

CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES

E-Newsletter



PROPER CARE AND RETIREMENT OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

Options for Retiring and Replacing Worn Out Flags

Palos Verdes High School Junior Isabella Brannan is a founding member of Troop 258, the first female Boy Scouts of America troop in Palos Verdes. Isabella is working to be one of the first girls in the nation to earn the esteemed rank of Eagle Scout. In doing so, she needed to plan a service project worthy of the honor, and Isabella could not have picked a more honorable one than educating the community on the proper care, maintenance, and retirement of American flags. And if that weren't enough, she built two permanent flag collection boxes; one which is to be placed at the Palos Verdes Estates City Hall. She also led her troop in a flag retirement ceremony for the City.

In total, she collected over 350 old flags from the community by partnering with Neighborhood Watch and Lunada Bay Hardware for their "Show Your Colors" campaign this past summer. Her service project culminated in a flag retirement ceremony on July 4th, where she led her troop at the Point Vicente Lighthouse.

Please help continue Isabella's efforts by stopping by City Hall on Wednesday, November 11th and checking out the location of the flag collection box. Many hours were spent building and hand painting these special boxes and much effort went in to making them beautiful and patriotic. **(Continued on Page 3)**



PVE POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME TRENDS

Theft from Vehicles and Theft of Vehicles

According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports, over 721,885 motor vehicles thefts in 2019. The Insurance Information Institute (III) notes that a vehicle is stolen every 40.9 seconds in the United States. That's more than \$6 billion (\$6.4) lost nationwide to motor vehicle thefts in that same year.

Thieves have gotten increasingly savvy, using smart keys to steal cars and switching vehicle identification numbers to avoid detection, says the III. So, how do you help protect yourself from becoming a victim of car theft? These tips are similar to help prevent theft from your vehicle as well. Always be vigilant about securing your car, and take preventive measures to keep your car safe.

Here are 10 things you can do to help protect your car from theft:

1. Lock your doors.
2. Remove your keys from the vehicle.
3. Do not leave a spare key near your vehicle.
4. Close the windows.
5. Park in well-lit areas.
6. Install an audible alarm system and anti-theft device.
7. Install a vehicle immobilizer system.
8. Install a tracking system.
9. Don't leave valuables in your car.
10. Be alert.

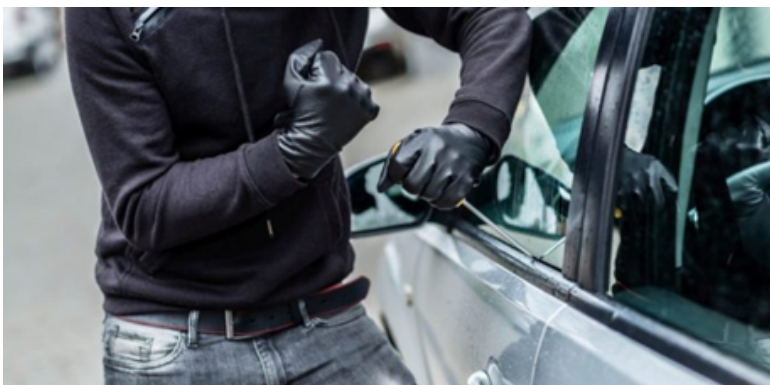


What to do if Your Car is Stolen

If your car is stolen, contact the police immediately. You may need to provide the following information to the police:

- The year, make, model and color of the car
- License plate number
- Vehicle Identification Number (also called the "VIN")

You'll also want to let your insurance company know within 24 hours if your vehicle has been stolen. While auto theft is not as common as it once was, it is unfortunately still something you need to protect yourself against. Thankfully, taking a few simple precautions may help you reduce the chances of your car being stolen.



Protect Your Vehicle Against Catalytic Converter Theft

Catalytic converters are designed to act as a line of defense against harmful exhaust system emissions by turning pollutants into harmless gasses, according to Cars.com. Thieves target catalytic converters because they contain precious metals, like platinum, palladium or rhodium, that are valuable to metal dealers. They can sell them to scrap yards for up \$200, says Edmunds.

But, how are catalytic converters removed?

Thieves typically use a saw or wrench to remove it, depending on whether the catalytic converter is bolted or welded in, says Edmunds — and removal can take as little as one minute.

[Click here to learn more and for tips on protecting your vehicle.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 11-

Veterans Day
(City Hall Closed for
Routine Business)

Flag Collection Drop-Off
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

November 14 -

Bulky Waste & E-Waste
Collection Day

November 26 & 27 -

City Hall Closed for
Thanksgiving Holiday

For Holiday safety tips and more
information on upcoming events
please visit:

[www.pvestates.org/community/
calendar-of-events](http://www.pvestates.org/community/calendar-of-events)

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- **Thursday, November 5 at 6:30 p.m.**

Finance Advisory Committee

- **Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m.**

City Council Meeting

- **Thursday, November 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

Parklands Committee

- **Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m.**

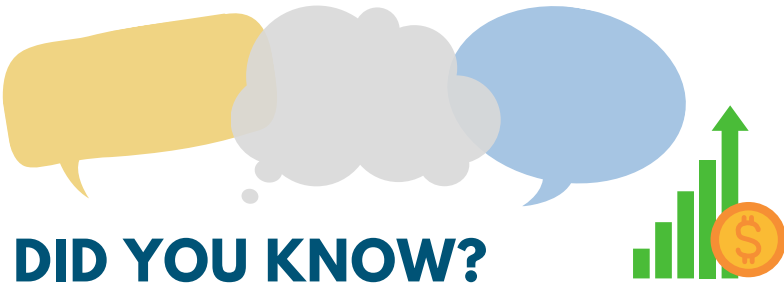
Planning Commission

- **Tuesday, November 24 at 6:30 p.m.**

City Council Meeting



*Meetings are currently being held via Zoom teleconference.
For the most up-to-date information and to view Agendas,
please visit www.pvestates.org*



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that making purchases online that are delivered to your home in PVE result in higher sales tax revenue to the City? This applies to items from shoes, clothes and diapers to home appliances, cars, trucks and SUVs.

Here is how it works:

In most cases, sales tax is allocated at the point that product possession passes from the seller to the owner. So, if you purchase a new washer and/or dryer online from a major retailer and have it delivered to your home, Palos Verdes Estates receives sales tax from the transaction. However, if you purchase these same items within the store, then the City where the purchase was made benefits. The same is true for your next car purchase. Make the purchase at the dealer, and the City where the dealership is located receives the sales tax. Purchase the same vehicle online and have it delivered, the sales tax then goes to PVE.

CITY HALL REMAINS OPEN LIMITED HOURS

COUNTER HOURS:

Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 10:00 am

- Maximum 2 visitors allowed in the Lobby at a time.

BEYOND COUNTER HOURS:

by appointment only

- Email CDPW@pvestates.org to schedule an appointment.
- Virtual Zoom meeting options available & encouraged.



AMERICAN FLAG CONTINUED

When should you retire a flag?

According to the United States Flag Code, Title 4, Section 8k, the flag should be retired when it is in such condition that it is "no longer a fitting emblem for display" and should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning it.

Sometimes, all your flag needs is to be cleaned properly for it to be restored to its original appearance, extending its life. If that is the case, flags can easily be washed with mild detergent and cold water, then hung to dry. It's important not to fold the flag when damp. If your flag is fraying, stained, or torn, then it's time for it to be retired and replaced.



Where can I retire flags?

City Hall Collection Box Dates

- President's Day- 3rd Monday in February
- Flag Day - 2nd Sunday in June
(Collection Box open 2nd Monday in June)
- Labor Day- September
(Collection box open Tuesday after holiday)
- Veteran's Day- November 11

Once the disposal boxes are full, various organizations such as American Legions, VFWs, the Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts collect the flags and hold flag retirement ceremonies.

How are flags retired?

Flags are often retired in a non-public or private location, and the ceremony should be a dignified event. The flag should be properly folded, laid on a bonfire, and burned on a blazing fire while onlookers observe in respectful silence. Usually, someone sings the National Anthem and recites the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of the ceremony.

Where can you purchase a new flag?

Lunada Bay Hardware



**Above: Troop 258
Flag Retirement Ceremony - July 4, 2020**