

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:  
The 25th Annual Bonfire  
Holiday Fire Safety  
Shop Local

November 2022// Issue 11

# THE ZEST

CITY OF LEMON GROVE NEWS

## THE 25TH ANNUAL BONFIRE



It's the most wonderful time of the year. In Lemon Grove, we kick off the season of holiday spirit and family gatherings with our 25th Annual Bonfire. The Annual Bonfire is the City's biggest event of the year where family, friends, and community members come together for a day of celebration, activities, local food, and of course, the lighting of the Bonfire. Twenty-five years ago, The Lemon Grove Annual Bonfire began as an idea of former Lemon Grove Mayor, Mary Sessom, whom sought to heat up the holiday season with an event that would engulf the eyes and hearts of the community. In 1997 with approximately 200 community members in attendance, former Mayor Sessom lit the first bonfire. 25 years later, this annual event draws thousands people from Lemon Grove and neighboring communities to Treganza Park for kick off of the holiday season.

The Annual Bonfire is a signature event for the City where the smell of woodsmoke and the crackle and hiss of burning wood ceremoniously light up the night at Treganza Park. Guests can expect Live music, activities such as a rock climbing wall, bounce houses, food trucks, and FREE snacks.

Oh, and be sure to wear your best ugly sweater for our, "Ugly Sweater contest" starting at 7p.m. shortly after the Community Aerial Photo.



City of Lemon Grove's  
**25th Annual BONFIRE**  
Free • Family • Fun  
Treganza Park  
3200 Main St. Lemon Grove, Ca 91945  
Friday, December 2, 2022  
4:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Join us in celebrating our 25th Bonfire Anniversary!  
6:00 p.m.- Lighting of the Bonfire  
6:10 p.m.- Community Aerial Photo  
7:00 p.m.-Ugly Sweater Contest

- Activities:**
- Game Truck
  - Bounce Houses
  - Arts & Crafts
  - Rock Climbing
  - Live Music
  - & Much More!
- Food:**
- Free Cookies
  - Free Popcorn
  - Free Hot Chocolate
  - Food Trucks\*
  - \*Food for purchase



For more information contact Monica Gonzalez [mgonzalez@lemongrove.ca.gov](mailto:mgonzalez@lemongrove.ca.gov)  
or Marlene Torres [mtorres@lemongrove.ca.gov](mailto:mtorres@lemongrove.ca.gov)

### Event Sponsors:



"The joy of brightening other lives becomes for us the magic of the holidays." – W. C. Jones



CITY OF LEMON GROVE  
3232 Main Street,  
Lemon Grove, CA 91945  
619.825.3200  
[www.lemongrove.ca.gov](http://www.lemongrove.ca.gov)

Find us on these social networks!





# HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY



As you deck the halls this Christmas season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can spread very quickly. Christmas trees account for hundreds of fires each year. Typically, Christmas tree fires are started by shorts in electrical lights or open flames from candles, lighters, or matches. Well-watered trees are not an issue. A dry and neglected tree can become a hazard. Almost one-third of home Christmas tree fires are started by electrical problems. Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.

## Here are a few safety tips from our friends at Heartland Fire & Rescue

### PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.

### PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents, or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.

### LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read the manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.

*You're Invited*



As a merchant in our city, the City of Lemon Grove invites you to participate in our Shop Local Gift Card program.

### Why Join?

- Drive more business into your store!
- Keep customers spending local.
- Cards can ONLY be used at participating merchants!
- FREE to participate.

### What is a Shop Local Gift Card Program?

Customers buy eGift cards online for their own use or give them as gifts, thank you's, etc. to support local businesses.

The City is sponsoring a Buy One Get One (BOGO) program. Gift card purchasers can purchase gift cards of \$25, \$50 or \$100 dollars and the city will provide a free gift card of the matching amount using ARPA funds.

Find out more at the following link:

<https://app.yiftee.com/gift-card/city-of-lemon-grove>



Scan the QR code for more Lemon Grove news, current events, and back issues of San Diego County's favorite newsletter.



## LEMON GROVE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Racquel Vasquez

Mayor Pro Tem Jerry Jones

Councilmember Jennifer Mendoza

Councilmember George Gastil

Councilmember Liana LeBaron

Let us know what you think of *The Zest!*  
Email us at [cityoflemongrove@lemongrove.ca.gov](mailto:cityoflemongrove@lemongrove.ca.gov)

