Staying Safe During Wildfire Season

In 2020, there have been over 8,300 fire incidents throughout California, with more than 4,040,900 total acres burned. There have been 9,247 structures damaged or destroyed and at least 31 fatalities as of Oct. 8. The 4 million acres burned in 2020 are the most in a single year since CalFire began keeping records, and more than the last three years combined. While we didn’t experience these fires directly in Oakland, we were impacted, most notably in our air quality.

During a wildfire, smoke travels and can make the outdoor air unhealthy to breathe. Local officials may advise you to stay indoors as air quality worsens and we encourage you to follow these directions. Please take these actions to reduce smoke exposure:

• Keep windows and doors closed.
• Use fans and air-conditioning to stay cool.
• Reduce the smoke that enters your home by using a portable air cleaner or high-efficiency filter.
• Avoid activities that create more fine particles indoors like smoking cigarettes, spraying aerosol products and using propane or wood-burning stoves.

Another concern that many in the Bay Area have experienced are power outages, whether planned or unexpected. You can call PG&E at 1-800-746-5000 to sign up to receive power outage notifications on your home or cell phone. To learn more about planned power outages and how to prepare, please visit www.prep4powerdown.com. And always be prepared with a household emergency kit ready to go.

People with moderate to severe asthma may be at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19. COVID-19 can affect your nose, throat, lungs (respiratory tract); cause an asthma attack; and possibly lead to pneumonia and acute respiratory disease.

If you experience unusual asthma symptoms brought on by poor air quality or possible exposure to COVID-19, seek medical attention immediately.

To learn more visit these Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) links:
https://www.cdc.gov/air/wildfire-smoke/default.htm#:~:text=Wldfire%20smoke%20can%20make%20anyone%2C%20trouble%20breathing

Health & Wellness

www.oakha.org
Register Today for OHA Jobs Program

Coronavirus has devastated the economy nationwide, and Oakland and its residents haven’t been spared from its impact.

Many businesses have been forced to reduce business hours or services, or close altogether, sometimes permanently, as a result.

Approximately 10 million people are still unemployed as a result of the unprecedented job losses. The OHA Family & Community Partnership Department (FCP) is hard at work assisting residents who seek employment.

To best serve those who need employment support, OHA has collaborated with many staffing agencies, and companies currently hiring, to make opportunities available. Some partner employers include Safeway, A-Paratransit, Frito-Lay, Nelson Staffing, and many more.

The OHA Employment Program offers the following services:

Winning Wednesdays is a weekly 2 pm virtual recruitment event hosted by OHA and Laney College, featuring a local employer who is hiring. It is easy to participate, register at https://streamingjobfair.com/

Every month, OHA has collaborated with the following six (6) agencies: Oakland Chamber of Commerce, Lao Family, Oakland Workforce Development Board, Oakland PIC, Laney College, and The Unity Council, to offer industry-specific virtual job fairs.

Schedule—10 am virtual job fairs:
1. October 22, 2020: Transportation, Distribution & Logistics & Advanced Manufacturing
2. November 19, 2020: Healthcare
3. December 17, 2020: Information Technology

You should register in advance at https://bit.ly/2YVhI46 and you will receive additional information about the virtual event.

Please contact the FCP Department at (510) 587-5115 for more information or if you would like assistance writing or updating your resume.

Help Us Help You
Recycle & Compost Right. Report Illegal Dumping. See something, say something.

Practicing safe hygiene by washing your hands, wearing facemasks and social distancing have become our daily routine during the last few months while we’ve battled the pandemic. Being home more than usual, however, has its downside. As our families are spending more time at home, we are likely using more household goods than usual—which has resulted in more waste, which means more trash.

OHA needs your help to keep our homes clean and free from trash by properly recycling items and composting. When done right, most of the goods we use in our everyday lives can be reused, and just a small amount is ‘real’ trash that needs to be sent to the landfill and buried.

Recycling and composting could result in a reduced amount of trash, and less over-filling of the trash carts. Recyclables are turned into new materials, which we can use again. For example, fleece jackets can be made from recycled plastic bottles, cardboard is recycled into cereal boxes, and lots more. All the food scraps, soiled pizza boxes, napkins and plants can be placed in the green compost cart, which are turned into a nutrient rich soil amendment used to grow our fruits and vegetables.

OHA’s Green Team has been conducting safe, socially distant site meetings at our multi-family buildings, educating residents on how to recycle and compost properly. We bring resources from Property Management, FCP and OHAPD.

TIPS:
1. When you send children with trash, make sure to specify what they’re carrying out – is it recycling, compost or trash. This will avoid contaminating recycling and compost.
2. No plastic bags in recycling and compost carts.
3. When in doubt, place in trash.

Residents need to collaborate with OHA in a joint effort to keep our properties clean and free of trash. If you notice trash piling up at your site, please report it to your property manager. If you have recycling questions, contact OHA Green Team at allrecycling@oahha.org.

Illegal dumping? See something, say something. Do not allow anyone to trash your home. Do not place bulky materials outside at the apartment buildings without scheduling a pick-up date. Call the maintenance number when you need to dispose of bulky items such as couches, appliances and mattresses etc.

Sources: https://www.oaklandrecycles.com/apartments-condos/
Domestic Violence Awareness
October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The rate of domestic violence has increased across the United States during the pandemic, including here in Oakland. Domestic violence affects millions, both women and men, of every race, religion, culture and status. The Oakland Housing Authority continues to be committed to providing resources to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents.

If you or anyone you know is in need, please reach out to any of the following community resources:

If you are in immediate danger, call 9-1-1.

National Domestic Violence Hotline
www.thehotline.org
24/7 Hotline: (800) 799-7233

Alameda County Family Justice Center
www.acfjc.org
Phone: (510) 267-8800

Building Futures
www.bfwc.org
24-hour Crisis Line: (866) 292-9688

BAWAR
https://www.bawar.org
24 Hour Hotline: (510) 845-7273

Family Violence Law Center
www.fvlc.org
24 Hour Crisis Hotline: (800) 947-8301

A Safe Place
www.asafeplace.org
24/7 Emergency: (510) 536-7233

Adult Protective Services Elder Abuse
24 hour Hotline: (510) 577-3500 or 866-225-5277

Highland Hospital Sex Assault Response Team
24-Hour Crisis Line: (510) 534-9290

RESOURCES
OHA Support:
World Central Kitchen
In partnership with the World Central Kitchen, OHA offers FREE meals to the OHA Community! These delicious individually pre-cooked, packaged meals prepared by local Oakland restaurants, are available for pick-up on Thursdays from 11 am - 1 pm.

Locations include:
• Peralta Village - 935 Union St.
• Lockwood Gardens - 1327 65th Ave.

Closing the Digital Divide
The #OaklandUndivided Campaign is working to distribute Chromebooks and internet access to 25,000 Oakland students. If your student does not have access to a computer to support their distance learning, please contact Tech Exchange at (510) 866-2260 to learn more.

YOUR VOICE

Q: Is OHA offering any services due to COVID-19?

A: The Oakland Housing Authority closed its offices for all in-person services in March 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the continued Alameda County Shelter in Place Order, the offices remain closed; however, many essential services continue to be provided online and by telephone until further notice.

The Family and Community Partnerships Department (FCP) is hosting virtual site meetings to discuss resident concerns, and to offer resources as well as limited services to OHA residents. Please check your mail for the meeting notifications and information on how to access our programs and services during this time.

For assistance with property services including (work orders, rent collections, etc.), you can reach your Property Manager by phone and email.

For Emergencies, please contact:
Maintenance Emergency at (510) 535-3130
OHA Police Dept. (510) 535-3100

Please note, you may experience a delay in responses due to the office closures and reduced staffing levels, which is required in order to maintain 6 ft of social distance among the staff members who are working in OHA offices.

If you would like to submit a resident success story or have an idea for an article for our next issue, please email your information to ohacommunications@oakha.org.

RAB Blog

The OHA Resident Advisory Board (RAB)
The OHA Resident Advisory Board (RAB) would like to encourage all residents to attend an online board meeting. The RAB provides residents with a forum to share, learn, and discuss matters that are relevant to community members. It also provides an opportunity for residents to learn about the OHA Annual Plan and discuss policies that impact the entire OHA community. This year, the RAB has been involved in a listening campaign to hear from their fellow OHA residents, has participated in online trainings, and has been active in the promotion of voting and the Census. If you believe in the availability of quality affordable housing and wish to support the OHA community, the RAB is for you!

RAB meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, on Zoom. If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please call (510) 777-4124.

RAB’S MISSION STATEMENT: To ensure that OHA Public Housing Residents and Section 8 Participants actively participate in the decision making process regarding OHA policies and procedures and are actively engaged in their community as leaders.

For more information, please call Omar Ronquillo at (510) 777-4124 or email omarr@Oakha.org.
Eduction During the Pandemic

Should families need to obtain or replace computers or devices, Oakland Undivided is a citywide initiative enacted to support Oakland public school students with technology access. Families need to complete the Tech Check Survey online or contact their child’s school for assistance with the form: https://techexchange.tfaforms.net/3

Parent Resources to Reduce Stress

Like everything else during the pandemic, the stress many parents feel is growing exponentially. Parents are no longer just parents, but also teachers, coaches, playmates & much more. However, you do not have to feel alone in this new reality and there are resources available to help.

Family Paths Parenting Stress Helpline 1-800-829-3777 is a great support.


Bananas Workshops for Parents & Families https://bananasbunch.org/parents-families/parent-workshops/

For more resources, please call 211 or visit 211.org

UPCOMING DEADLINES:
- University of California (Application for 2020/21 SY) – November 30, 2020
- California State University (Priority Application Filing Period for Fall 2021) – October 1 to December 4, 2020

SCHOLARSHIPS & DEADLINES:
- Youth Opportunity Scholarship (Up to $250) – December 1, 2020
- Gabriella Carter Failure Doesn’t Define Me Scholarship ($582) – December 1, 2020
- Scholarcash Role Model Scholarship ($1,000) – December 1, 2020
- Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship ($1,000) – December 31, 2020
- Nikhil Desai “Perspective” Scholarship ($1,000) – February 1, 2021
- PHADA Scholarship Program ($5,000 to $7,000) – January 29, 2021
Election Day is November 3rd

The 2020 General Election is about more than voting for president. It is an important opportunity for you to make your voice heard—through your vote. The right to vote is outlined in the U.S. Constitution and this year’s Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Early voting has already begun! Whether you plan to vote by mail, vote early, drop your ballot in an official drop box, or vote on Election Day, make a plan now. Be sure you are registered to vote, know your polling place and have an official ballot available to you.

What’s on the Ballot?

ALAMEDA COUNTY
• Measure W - County Sales Tax increase

OAKLAND
• Measure QQ - Youth Vote in School Board elections
• Measure RR - Remove limits on fines for ordinance violations
• Measure S1 - Police Commission Charter Amendment
• Measure Y - OUSD Bond Measure

Here a few of the Propositions on the ballot for your consideration:

Prop 14: Stem Cell Research would allow the State to sell $5.5 billion in new bonds to continue the CIRM’s funding of stem cell and other medical research and training, stem cell therapy and delivery of treatments to patients, research facility construction and administrative expenses.

Prop 16: Allow Public Agencies to Consider Diversity by repealing the section of the California Constitution introduced by Prop 209, thus eliminating the ban on the consideration of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public education, public employment and public contracting.

Prop 17: Voting Rights for People on Parole amends the California Constitution to restore voting rights to persons who have been disqualified from voting while serving a prison term as soon as they complete their prison sentence.

Prop 18: Voting Rights for 17-Year-Olds would be extended to 17 years old, if they will be 18 years old by the next general election.

Prop 19: Changes in Property Tax Rules would allow eligible homeowners to transfer a property’s taxable value to a more expensive home anywhere in the state, up to three times in a lifetime. Once-in-a-lifetime transfers would still apply to victims of wildfires and natural disasters.

Prop 20: Changes to Criminal Penalties and Parole would change various provisions of AB 109 and Props 47 and 57, which includes the categorization and classification of certain crimes, DNA collection, criteria for Board of Parole Hearings and post-release supervision.

Prop 21: Local Governments and Rent Control would reduce the limits on local rent control laws in Costa-Hawkins, so that cities and counties would be able to apply rent control to all housing which is more than 15 years old, with certain exceptions; and limit how much a landlord can increase rents when a new tenant moves in.

Prop 22: Rideshare and Delivery Drivers would reclassify app-based drivers as independent contractors, not employees, unless a company: sets a driver’s hours, requires drivers to accept certain rides or deliveries, or restricts working for other companies. Drivers would not receive employee benefits and protections—including minimum wage, overtime, unemployment insurance, and workers’ compensation.

Prop 23: Kidney Dialysis Clinics would require that clinics have at least one licensed physician on site during all hours when patients are receiving treatment; offer same care regardless of payment source; require additional reporting and patient notifications.

Prop 24: Changes to Consumer Privacy Laws would create a new California Privacy Protection Agency, which would oversee consumer privacy rights, categorize businesses affected by Prop 24, assess penalties for violations and generally aid consumers in the protection of their private data.

Prop 25: Yes or No on Getting Rid of Bail would allow SB10 to go into effect, replacing the cash bail system with risk assessments to determine whether a detained suspect should be released before their trial.

For more on this year’s ballot, including Propositions, in depth analysis and detailed videos about the Propositions and Measures, visit https://my.lwv.org/california/oakland/ballot-measure-pros-and-cons-november-2020.
### AT-A-GLANCE • FALL/WINTER 2020-21

#### November
- Nov 1, 2021: Board Meeting
- Nov 8, 2021: Board Meeting
- Nov 15, 2021: Board Meeting
- Nov 22, 2021: Board Meeting

#### December
- Dec 1, 2021: Board Meeting
- Dec 8, 2021: Board Meeting
- Dec 15, 2021: Board Meeting
- Dec 22, 2021: Board Meeting
- Dec 29, 2021: Board Meeting

#### January
- Jan 1, 2022: New Year's Day
- Jan 8, 2022: Board Meeting
- Jan 22, 2022: Board Meeting
- Jan 29, 2022: Board Meeting

#### February
- Feb 1, 2022: Board Meeting
- Feb 8, 2022: Board Meeting
- Feb 15, 2022: Board Meeting
- Feb 22, 2022: Board Meeting

#### March
- Mar 1, 2022: Board Meeting
- Mar 8, 2022: Board Meeting
- Mar 15, 2022: Board Meeting
- Mar 22, 2022: Board Meeting
- Mar 29, 2022: Board Meeting

#### April
- Apr 1, 2022: Board Meeting
- Apr 8, 2022: Board Meeting
- Apr 15, 2022: Board Meeting
- Apr 22, 2022: Board Meeting
- Apr 29, 2022: Board Meeting

### 6 Months of National Awareness

#### November
- November: National Alzheimer’s Disease Awareness Month, American Diabetes Month

#### December

#### January
- January: National Cervical Health Awareness Month, National Birth Defects Prevention Month

#### February
- February: American Heart Month, National Children’s Dental Health Month

#### March
- March: National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, National Endometriosis Awareness Month

#### April
- April: Alcohol Awareness Month, National Child Abuse Prevention Month, Sexual Assault Awareness Month of Action

(This is a partial list of the national awareness observances)