires have intensified in California, and utilities are taking action to reduce fire risks related to utility infrastructure. During extreme weather events, a utility may shut off power to electric lines in high threat areas to prevent wildfire. This is called a public safety power shutoff, or PSPS. The City of Palo Alto Utilities (CPAU) has a wildfire mitigation plan that outlines activities by CPAU and other City departments to mitigate the threat of wildfires associated with overhead electric lines and associated equipment. Learn more at cityofpaloalto.org/safeutility.

Hold on to those balloons! Did you know that metallic foil, or Mylar, balloons are a major cause of power outages? Mylar balloons can explode and catch fire when coming in contact with power lines, creating a dangerous situation. In the event of a power outage, check cityofpaloalto.org/outageinfo for immediate updates.