

RIO DEL MAR Improvement Association (www.rdmia.org) Fall 2017



RDMIA Semi-Annual Fall Meeting: Wednesday, 6:30 pm October 18

Be sure to join us at the next membership meeting on Wednesday, October 18 at 6:30PM at the Rio Sands Motel.

Guest speakers will be Zach Friend, County Supervisor, who will be sharing his thoughts on current issues affecting us here at Rio Del Mar and Bruce Walton who will be presenting the latest information on the Rancho Del Mar renovation and how that will be impacting us.

Come! Coffee and cookies will be available.

**REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP NOW for 2018**

(Use form on mailer side)

Community Updates

From County Supervisor Zach Friend



County Changing Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Rules

There is no question it is very difficult to afford housing in our county. One has to earn over \$70,000 to afford the rent of a two-bedroom apartment locally and our median home prices are hovering around \$850,000.

While there are a number of factors that lead to the high cost of housing, one way to provide more affordable housing (and also create an additional income source for people seeking help covering their mortgage) is to make it easier to build accessory dwelling units (ADUs). ADUs, sometimes called granny units, are small (self-contained) units generally located behind a home or above a garage.

The Board of Supervisors believes ADUs are a promising approach to expanding housing choices in our local market, which is characterized by high cost and low availability. ADUs are located on parcels with existing single family homes and therefore do not require land acquisition or expensive new infrastructure. They can be built with cost-effective wood frame construction or as factory-built housing, and can be fit into the fabric of existing neighborhoods. ADUs increase the diversity of housing in the community and are a source of rental units that are more affordable than larger dwellings.

The Board has worked on an approach over the last year that would make it easier to create ADUs. The County initiated extensive community outreach to determine the best way to expand ADUs that included stakeholder interviews, an online survey that generated over 650 responses and two well-attended community workshops. The Board's approach has stemmed in large part from this community outreach. As a result, we are in the process of reducing fees, changing County regulations, streamlining administrative practices as well as creating programs to assist with design, financing, and obtaining a building permit. Products will include on-line and print materials to guide current and prospective homeowners and developers towards successful creation of this flexible housing type. The Board has also created guidelines that will prohibit these ADUs from becoming vacation rentals.

As always, I appreciate hearing your feedback, please feel free to call me at 454-2200.

We're Looking for new Board Members or Someone who could Head Up a Committee-----That Could be You

Here's your chance to really become part of the Rio del Mar community and help improve it at the same time. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at the Aptos/La Selva Fire station on Soquel near Mar Vista Elementary at 6:30 pm. There we discuss what and how we can make Rio del Mar a better place.

We are looking for a few new board members or if that is too much of a commitment then how about heading up a committee. We need a landscape coordinator and a membership coordinator, think about it.

Come to our board meeting or send us an e-mail to:
drothenbush@att.net

Got an issue? Our board meetings are always open to all in the community.

**The Rio Del Mar Improvement Association
Officers are:**

President: Dan Rothenbush
Vice President: Jerry Cannella
Treasurer: Will Sutter
Secretary: Carey Pico
Director: Fay Levinson

Esplanade and Arco Station Cleanup

A special thanks to those folks who contributed to the cleanup at the Esplanade and Arco Station, the areas looked great for the July 4th Holiday.

Before



During



After



ARCO Cleanup

No-Cost Chipping Program: Free Wildfire Fuel Load

Reduction Assistance

Fire season is underway. The Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (RCD) is seeking applications for its NO-COST chipping program to reduce wildfire fuels around homes, roads and neighborhoods in high-risk areas. Through a grant with the Monterey Bay United Air Pollution Control District, the RCD is providing free chipping services to County residents that have excess fuel loads around their properties due to debris from last year's winter storms.

The program is available on a first-come, first service basis and priority will be given to neighborhoods that are able to collect fuel debris from multiple homes and roadways.

Applications are available on the RCE web site at: <http://www.rcdsantacruz.org/financial> support. For more information contact Angie Gruys at the RCE at agruys@rcesantacruz.org or call 831-4642950 x22.



RDMIA and Save Our Shores Shores Cleanup Results

RDMIA and Save Our Shores once again participated in the annual Coastal Cleanup at Hidden Beach on September 16. This activity was part of the statewide coastal cleanup sponsored by the California Coastal Commission.

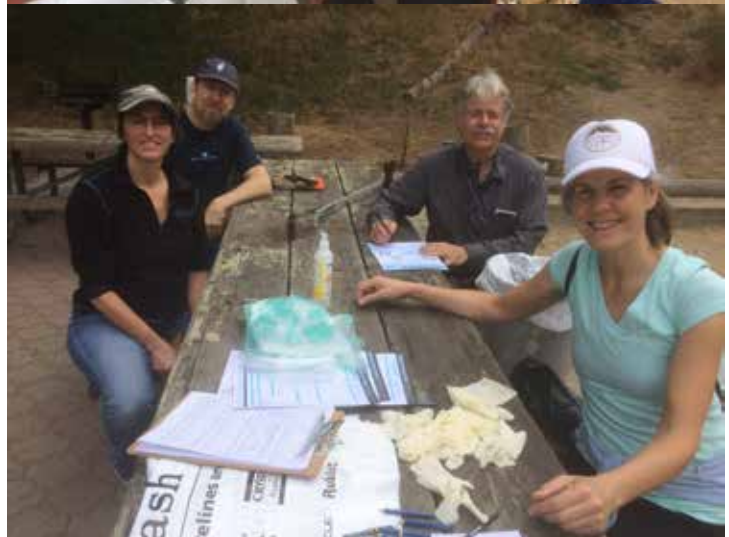
This cleanup targets trash not only in the 15 coastal counties but throughout the state, with volunteers scouring creeks, rivers and lakes as well as beaches at nearly 1,000 sites this year.

Statewide with about 80% of the sites reporting data, Eben Schwartz, marine debris program manager at the Coastal Commission, said 54,000 volunteers had collected 535,000 pounds of trash (not a typo), including more than 23,000 pounds of recyclables.

Locally about 6 tons of trash was picked up in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties.

RDMIA is proud of those individuals who participated in this cleanup, to name a few, Juanita, Jean, Max, Liz, Dan, Stephany, Mack, Monica, Jim, Jeri, Chris, and Peter.

Why do they volunteer and I quote, “Someone has to do it and take responsibility, if not what will this planet look like in 50 years.”



Aptos Responds to RDM Closings

Thank you Zach Friend and Business Counselor Doug Deaver, who have worked diligently to help the Rancho Del Mar Business's impacted by the remodeling of the center.

Through their efforts those business owners impacted have been given some relief in time, resources, and money in vacating their business operations.

It is unfortunate that a lack of communication from TRC to tenants in the center has created tension and hardship. Through better and improved communication many of the current problems and frustrations could have been alleviated.

We thank all 225 member households and friends for your continued support.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance as of | |
| January 1, 2017 | \$ 4,400.47 |
| Income: | |
| Membership Dues | \$ 5,287.22 |
| Expenses: | |
| Landscaping | \$ 2,669.57 |
| Post Office | \$ 90.00 |
| Newsletter | \$ 639.46 |
| Café Rio- Farewell Checks | \$ 200.00 |
| Linux Hosting-Website | \$ 95.88 |
| Bookkeeping | \$ 125.00 |
| July 4 th Picnic | \$ 172.11 |
| Director's Insurance | \$ 736.00 |
| Total Expenses: | \$ 4,728.02 |
| Ending Balance on: August 31, 2017 | \$ 4,959.67 |

| Have a Concern? | Contact | Contact Information |
|--|---|--|
| Noise | Santa Cruz County Sheriff | 24 hour non-emergency: 471-1121 |
| Abandoned Vehicle Please provide: | Santa Cruz County Sheriff | www.scsheriff.com/Home/AbandonedVehicles.aspx 454-3139 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location and Color • Make and model • License plate number • How long it has been since it was last moved, if known | | 796-2160 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car Blocking the street • Parking in a no-parking zone • Non-injury accidents | California Highway Patrol | |
| Animal Control/Barking | Santa Cruz Animal Shelter | www.scanimalshelter.org/complaint_process |
| Code Compliance | Santa Cruz County Planning Department | www.sccoplanning.com/PlanningHome/CodeCompliance.aspx |
| Graffiti Removal | Graffiti Hotline | (800) 526-1185 |



To report some of the above and other neighborhood concerns, use the Citizen Connect App: sccappstore.co.santa-cruz.ca.us

Rio Del Mar Community Contacts

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| Santa Cruz County Offices | 2nd District Supervisor, Zach Friend | 454-2200 |
| Aptos/LaSelva Fire District | Fire Chief, | 685-6690 |
| Sheriff's Sub-Station Rancho Del Mar Center | Sergeant Patrick Dimick | 662-0690 |
| Seacliff State Beach | Park Office | 685-6442 or 685-6500 |
| Aptos Chamber of Commerce | Executive Directors: John and Karen Hibble | 688-1467 |

Rio Del Mar Improvement Association

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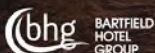
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RIO DEL MAR

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Visit us at www.rdmia.org

Facebook: Rio del Mar Improvement Association

Remember:

Wed. October 18, 6:30 pm!

***Meeting at Rio Sands
(See front page for details)***

Share your newsletter with a neighbor and invite them to join!

Membership Application/Renewal-Newsletter Annual Dues: \$25

(Membership increase effective January 1st 2018, \$30.00, PayPal \$32. (January-December)) **2018**

Name(s): _____

Rio del Mar Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different): _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____@_____

Please include your check and mail to:

Rio del Mar Improvement Association, P.O. Box 274, Rio del Mar, CA 95001