

**WINTER 2024**  
**CITY OF ARCADIA NEWSLETTER**

**City Council**

April A. Verlato, *Mayor*  
Michael Cao, *Mayor Pro Tem*  
Paul P. Cheng, *Council Member*  
Sharon Kwan, *Council Member*  
Eileen Wang, *Council Member*

**City Officials**

Gene Glasco, *City Clerk*  
Dominic Lazzaretto, *City Manager*

**City Council Meetings**

The City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Meetings are broadcast live on the City's government access cable channel - AT&T channel 99 and Charter Communications digital channel 15-257. Meetings are also available for viewing from the City website.

**ArcadiaCA.gov**

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- @EnrichArcadia  
@ProtectArcadia  
@ShapeArcadia  
@DiscoverArcadia
- City of Arcadia

City Hall 574-5400  
Building 574-5416  
City Council 574-5403  
City Manager 574-5401  
Coyote Reporting Hotline 278-8039  
Development Services 574-5415  
Fire Administration 574-5100  
Graffiti Hotline 821-4333  
Historical Museum 574-5440  
Library 821-5567  
Planning 574-5133  
Police Administration 574-5151  
Public Works Services 254-2720  
Recreation & Community Services 574-5113  
Senior Citizen Services 574-5130  
Shopping Cart Removal (800) 506-9983  
Water Conservation Hotline 574-3000  
Water Service 254-2700

# ARCADIA

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Wilderness Park: The Road to Recovery

In September 2020, the Bobcat Fire swept across the San Gabriel Mountains, swelling to over 116,000 acres. Thanks to incredible firefighting efforts, no structures were damaged in Arcadia, but the blaze left behind scarred slopes on the hillside above Wilderness Park. The damage from the fire only worsened from heavy winter rains that followed annually from 2021 through 2023, forcing Wilderness Park into a multi-year closure and leaving many wondering when this beloved space will reopen in Arcadia.

### The Aftermath of a Significant Rainy Season



SEPTEMBER 2020



DECEMBER 2021



JANUARY 2023

Post-wildfire, vegetation takes three to five years to recover and prevent devastating mudflows caused by rainfall on loose soil.

Before the hillsides above Wilderness Park could recover from the fire, rainstorms in December unleashed eight feet of mud, boulders, and debris, burying paths, picnic areas, trees, and structures.

Protective barriers were installed to prevent additional damage, but were no match for the rainstorms, where water was moving nearly 30 mph down the hillside, adding five more feet of mud.

### What has been done to repair Wilderness Park?

In early 2023, Los Angeles County Public Works began removing mud, trees, and debris that was collected in the debris basin. Currently, a conveyor belt is set up in Wilderness Park for sediment removal from the Santa Anita Dam. Once the sediment removal is complete, Arcadia will decide on the most effective cleanup approach. Debris removal and the park reopening will remain a challenge until the County repairs the bridge at Wilderness Park and the sediment conveyor belt is removed, which is not scheduled for completion until 2025.

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Download the Arcadia Transit App

**Passio GO!**

Then, select City of Arcadia as the transit system to view.

Apple App Store



Google Play Store



## What will it cost to restore Wilderness Park?

Tackling a cleanup project this large requires the collaboration of numerous agencies and comes with a multi-million dollar price tag, making it impossible for the City to take this on alone.

Arcadia is relying on agencies such as the State's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for financial support to help with debris removal and repairs, estimated to cost between \$4.0 and \$7.0 million. Obtaining this level of federal and state support lengthens the process, but helps divert costs from Arcadia taxpayers.



**In total, there's nearly 27,000 cubic yards of debris in Wilderness Park. What does 27,000 cubic yards look like?**



## We Need Your Help!

Once the debris is cleared out, the restoration journey for Wilderness Park begins, and you're invited to be a part of it! You'll have the chance to share your input on various aspects of the park, including layout, natural elements, walking paths, and more.

The goal is to create a space that not only restores the park's natural beauty, but also minimizes the risk of significant damage by future natural disasters.

## Stay Connected

Thank you for your patience and continued support as we work to make Wilderness Park a safer and more enjoyable space for everyone.

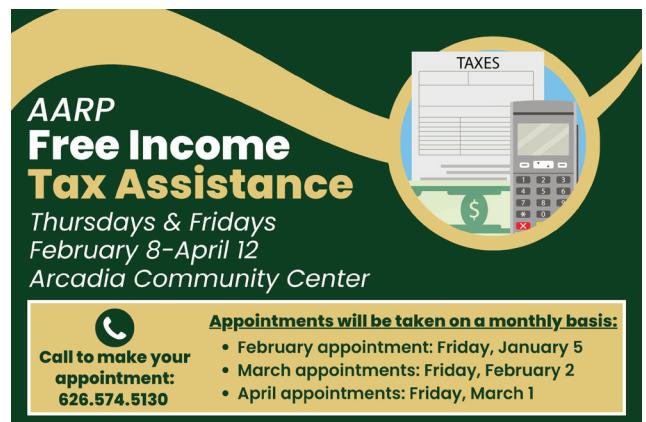
To stay up to date on the restoration of Wilderness Park, visit:

**ArcadiaCA.gov/WildernessPark**

**CITY OF ARCADIA IS NOW ON INSTAGRAM!**



**Follow Us  
@ArcadiaCAGov**



## Arcadia Public Library

### ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS

Improve your ability to speak & understand English

Starting on January 8  
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Cay Mortenson Auditorium

This class is free and open to adults with a basic ability to read and speak English. Students meet in small groups with a tutor based on their level. All materials provided and space is limited.

The Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage Presents:

#### EDUCATIONAL KITS

The Gilb Museum is offering free kits! Each kit comes with a short lesson and materials necessary to complete some fun crafts! **Until supplies last!**

#### LNY: Year of the Dragon

January 9 – February 29

It's the Year of the Dragon! Look into the cultural significance of the Lunar New Year!

#### Earth Day Kit

March 5 – April 30

Learn how you can reduce your carbon footprint and live more sustainably!

Reserve your kit at [ArcadiaCA.gov/museum](http://ArcadiaCA.gov/museum)

FREE



Come discover, explore, & learn new things with the Gilb Museum!

Every Friday starting February 2  
10am - 11am

Register at [ArcadiaCA.gov/museum](http://ArcadiaCA.gov/museum)

## No Dumping Fats, Oils, & Grease (FOGs)

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOGs) come from meat fats in food scraps, cooking oil, shortening, lard, butter, margarine, gravy, and food products such as mayonnaise, salad dressings, and sour cream. FOGs should never be poured down the drain as they create blockages in pipes and can damage sewer lines, leading to unwanted back flow of wastewater in homes and businesses. Consequently, exposure to untreated wastewater is a public-health hazard.



### What To Do with FOGs Instead

- Used FOGs can be properly disposed of by pouring or scraping into a sealable container and placed into the black trash cart.
- Wipe pots, pans, and dishes with dry paper towels before rinsing or washing them, then throw away the paper towels in the black trash cart.

1

#### SCRAPE IT

Wipe FOG from pots, pans, and dishes with dry paper towels

2

#### CAN IT

Put in a sealable container



3

#### TRASH IT

Place into black trash cart



## Tips to Keep your Organics Cart Clean

Since January 2022, SB 1383 requires all residents and businesses to recycle organic waste like food scraps and lawn clippings in the organics cart. Organic waste should be placed in the cart without any plastic bags or compostable bags. This can be downright yucky, so here are some tips to reduce the "yuck":

- LINE IT – Line your cart with newspaper or paper bags.
- LAYER IT – Use leaves and other yard waste as a layer between food waste.
- STORE IT – To reduce odors and pests, keep your cart in a shady, ventilated area.
- SET IT OUT – Set your cart out on trash day, even if it isn't full.
- RINSE IT – Rinse out cart with a water and vinegar solution and let dry before using.

## Housing Rights Center

The Housing Rights Center (HRC) offers Arcadia tenants and property owners free fair housing services, including housing discrimination investigation, landlord/tenant counseling, and up-to date information on housing issues like evictions and allowable rent increases. The HRC also offers in-person clinics at various locations in the San Gabriel Valley, with no appointment needed.

**HOUSINGRIGHTSCENTER.ORG**

Email: [info@housingrightscenter.org](mailto:info@housingrightscenter.org)





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## ARCADIA POSTAL CUSTOMER

The Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage Presents:

# PRESERVATION WORKSHOPS

Join Museum staff in a series of workshops and demonstrations on how you can preserve your personal and family history. Learn preservation methods used by museum professionals and see examples from the Museum collections.

10am



TEXTILE  
WORKSHOP

February 3



PHOTOGRAPH  
WORKSHOP

March 2

LIMITED SPACE. RSVP AT [ARCADIACA.GOV/MUSEUM](http://ARCADIACA.GOV/MUSEUM)

The Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage Presents:

# 14TH ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



## THEME: NO PLACE LIKE HOME

What do you think of when you think of home? Your grandmother's house? Your pets? Your room? A country? A landmark?

Join this year's photography contest! Accepting submissions: March 5 – 30

1st, 2nd, 3rd, & honorable mention winners will be announced at the reception.  
Opening Reception: April 27 at 10:30 a.m.

Exhibit: April 27 – July 20

Visit [ArcadiaCA.gov/Museum](http://ArcadiaCA.gov/Museum) for more details.

## 本期提要

荒野公园 (Wilderness Park) 最新状况	1 - 2
在 Instagram 上随时了解阿凯迪亚市的信息	2
免费所得税报税协助	2
年度最佳年长者提名	2
丢弃脂肪、机油和油脂	3
保持有机物处理车清洁的技巧	3
住房权利维护中心	3
红包展览	4

## Gilb Museum of Arcadia Heritage



Join the Gilb Museum in this year's Red Envelope Exhibit, featuring envelopes decorated by the community.

Exhibit from February 3 to April 6