

CITY OF BIGGS -

WHERE THE PEOPLE OWN THE POWER AND THE WATER

NOVEMBER 2011

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Marijuana: Out of Sight, Out of Odor

Since Biggs declared the sight and smell of marijuana to be a public nuisance, several property owners have been issued 48-hour "abatement" notices and fined for backyard growing. In some cases the property owners constructed secure sheds with ventilation systems, in other cases they harvested the crop and removed it. In any case, the city does not allow it to disrupt neighborhoods.

If you know of outdoor growing within the city limits that presents a sight or smell nuisance, please contact the city code enforcement officer at 868-5493.

What are they up to now?

BCAV volunteers are planning their next big event – the annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting! This year's street party will be Friday, December 2, starting at 6pm, on B between 6th and 7th Streets. Bring your family and friends

for this good old fashioned fun! Enjoy hot cider, goodies, music, holiday cheer and decorations. See Santa arrive on our 1937 fire engine just in time to hit the switch illuminating our beautiful downtown display. Contact a BCAV member if you would like to participate in the trimming or if you'd like to have a booth.

Watch for more info at the city website: www.biggs-ca.gov

Free Extra Carts for Fall

With fall upon us, you may find yourself with a few too many leaves. *Please do not let them get into the street or gutters where they clog the storm drains!* You can have an extra green waste cart delivered to your home at no charge by simply stopping by city hall or calling 868-5493. There is no extra charge for the weekly collection service on these extra carts. You can also ask for a free extra recyclables cart.



Volunteers Make the Difference

In addition to BCAV, Hometown Celebration Committee, and our churches and clubs, there are many more ways volunteers can serve their community in Biggs.

As governments become less able to afford extra services, it can be a wonderful opportunity for citizens to help fill the gap.

Perhaps you would like to help with office work, administrative chores, small engine repair or park maintenance. Maybe you have a special talent or skill to share on a short-term or long term basis.

If you are interested in volunteering for a project or program, please contact a member of the City Council or the Administrator, Pete Carr at 868-0100.

YOUR COUNCIL:

- Roger Frith, Mayor rogerf@biggs-ca.gov 530-868-1289
- Angela Thompson,
 Vice Mayor
 angelat@biggs-ca.gov
 530-624-4148
- ◆ Douglas Arnold douga@biggs-ca.gov 530-868-1208
- Mike Bottorff mikeb@biggs-ca.gov 530-868-0740
- James "Bo" Sheppard bos@biggs-ca.gov 530-868-1362

CITY OF BIGGS

Biggs City Hall PO Box 307 465 C Street Biggs CA 95917

Phone: 530-868-5493

Welcome to Biggs!

Welcome Kevin Madeiros as our newest public works crew member. Kevin comes to us with eight years of underground street construction experience with three firms in the region, and more recently as a temporary employee with Live Oak Parks Maintenance. He has a Water Distribution Operator Grade One certificate, as well as training/certificates in CPR, fall protection, confined space and traffic control.

Marlee Goes to State!

For the second time in two years, our very own Marlee Mattos was invited by NCPA (Northern California Power Agency) to represent small municipal electric utilities at a recent training workshop for State Legislative staff members. Marlee's presentation helped these staff assistants of key Assembly and Senate committee members understand the needs of small electric utilities like ours. Her message was clear – when writing legislation and regulations, consider the impact on small towns. One-size-fits-all rule-making does not work!



In addition to buying and delivering power to keep your lights on safely and reliably, your city also keeps on top of the dynamic laws and regulations affecting this complex industry. Our Public Benefits program helps return dollars to you in the form of discounts and efficiency rebates. We are proud to have just completed three years in a row of no electric rate increases, and our rates remain below those of PG&E.

Update on Projects...

We are conducting all necessary studies and applications to obtain funding from CalTrans to replace the <u>Sixth</u> St bridge, hopefully in 2012.

We are working with the State on a new plan for treatment and discharge of our sewage. The project includes recycling treated effluent to land instead of waterways.

Our investment in the Lodi Energy Center <u>electricity generation</u> plant is going to start paying us back soon. Construction of the new facility is on track for summer 2012 start-up.

Our recent applications for grant funding to add storm drains and sidewalks and to replace old sewer lines were not approved. State and federal grant funding is increasingly difficult for cities to obtain. We will try again in 2012.

The city is building a dedicated financial reserve for <u>street paving</u>. We are also searching for ways to fund community improvements for parks and recreational facilities.

A Lot of Waste!

Over 19 tons of solid waste were hauled out of Biggs by Waste Management on Community Clean-up Day Saturday, October 8. More

tons of tires, steel and other recyclables were also collected. Thanks to BCAV (Biggs Community Action Volunteers) much of the junk was collected *at no charge* from the garages of people who are elderly or otherwise unable to haul their load to the collection site.

Community Corner

D&E Recycling has moved into new, bigger quarters. They can be found now inside the quonset hut at 480 B Street, next to Biggs Market. They are open Monday-Friday 9-4 and Saturday 9-3 paying you cash for your CRV cans and bottles.





*WE'RE ON THE WEB!*WWW.BIGGS-CA.GOV