

Norwalk^eNow

norwalk.org

The Official Community Publication of Norwalk, California

November 2020, Volume 41, #11



COVID-19 SPECIAL COVERAGE • Safer at Home

What are State Emergency Powers?



Emergency powers are given to a public authority, under extreme circumstances, to be used in the best interest of the people. In our country, in most states, this power is given to the governor by law—and in some cases, for a limited time.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency. Shortly thereafter, he cited several government codes that gave him the authority to do so. In particular, section 8627, which says that during a State of Emergency, the governor has complete authority over all state agencies, the right to exercise police powers, and the ability to issue and enforce orders “as he deems necessary.” Under normal conditions this may result in a conflict with other government agencies. However, during a State of Emergency, it is considered by many within the powers of the Governor to exercise such powers.

How does this affect Norwalk? During the last six months, the State has exercised these emergency powers, with no prior authorization from Norwalk officials, in three separate topics.

These actions include:

- The placing of persons experiencing homelessness, considered vulnerable to the coronavirus at the Saddleback Hotel on Firestone Boulevard.
- The Department of State Hospitals intent to renovate and possibly house COVID-19 negative patients at the California Youth Authority facility located on Bloomfield Avenue.
- Los Angeles County officials intent to purchase the Motel 6 on Rosecrans Avenue as part of Governor Newsom’s Project Homekey to permanently house people experiencing homelessness.

The Norwalk City Council has made extensive efforts to inform residents regarding these decisions by the State. The City has made requests to both the State and County officials for input on how these decisions may potentially affect Norwalk.

The City will continue to inform residents on these and any possible future decisions by the State.

COVID-19 UPDATE LA County Reopening Protocols

Most recently, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (County) has issued reopening protocols for several sectors, including nail salons and indoor shopping malls. Per the County:

Nail Salons

- Effective October 1, 2020, indoor services can resume at 25% occupancy. Salons are encouraged to continue outdoor services.
- Employees and customers screened for symptoms, and physical distancing measures are in place.
- Magazines, coffee and other amenities are removed. Contactless payment systems are encouraged.

School Waivers

- Effective October 5, 2020, schools with transitional kindergarten – 2nd grade programs can apply for waivers for in-person instruction.
- The issuance of waivers will be prioritized to schools with higher percentages of students qualified for free/reduced meals.
- Limit to 30 schools per week.

Indoor Shopping Malls

- Effective October 7, 2020, retail shops inside indoor malls with no outside access will be allowed to reopen at 25% capacity.
- Food courts are open for take out only. Indoor dining and all common areas remain closed.
- Contactless payment systems are encouraged.

Breweries/Wineries

- May operate outdoors and offer sit-down dining with permitted caterer, restaurant or food truck.
- Alcohol must be purchased in the same transaction as a bona fide meal.
- Face coverings and social distancing are required at all locations.

For more information on reopening protocols, visit publichealth.lacounty.gov

*Source: County of Los Angeles Public Health

Assisting Those in Need, Keeping Our Community Safe



The City of Norwalk is continuing its efforts to provide a high quality of life for all residents. This includes maintaining clean streets, developing programming for all ages, and providing resources to those in need, among many other efforts.

Our Homeless Operation Prevention and Engagement (HOPE) team plays a critical role in this effort. In collaboration with Public Services and Social Services, HOPE connects people experiencing homelessness to resources, while removing encampments and monitoring locations to deter illegal dumping, vandalism and nuisance activities.

To learn more about support services available, visit <https://www.norwalk.org/city-hall/departments/social-services>.



Norwalk City Hall Modified Hours

Open by appointment only.

Hotline 562-929-5760

Norwalk City Council

Mayor Jennifer Perez

Vice Mayor Tony Ayala

Councilmember Rick Ramirez

Councilmember Margarita L. Rios

Councilmember Ana Valencia

City of Norwalk
12700 Norwalk Blvd.
Norwalk, CA 90650

PSRT STD
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1139
Whittier, CA

To Postal Patron

Improving Our Infrastructure

The Public Services Division ensures that our streets and sidewalks are safe to use. On a daily basis, our staff in orange shirts make concrete repairs on sidewalks, curb & gutter; fill potholes; and repaint traffic safety signs. More than providing upkeep to our traffic and pedestrian infrastructure, the Public Services Division truly safeguards the streets and sidewalks that keeps our residents and visitors a connected community.



Give your health a boost, and support local farmers and growers, by visiting the Norwalk Farmer's Market! After more than 30 years at their previous location, the Norwalk Farmer's Market has moved to the Norwalk City Hall lawn and is held every Tuesday from 9 am to 1 pm. In addition to fruits and veggies, you will find honey, hummus and chips, coffee, plants and much more. Credit cards are accepted at the market

information booth.

The Norwalk Farmer's Market is managed by VenaVer events, and any direct inquires can be directed at hello@venaver.org

Norwalk City Hall is located at 12700 Norwalk Boulevard. Visitors may park in the City Hall parking lot.



Holiday Trash & Street Sweeping Schedule



In observance of Veterans Day on November 11, there will be no street sweeping; however, trash collection will take place.

Likewise, there will be service interruptions for the Thanksgiving holiday. There will be no street sweeping or trash

collection on Thursday, November 26. Trash collection will resume on Friday, November 27, but street sweeping will not resume until Monday, November 30.

As a reminder, when there is no street sweeping, it will NOT be made up. Streets can only be swept on the posted day. However, trash collection WILL be made up. Trash will be collected the day after the normal collection day for the remainder of the week. For example, Thursday's trash will be collected on Friday.

Important:

The altered schedule may cause trash collection to be on the same day as street sweeping in some areas. During these times, please place trash and recycle containers up on the parkway (grass between sidewalk and street) to allow the sweeper to properly clean the street. We appreciate your efforts in keeping the streets safe and clean by ensuring trash cans do not interfere with sweeping.

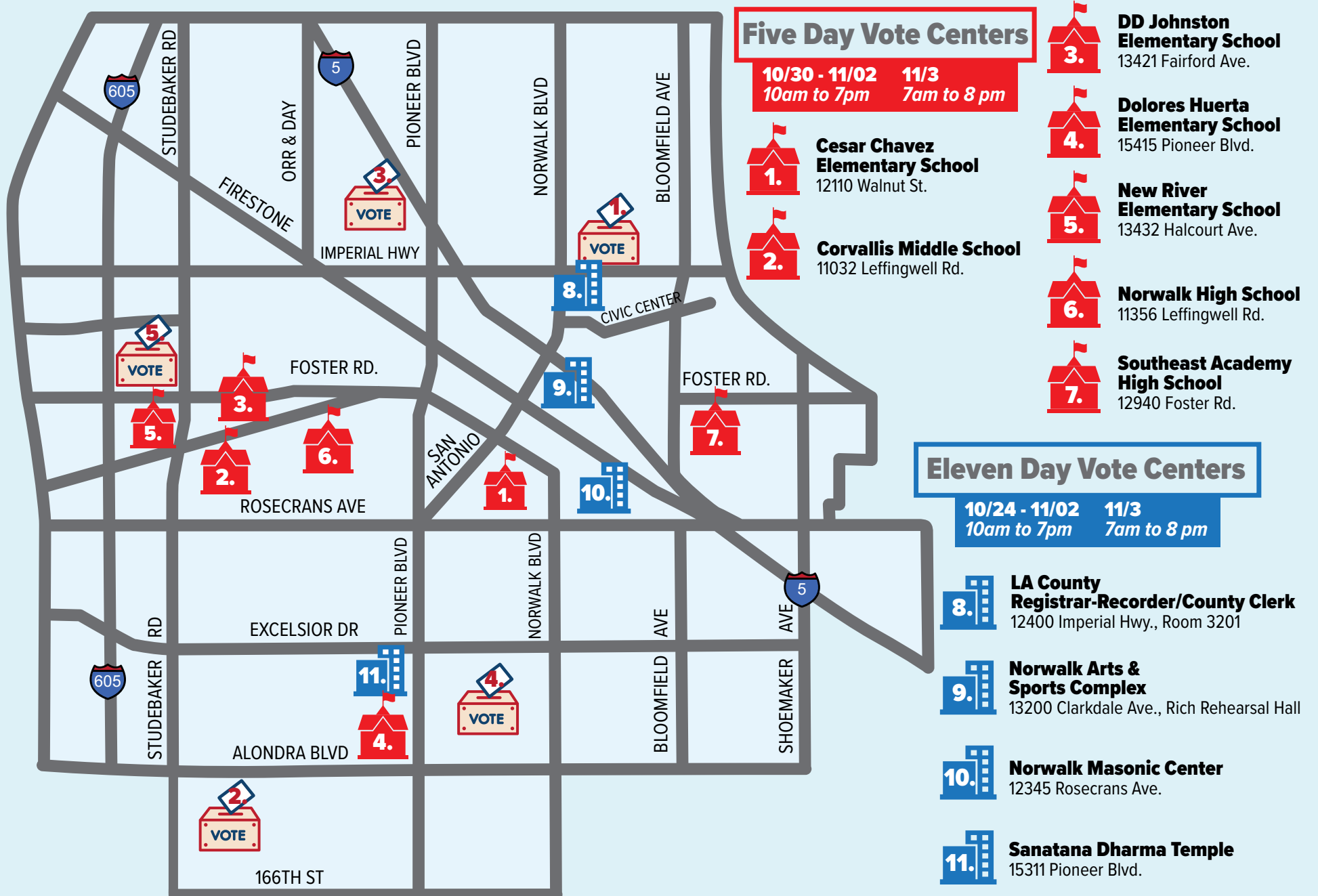
Questions?

Trash Collection	Athens Services	(888)336-6100
Street Sweeping	Public Services Department	(562)929-5511
Parking Enforcement	Public Safety Department	(562)929-5732

To view the 2020 Holiday Trash & Street Sweeping Schedule, please go to www.norwalk.org/residents/community-resources/environmental-and-recycling-services

Vote, Your Voice Matters

You can ensure your voice is heard by participating in the November 2020 Election. There are numerous ways submit your ballot: mail, drop-box or vote center location. Review the map to see the five-day vote centers, eleven-day vote centers and the vote-by-mail drop boxes.



Vote by Mail Drop-Off

- | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
|
1. LA County Registrar-Recorder Office
12400 Imperial Hwy. |
2. Cerritos College
11110 Alondra Blvd. |
3. William Orr School
12130 Jersey Ave. |
4. Alondra Library
11949 Alondra Blvd. |
5. Metro Green Line Station
12901 Hoxie Ave. |
|--|---|---|--|--|



COMMUNITY SAFETYZONE

Street Sweeping Enforcement Exemption for Holidays

The Public Safety Department will no longer be issuing parking citations for street sweeping on any day where trash collection and street sweeping take place on the same day, as sometimes occurs following some holidays. For example, if an observed holiday falls on a Monday, and creates a one-day delay in trash collection, then street sweeping enforcement will be exempt the rest of the week. Please note ONLY the days following the below holidays will be exempted from enforcement.

Holidays observed include:

Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 27

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25

New Year's Day - Friday, January 1

Reminder: On regularly scheduled trash collection day, residents are requested to place their trash and recycle bins at the curb for disposal up to 24 hours before the day of collection and must be removed and properly stored away from public view by 6 a.m. the following designated collection day. When trash collection occurs on the same day as street sweeping, bins should be placed on the parkway/on top of the curb so that street sweeping activity may take place.



Vehicle Thefts

Vehicle thefts continue to be on the rise in our community and the City does not want to see you fall victim to these thieves. Vehicle thefts can happen anywhere at any time. Never give thieves the incentive to target your vehicle. Here are some tips to ensure the safe keeping of your vehicles:

- Utilize a steering wheel lock or other owner applied anti-theft device.
- If feasible, keep your vehicle in your driveway or garage to deter a possible theft.
- Consider installing an anti-theft device such as an alarm system, or GPS tracking device.
- Place anti-theft stickers on the windows.

If you do fall victim to vehicle theft, call the Norwalk Sheriff's Station at 562-863-8711 as soon as possible. When reporting a stolen vehicle, make sure you have the license plate and vehicle identification number (also known as VIN) so that your vehicle can be entered into the Stolen Vehicle System.

Source: LASD

Catalytic Converter Theft



Norwalk, like surrounding communities, is experiencing an increase in catalytic converter thefts. Please follow the below simple tips to deter thieves targeting your vehicles.

1. Park in well-lit areas with surveillance cameras and/or where the vehicle will be seen by passersby.
2. Park trucks or SUV's surrounded by low ground clearance vehicles.
3. If your catalytic converter is a bolt-on model, have the bolts welded shut.
4. Install a catalytic converter protection device that clamps around the converter.
5. Etch your converter with your vehicle's license plate number in several locations.



Credit Card Scam Alert

The Public Safety Department would like to warn residents of an ongoing scam that seeks to steal your money. Scammers are disguising themselves as legitimate credit bureau companies offering reimbursement for being a victim of a data breach. Be aware that these are fake scammers looking to take your money.

If you receive an email or phone call advising that you have fallen victim to a data breach, do not provide them with any personal information until you verify the notice is valid. You will never have to pay to claim these benefits and anyone who tries to get you to file a claim is most likely a scammer.

Source: LASD

Source: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Litter & Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping damages neighborhoods, ruins the beautiful views of our City, threatens the environment, and is against the law. The Norwalk Municipal Code 8.28.040 prohibits depositing litter upon any street/sidewalk/public place. The California Penal Code 374.4 makes illegal dumping on private and public property punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000, and/or up to six months in jail. If you witness illegal dumping in progress, report it by calling the Public Safety Department at 562-929-5732. When reporting illegal dumping, provide as much detail as possible (date, location, time, vehicle color, make, clothing details).

How to Properly Dispose Items

- Property owners are responsible for properly disposing of all of their waste. Leaving trash and discarded items in alleys, medians and other public spaces not only reflects an unsightly appearance, but also creates community health and safety hazards.
- Please be reminded that residents of single-family homes may pre-arrange collection of up to FIVE bulky items once a week at no additional charge by calling Athens Services. To request a bulky item pick up, contact Athens Services at 888-336-6100 or online at athensservices.com/bulky-item-pickup/.



COVID-19 SPECIAL COVERAGE

• Safer at Home •

Get Your Rain Barrel!

The City of Norwalk, in partnership with Golden State Water and Liberty Utilities, are sponsoring a Rain Barrel Distribution. Due to COVID-19, the event has been modified and rain barrels will be delivered to homes, rather than residents having to pick up.

Residents MUST pre-order a rain barrel and may do so either by calling 919-602-6316 or visiting rainbarrelsintl.com. The cost of the rain barrel is \$20 plus tax, and there is a max limit of two rain barrels per household. Barrels will be delivered to Norwalk homes on December 1 – 5.

Please note: Households who have purchased two rain barrels at a previous distribution event are not eligible to participate.

Recycle a Used Oil Filter and Get a New One Free!



Date: Saturday, November 14
Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location: Auto Zone 12124 Studebaker Rd.

Open to Norwalk Residents Only.
May receive up to two new filters in exchange for two used filters.
For more information, call 888-439-7542.

Angel Tree Project 2020

For more than 35 years, the Angel Tree Project has been making the holiday season brighter for children in Norwalk. Now more than ever, we need our community to support this important annual celebration. This year, 800 children will attend a safe, socially distanced holiday celebration where they can greet Santa and receive gifts of clothing and a toy.

You can support our efforts to bring joy to children in our community whose families may be experiencing financial difficulties by making a monetary donation. If you would like to donate a gift of clothing (new clothes only), please call Mayra Sinclair at 562-462-1713. Wrapped gifts must be donated by Monday, December 7.

For more information, please call the Norwalk Social Services Center at 562-929-5544 or visit our Social Services webpage at www.norwalk.org

Virtual Recreation!

Looking for activities that the entire family can do together? Take a look at some of our virtual events taking place this month.

Virtual Loteria

Friday, November 6 • 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Norwalk families are invited to join us for live Loteria via Zoom! Supplies and materials for this program will be pre-packaged and available for pick up. One free packet worth of supplies per household. Register by Tuesday, November 3. Pick up instructions will be emailed to all registered participants prior to the event.

Gobbles & Games

Thursday, November 26 • 5 p.m.

Join us for a night of activities as you celebrate Thanksgiving. Participants will receive a holiday kit which will include crafts and games that the whole family can engage in at home! Follow along with Recreation as they demonstrate the activities in pre-recorded videos. Fee is \$20 per kit with pick up to take place November 23-25.

For more info, call 562-929-5566 or visit www.norwalk.org.

Senior Center/Social Services Center

Weekly Mental Health Support Group Telephone Presentation

Every Monday • 2 to 2:45 p.m.

Call-In Number: 1 (978) 990-5176

Conference ID: 695849

This support group, led by staff from Telecare Corporation, will meet by phone every week and cover topics, including depression, anxiety, stress management, self-care, grief and loss, mental well-being, and the aging process.

Sponsored by: Telecare Corporation

“Behaviors and Alzheimer’s Disease” Telephone Presentation

Thursday, November 5 • 10 to 11 a.m.

Call-In Number: 1 (323) 553-2890

Conference ID: 434 359 735#

Many behaviors arise with dementia that are difficult to understand. Using the IDEA strategy, this program aims to help individuals explore why behaviors happen, their meanings, and practical tips to respond.

Sponsored by: Alzheimer’s Los Angeles



“Stop Falling! Home Safety and Preventing Falls and Injury” Telephone Presentation

Thursday, November 12 • 10 to 11 a.m.

Call-In Number: 1 (877) 309-2073

Conference ID: 801 364 429#

Falls are one of the top five reasons that seniors end up in the Emergency Room. This presentation will highlight steps seniors can take in their homes to prevent falls.

Sponsored by: Independence at Home

Keeping It Crafty!

Keep yourself active mentally. The Senior Center has some craft kits that will brighten your day. Limited to the first 60 seniors who register.



Jointed Scarecrow Coloring Kit

3D Give Thanks Tabletop Decorating Kit

Norwalk residents can register for the free kits by contacting the Norwalk Senior Center at 562 929-5580 or emailing us at seniorcenter@norwalkca.gov. Registration is now being taken.



*Photo identification with proof of residency required when picking up kit.

Make a Difference, Give the Gift of Life!



The simple act of donating blood can make a huge impact on those facing serious medical illnesses or emergency situations. Help ensure an adequate blood supply during COVID-19 by donating at a blood drive. The City of Norwalk, along with Norwalk Pony Baseball, are hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive at the Sproul Room in the Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex on Tuesday, November 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Donors may schedule their appointments online at www.redcrossblood.org using the sponsor code: NorwalkStrong or calling 800-RED-CROSS.

The Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex is located at 13000 Clarkdale Avenue.

Soroptimist Village Apartments Opens Section 8 Waiting List!

The Soroptimist Village Apartments will be accepting applications for placement on its waiting list. Soroptimist Village is a Section 8 building for seniors age 62 and older, located at 12657 Foster Road in Norwalk.

The rent amount is based on 30 percent of the household’s monthly income. The maximum household size is two people. To qualify, an applicant’s total annual income cannot exceed the following amounts:

1 person (studio apartment) \$23,700

2 people (1 bedroom apartment) \$27,050

Applications will be accepted online beginning December 7-14, 5 p.m., by visiting the City’s website at norwalk.org. For more information call Norwalk Housing Authority at 562-929-5588.

Veterans Day Virtual Ceremony

While COVID-19 continues to modify our in-person gatherings, the City of Norwalk will honor our uniformed men and women via a virtual Veterans Day Ceremony. Please tune in on Wednesday, November 11 at 11 am on Facebook, Instagram and our local access channel.

