

February 24

Hello everyone!

Thank you to everyone who passed on the weather messaging this week! Together, OEM volunteers reached more than 3,000 residents with life safety information. There are still power outages in parts of Cupertino - go to the PG&E outage map for the latest.

If you have any questions or feedback, feel free to let me know.

News For You

Block Leader Directory

An updated version of the Block Leader directory will be available next week. If you would like to be included, please email me with your full name, zone number, and at least one way to contact you.

Future Participation (action requested)

As part of the continued program "revamp", we want to make sure that everyone is able to participate and stay informed, even if they do not have the same time and capacity that others do. As part of this, I put together a quick survey. A response to the survey is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** for anyone involved in the Block Leaders and/or Neighborhood Watch programs. A link to the survey is [HERE](#).

Please Share the Following Earth Day Volunteering

Earth Day is coming up! If you know anyone who would like to volunteer at the event, have them sign up at [this link](#). The Sustainability Division is looking for people to volunteer day of, or take on a leadership role.

CREST Awards

Do you know someone who should be recognized for their efforts in volunteering, sustainability, or public safety?

For more than 30 years, the City of Cupertino has recognized its outstanding community members with an awards program. Hundreds of residents and community organizations have been honored with the award, now known as the CREST (Cupertino Recognizes Extra Steps Taken) Awards.

For the past four years, the City has presented awards in six categories to better reflect the Cupertino community. The categories are:

- Lifetime Achievement Award (Volunteer) – Recognizes a member of the community who has volunteered in the City of Cupertino for 10+ years.

- Volunteer of the Year – Recognizes individuals who have made a difference to the Cupertino community through volunteer service.
- Organization of the Year – Recognizes organizations that have made a difference to the Cupertino community through volunteer service.
- Rising Star Award (Volunteer) – Recognizes an individual who has volunteered in Cupertino for three or less years but shows a continued commitment to the future of the Cupertino community.
- Public Safety Champion of the Year – Recognizes an individual or group that has made an outstanding contribution to the safety of Cupertino.
- Sustainability Champion of the Year – Recognizes a person or group committed to maintaining a sustainable and healthy place to live, work, and play in Cupertino.

Award criteria and nomination requirements are on the application form, which can be found at the link below. The nomination form is now 100% online to make it easier and more convenient for the public to nominate their candidate. Please be as detailed as possible. **Nominations are due by Sunday, March 12.**

Questions? Contact Marta Drown at (408) 777-3408, or MartaD@cupertino.org.

Are you interested in joining the Block Leaders program? Learn more at Cupertino.org/BlockLeader

February 22

Hello everyone,

Please be aware that Cupertino will be facing inclement weather in the coming days. Please share the attached life-safety information with your community. If the best way to spread the word in your community is through physical postings, please reach out and we can discuss printing a few copies.

Why does this matter?

An informed community is a safe community. The forecasted weather brings a risk of hypothermia, which can be deadly.

Required Actions

1. Share this information widely
 - a. If you feel comfortable translating this message in order to spread the word, please do so.
2. Confirm that you received this message through **this form**
 - b. Indicate whether you shared the information with your local community (this can include WhatsApp, social media, email, text, physical postings)
 - c. Estimate the number of people you shared the message with

-----MESSAGE BELOW-----

The National Weather Service has issued a Freeze Warning for Santa Clara Valley for Wednesday night into Thursday morning. Dangerously cold temperatures are anticipated each night and morning from Wednesday through Saturday. Rain is expected Wednesday, with additional rainfall Thursday night into Friday. Snow may impact commuters traveling over Highway 17 on Thursday and Friday. Snow and freezing rain in other parts of the region are likely to impact travel Thursday through Saturday. Weather updates:

www.weather.gov/bayarea

KEY POINTS

- Dangerously cold overnight temperatures Wednesday night scattered showers through the week
- sub-freezing temperatures expected, impacting the most vulnerable of communities
- Strong winds will continue through Wednesday morning before gradually diminishing Wednesday afternoon.
- A second round of stronger winds is expected on Thursday
- Cold temperatures remain over the weekend, but the showers are expected to subside
- Unsettled weather continues as another rain system is forecast to arrive early next week

SAFETY TIPS

1. Check in frequently on your family, friends and neighbors who may be more vulnerable. Call 9-1-1 for life safety concerns. Vulnerable individuals include:

- o homeless individuals.
- o Individuals over 65
- o Infants
- o individuals with circulatory problems or those who are taking certain medications
- o those with access and functional needs
- o those without effective heating systems
- o those who may not understand or have access to public safety information

2. Stay warm: Avoid being outside during the coldest part of the night or for extended periods of time in cold weather. Avoid excessive consumption of alcohol if you will be staying outside. Dress in layers. Wear a hat and gloves. Get out of wet clothes as soon as possible to avoid hypothermia.

3. Register to receive emergency alerts through www.AlertSCC.org

4. Report downed trees or debris. Text 3-1-1 through the app (or submit a request using ServiceFinder)

5. If you smell natural gas or see downed power lines call 9-1-1.

6. Avoid unnecessary travel when driving conditions are hazardous.

7. Sandbags are available at the City Corporation Yard 10555 Mary Ave

8. VTA is offering free rides to shelters for the unhoused. Cupertino Library is open as a warming location during regular business hours.

Visit www.Cupertino.org/emergency for more information

_____ **Call 9-1-1 for life-safety concerns** _____

Marta Drown

February 21

Hello everyone,

Please be aware that Cupertino will be facing inclement weather in the coming days. Please share the attached life-safety information with your community. **Your effort matters, especially in preventing hypothermia which can be deadly.** If the best way to spread the word in your community is through physical postings, please reach out and we can discuss printing a few copies.

Action Items (not required)

1. Share this information widely
 - a. If you feel comfortable translating this message in order to spread the word, please do so.
2. Confirm that you received this message (either by replying to this email or through **this form**)
 - b. Indicate whether you shared the information with your local community (this can include WhatsApp, social media, email, text, physical postings)
 - c. Estimate the number of people you shared the message with

The [National Weather Service](#) anticipates cold, wet, and windy weather this week. Dangerously cold temperatures anticipated each night and morning Wednesday through Saturday. Rain is expected Wednesday, with additional rainfall Thursday night into Friday. Snow may impact commuters traveling over Highway 17 on Thursday and Friday. Snow and freezing rain in other parts of the region is also likely to impact travel Thursday through Saturday.

KEY POINTS

- A storm system arrives tonight with impacts lingering through late week
- Cold air behind the front will make for frigid temperatures Thursday through Saturday
- Northerly winds with stronger wind gusts will arrive Tuesday night, **not diminishing until early Thursday morning**

- Cold temperatures will lower snow levels to between 1,000 and 1,500 feet
- Winter Storm Watch now in effect for higher elevations in the South Bay and Central Coast
- Light rain will arrive on Wednesday, but a secondary pulse Thursday will make the rainfall more widespread Thursday night and into much of Friday

Protect yourself and your community by taking necessary precautions:

3. Have a plan for keeping yourself and your family safe during a power outage.
4. Register to [receive emergency alerts](#)
5. Report downed trees or debris by calling **3-1-1** (or submit a request using [ServiceFinder](#))
6. **Do not drive** through flooded roadways.
7. If you smell natural gas or see downed power lines **call 9-1-1**.
8. [Sandbags are available](#) at the City Corporation Yard *and throughout the County*
9. Get out of wet clothes as soon as possible to avoid hypothermia
10. **Check on your family, friends and neighbors.** If you, or someone you know, is experiencing homelessness, the **Cupertino Library** is open during regular business hours for shelter from weather.
11. [VTA is offering free rides](#) to shelters for the unhoused

Visit www.Cupertino.org/emergency for more information

_____ Call 9-1-1 for life-safety concerns _____

Marta Drown

February 14

Hello everyone,

Please be aware that Cupertino will be having cold weather in the coming days. Please share the attached life-safety information with your community. **Your effort matters, especially in preventing hypothermia which can be deadly.** If the best way to spread the word in your community is through physical postings, please reach out and we can discuss printing a few copies.

Action Items (not required)

1. Share this information widely
 - a. If you feel comfortable translating this message in order to spread the word, please do so.
2. Confirm that you received this message (either by replying to this email or through **this form**)
 - b. Indicate whether you shared the information with your local community (this can include WhatsApp, social media, email, text, physical postings)
 - c. Estimate the number of people you shared the message with

KEY POINTS

- Freeze watch for entire region Tuesday night to Wednesday morning
- Continued overnight low temperatures through Thursday morning

The [National Weather Service](#) anticipates cold overnight and early morning temperatures in Cupertino through Thursday morning, February 16 2023. Cold impacts include hypothermia with elevated risk to children, the elderly and those sleeping in cars or outdoors. County libraries, including the Cupertino Library, are available during regular business hours as places where people can go to get warm. Expanded shelter services may be available throughout the County.

Call 9-1-1 for life-safety concerns. Please call 2-1-1 for shelter locations.

The County Office of Emergency Management offers [Cold Weather Safety Messaging](#) in five languages. *Stay warm and be sure to check frequently on those most vulnerable.* Protect yourself and your community by taking necessary precautions:

1. **Avoid being outside** during the coldest part of the night, or for extended periods of time in extreme cold weather
2. Dress in layers
3. Wear a hat, scarf and gloves/mittens

4. Wear waterproof, insulated boots to avoid hypothermia or frostbite
5. Get out of wet clothes as soon as possible
6. Stay hydrated
7. Avoid excessive consumption of alcohol if you will be staying outside
8. **Check on your family, friends and neighbors** who may be more vulnerable. Call 9-1-1 if you are concerned about life or safety.

Vulnerable individuals include:

o homeless individuals.

o very old and very young individuals, in particular people over 65 years old.

o individuals with circulation problems or those who are taking certain medications

o those with access and functional needs.

o those without effective heating systems

9. Call 9-1-1 for life-safety concerns

10. The latest weather forecasts and updates can be found at www.weather.gov/BayArea

February 9

Hello everyone!

There is quite a bit of news for you all this time so let's get right into it! I am moving our newsletters to the GovDelivery system. You may also receive a copy of this email through the old system, just in case anyone has marked GovDelivery as spam.

If you have any questions or feedback, feel free to let me know.

News For You

Future Participation (action requested)

As part of the continued program "revamp", we want to make sure that everyone is able to participate and stay informed, even if they do not have the same time and capacity that other do. As part of this, I put together a quick survey. A response to the survey is STRONGLY ENCOURAGED for anyone involved in the Block Leaders and/or Neighborhood Watch programs. A link to the survey is [HERE](#).

Block Leader Directory

For those of you interested in joining the Block Leader Directory, the form closes February 11th.

As a reminder, only input your own information! You can find a link to the form [HERE](#).

Meeting Date Change

I am moving the April 19th meeting to May, exact date and time TBA. At the moment, I am still planning to have the meeting virtually

Please Share the Following

Earth Day Volunteering

Earth Day is coming up! If you know anyone who would like to volunteer at the event, have them sign up at [this link](#). The Sustainability Division is looking for people to volunteer day of, or take on a leadership role.

Website Survey

Share input on Cupertino's new website! A brand new Cupertino website is in the works to make it easier to find the information you need and we want your feedback!

The City is looking for input on how you are using the municipal website. Please take a few minutes to fill out our survey below to assist us in gathering ways that we can make the experience better for you.

Take the survey at cupertino.org/websitesurvey.

Memorial Park

The City of Cupertino is revitalizing Memorial Park and needs your feedback! After hearing from the community in the fall, we have created three park concepts that blend important aspects of the park's identity as a civic event space, community gathering space, and natural site and park. Now, we want to hear your thoughts about each concept to help shape the Memorial Park experience for the future.

Learn more and share your thoughts at this link: <https://engagecupertino.org/memorial-park-specific-plan>

Questions? Contact Marta Drown at (408) 777-3408, or MartaD@cupertino.org.

Are you interested in joining the Block Leaders program? Learn more at Cupertino.org/BlockLeader

January 30

Hello everyone,

I hope you have had a safe 2023 so far – it's almost February!

Topics

- **For Block Leaders**
 - Weekly Crime Summary
 - Block Leader Directory
 - Update Neighborhood Contact
- **Please Share**
 - A Message from Public Works: Revitalize Memorial Park
 - NextDoor
 - Frost and Freezing Warning

Crime Summary

Attached is a copy of the most recent crime summary from the Sheriff's Office. We are looking for the best way to share this information with residents – if you have any thoughts, please let me know.

Block Leader Directory

If you would like to be included in the Block Leader directory, please input your information at the link below. Only input your own information – if you have a co-lead or partner do not share their information. I will be closing the form February 15th.

Neighborhood Contact Information

Are you up-to-date with your Block's contact info? If there are new residents, invite them to join your Block and share their contact with everyone, and remove anyone who may have moved away. When you are done, make sure to share the finalized list with the members of your Block, and let me know how many people were included. **DO NOT** send me the contact information for your neighborhood – I only need a basic idea of Block sizes.

Please share the following:

Memorial Park Revitalization

The City of Cupertino is revitalizing Memorial Park and needs your feedback! After hearing from the community in the fall, we have created three park concepts that blend important aspects of the park's identity as a civic event space, community gathering space, and natural site and park. Now, we want to hear your thoughts about each concept to help shape the Memorial Park experience for the future.

Share your thoughts

- Open House at the Cupertino Senior Center – Saturday, February 4 from 10a-2p
- [Community Webinar](#) – Thursday, February 9 at 7p

Learn more about the project at engagecupertino.org/memorial-park-specific-plan

Frost and Freeze Warning

Cupertino is expecting dangerously cold weather this week. Please keep an eye on anyone without adequate heating in the coming days – the Cupertino library is available as a warming shelter.

NextDoor

Because NextDoor is by residents, for residents, the City and Sheriff's Office do not monitor NextDoor groups. If someone in your NextDoor group is the victim of a crime, or is concerned that a crime has been committed please direct them to the Sheriff's Office. **Crimes can be reported by calling 9-1-1, texting 9-1-1, or calling (408) 299-2311 (nonemergency line).**

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Marta Drown

January 19

Hello everyone!

Thank you to everyone who came to last night's meeting. If you were unable to join, there is a summary included towards the end of this email. Our next meeting will be Wednesday April 19 at 6pm.

For Block Leaders

- Contact form
- Reminder to update own contact lists
- Recap of storm efforts

For all

- Jan 18 meeting recap
- Upcoming events/dates
 - Block Leader training
 - Preparedness training
 - City calendar events/dates

Information for Block Leaders:

- Block Leader contact form
 - I am opening the online form to share your contact information with other Block Leaders. As before, this information you enter will only be shared with other Block Leaders. The form will close February 1st, so if you are interested, please fill it out sooner rather than later.
- Neighborhood Contact Sheets (template attached)
 - Please take some time to update (or create) your neighborhood's contact lists. Make sure you have the correct information for residents that are part of your Block, and if anyone new has moved in - get in touch and invite them to join. You do not have to use the attached template, please do what works best for you and your community.
 - Once you have your contact lists distribute copies to everyone included so that they can reach you and each other!
 - Please do not send me a copy of your contact lists! However, please DO let me know how many people are part of your Block.
- Recap of Storm Efforts
 - Thank you to everyone who confirmed receipt of the storm messaging and passed it on to others! The January 3rd message was sent to 3948 people by 29 Block Leaders and Neighborhood Watch captains. The January 6 message was sent to 4716 people by 40 Block Leaders and Neighborhood Watch captains. Your actions help keep your community safe and informed.

Information for all:

- Quarter 1 Program Meeting Recap
 - The Block Leader program exists to enable communication, encourage community building, and increase public safety. Any Cupertino resident is welcome to join the program.
 - Because Block Leaders and Neighborhood Watch captains are not Disaster Service Workers, I will not be issuing Block Leader IDs. If you are interested in

becoming a Disaster Service Worker through the CARES, CERT or MRC programs, you can sign up at [Cupertino.org/volunteer](https://www.cupertino.org/volunteer)

- All Block Leaders are required to attend at least one meeting each year. Meetings are held quarterly of the third Wednesdays of January, April, and July. The fourth meeting is the Public Safety Forum (date TBA).
- If you need to submit a concern of any kind you can do so through the 311 app or <https://www.cupertino.org/our-city/advanced-components/cupertino-311> If you have questions for Code Enforcement, they can be reached at Code@cupertino.org or 408-777-3182
- Upcoming dates – **Trainings are held virtually using Microsoft Teams**
 - Block Leader Trainings
 - January 23rd at [11am](#)
 - January 25th at [6pm](#)
 - [Personal Preparedness Trainings](#)
 - February 4th
 - March 7th
 - [Family/Neighborhood Preparedness Trainings](#)
 - February 6th
 - March 14th
 - [City calendar here](#)

Marta Drown

December 15

Hello everyone!

I hope you've all had a good December so far!

Topics – Feel free to share all information EXCEPT the corrected contact list

- Corrected Contact List
- January Meeting
- Winter messaging
- SCCEMA recognizes two Cupertino volunteers
- A message from the Sustainability Division
- Upcoming dates and events

Contact List

- Attached is a corrected version of the Block Leader contact list – if you would like to be included on the next version, I will put a call out in January. Again, please DO NOT share this document with anyone outside the Block Leader program.

January Meeting

- Registration Link:(Open to all Cupertino residents)
- Wednesday January 18 at 6pm
- Topics
 - Review of the Program Revamp
 - Sheriff's Office presentation
- Block Leaders are required to attend at least one quarterly meeting per calendar year. The next meeting will be April 18th discussing Sustainability

Winter Weather Alert

- A massive thank you to everyone who helped spread the winter weather messaging! Our program shared the alert with an estimated 2500 people. I would also like to thank everyone working as co-leads who coordinated to make sure the information was not sent multiple times to the same people.
- Across all OEM programs, the Cold Weather messaging was shared to almost 3000 people!

Why is this important?

- A chance for you to make sure the contact list for your Block is up to date
 - Has anyone new moved in? Are they willing to be part of your Block?
- A way to show program participation
 - Shows the City the importance of volunteer programs
 - Gives me a more accurate picture of active participant numbers
- Taking care of each other
 - Keep in mind that not everyone is used to our weather patterns. It may be someone's first winter in the area, they might not have heating/shelter, or they may be part of a vulnerable population.

- Last December saw 5 deaths from exposure in one night – your work could save a life

SCCEMA recognition for Steve Hill and Jim Oberhofer

- The Santa Clara County Emergency Managers Association (SCCEMA) recognized two Cupertino volunteers last week: Steve Hill and Jim Oberhofer. Congratulations and thank you for your hard work and dedication!

A Message from the Sustainability Division:

Don't throw out the holiday cheer this season! Broken holiday lights should be disposed of as electronic waste, not garbage or recycling.

Putting electronic waste in the garbage will increase toxicity in the landfill which hurts our environment. String lights in the recycling stream will tangle and break the sorting machines.

Residents have options for safe electronic waste disposal.

- Drop off your broken lights at the household hazardous waste facility;
- Drop off your lights at Cupertino's next Environmental Recycling Day event January 16;
- Call Recology to schedule a pick-up (two pick-ups per year at no additional cost).

Learn more at www.cupertino.org/hhw

Residents who are currently enrolled in the PG&E CARE program can get a reduced rate of up to 50% off their garbage bill. Providing proof of enrollment in PG&E's CARE program is required.

Contact Recology at (408) 725-4020 or recologysouthbay@recology.com for more information.

Upcoming Dates

- Now-12/21 Drop off new or gently used coats at the Cupertino Library
- 1/18 Block Leader meeting
- 1/21 Shredding and Environmental Recycling Event
- [See the full calendar here](#)
- You can also check the [City's YouTube channel](#) for past Council meetings and some events (including last Friday's Oath of Office Ceremony)
- The City will be closed December 23-January 2.
 - The Sheriff's Office will still be available (911 or 408-299-2311)
 - I will be out of town with limited/no service. Please send any emails to OES@cupertino.org during this time

Have a wonderful weekend and see you in the New Year!

Marta Drown

December 1

Hello everyone and happy December!

It's a busy time for many, so I've done my best to be brief. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns you can reach me at MartaD@cupertino.org or the whole Emergency Management team at OES@cupertino.org.

Topics

- Contact list
- January meeting
- Winter Weather
- Upcoming events

Contact List

Thank you to everyone who agreed to share their contact information with the program as a whole. Attached is a copy of the contact information sorted by Zone – please be respectful of everyone's information privacy, DO NOT share this document outside of the program.

*****Please share*****

January Meeting

We will have a (virtual) meeting January 18 at 6pm. I will have a recap of the program updates and there will also be a Sheriff's Office representative to provide a report of local crime rates and trends. To attend, please sign up here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/block-leader-quarterly-meeting-tickets-458800563837>

The event is also open to the public, so if you know anyone who is interested in either the Block Leader or Neighborhood Watch programs they are welcome to join as well.

Winter Cold

Thank you to everyone who confirmed they received the Cold Weather Alert! For the latest updates and forecasts go to <https://www.weather.gov/mtr>.

Also, the City is partnering with Recology for the annual Coat Drive! You can drop off new or gently used coats at the Cupertino Library lobby (10800 Torre Avenue) until Wednesday, December 21. Donated items will be distributed by Sacred Heart Community Services. For more ways to donate, go to <https://www.sacredheartcs.org/donate-items>.

December Events

- December 9 7pm – [Personal Emergency Preparedness Class](#)
- December 14 7pm – [Family and Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Class](#)
- December 23 - January 2: City Closure
 - I will be out of town with limited/no service during the closure, please send any questions or concerns to OES@cupertino.org
- Find all the events (including Council, Committee, and Commission meetings and Christmas events) here: <https://www.cupertino.org/visitors/calendar-of-events/-curm-12/-cury-2022>

Thank you for all you do to support your community, each other, and the City of Cupertino!

Marta Drown

