Water Safety for Little Ones

With the summer season in full force, the Seal Beach Marine Safety department works diligently to ensure the safety of beach goers of all ages, both through daily interactions with visitors and through preventative education. Seen below, Marine Safety Officer Nick Bolin teaches a beach safety presentation to children at a nearby elementary school. The kids expressed their appreciation with handmade cards (right).

The Guest Book Films in Seal Beach

The TV show *The Guest Book* filmed in Seal Beach last month. The anthology series was created by Greg Garcia, the same man behind *My Name is Earl* and *Raising Hope*, and focuses on the lives of visitors and residents in a fictional mountain town. The second season will air this fall on TBS. Seen below, crews film in Old Town.
New Solar Crosswalk

The Public Works Department finished the installation of a new solar-powered crosswalk on Balboa Drive and Marlin Avenue. The crosswalk striping was recently improved to a yellow ladder bar, and new push button solar-powered signs were installed. These improvements will help pedestrians and commuters travel safely, while keeping operating costs down. Crews were also able to identify a nearby sidewalk needing service, and thus were able to make the most of the delivered concrete.

 Improved College Park East Sign

The Seal Beach sign in College Park East received some much-needed TLC when its old landscaping was replaced with new plants in vibrant colors. The photos below depict the improvement process from start-to-finish.

![Before demolition](image1)
![After demolition](image2)
![Proposed rendering](image3)

![During planting](image4)

Completed
Manhole Inspections Underway

The Seal Beach Sewer Department has begun performing manhole inspections for City-owned sewer manholes. 360 degree manhole inspections give the Department information about the condition and performance of the manhole while providing needed data to prioritize maintenance, and replacements, if needed. Special cameras are used to capture information, which is critical due to some of the depths of the infrastructure. Inverts (the depth of the flow of water, and lowest part of the pipe), can range from 1 to 20 feet in depth, and utilizing technology allows the Department to work more efficiently to better maintain City assets.

Water line Repairs

Recently a 6-inch water line break occurred on Seal Way, between 13th and 14th Street. The Seal Beach Water Department responded promptly and had to shut off three mainline valves in order to isolate the leak. The crew was able to restore normal operation and get the water line back in service.
New Lifeguards Complete Training Academy

The Marine Safety Department Rookie Academy finished four weekend training classes. The candidates were instructed in lifesaving skills, medical aid, and how to perform ocean rescues. This year the department started with 10 candidates, and hired seven upon successful completion of the course. In total, these lifeguards complete over 120 hours of training before they are allowed to work in a lifeguard tower.

Seal Beach Police Explorer T-Shirt Fundraiser

Recently the Seal Beach Explorer Post 1041 created a Seal Beach shirt, available to the Seal Beach Police Department family and the general public for a $20 donation. The front of the charcoal gray shirt has the Seal Beach Police Department station number, "41," in a circle with a thin blue line running through. On the back below the collar line is a seal with beach ball, from the SBPD patch, and the words “POST 1041,” representing our Explorer Post program. The left sleeve has the Thin Blue Line Flag traditionally used by Law Enforcement.

This shirt represents both the Seal Beach Police Department and our Explorer Post, but is not blatantly exclusive to law enforcement or to the Post, and can be worn by all and for any occasion. The t-shirts are available in youth sizes M-XL and adult sizes S-XXL and are a 60% cotton/40% polyester jersey blend.

The Post is asking for a $20 donation for each t-shirt, and can accept cash or a check payable to OCEVA (the Explorer nonprofit bank account). All donations will go toward Post expenses and assisting a Seal Beach Police Explorer with the costs associated with a recent medical emergency.

For purchases, please contact Officer Jordan Mirakian at jmirakian@sealbeachca.gov or 562-799-4100 ext. 1618.
Volunteer House Checks

Volunteers In Policing (VIP) staff will perform vacation checks at your Seal Beach residence while you are away on vacation.

Our volunteers are fully uniformed and drive an easily identifiable police vehicle.

Please complete the application on the following page to request vacation checks.

Safeguard your home while you are gone

- Stop mail and newspaper delivery or have a neighbor pick them up for you.
- Use timers for lights and other appliances.
- Install outside motion detectors or a surveillance system.
- Keep lawns mowed and watered.
- Hide your empty trash cans.
- Store valuables in a safe deposit box at another location.
- Lock all doors and windows.
- Secure all outside doors with a deadbolt.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***PRESS RELEASE***

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan Launched

Seal Beach, CA. – The City of Seal Beach is preparing a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, or LHMP. This plan will help create a safer community for residents, businesses, and visitors. The LHMP allows public safety officials and city staff, elected officials, and members of the public to understand the threats from natural and human-caused hazards in our community. The plan will also recommend specific actions to proactively decrease these threats before disasters occur.

An LHMP will let Seal Beach plan for future emergencies. Usually, after a disaster occurs, communities take steps to recover from the emergency and rebuild. An LHMP is a way for the City to become more prepared in advance of these disasters, so when they do occur, less damage occurs and recovery is easier. Our community can use LHMP strategies to reduce instances of property damage, injury, and loss of life from disasters. Besides protecting public health and safety, this approach can save money. Studies estimate that every dollar spent on mitigation saves an average of four dollars on response and recovery costs. An LHMP can also help to strengthen the mission of public safety officers, such as police and fire department staff, providing them with clear roles and responsibilities to build a safer community.

Besides helping to protect Seal Beach, our LHMP will make the City eligible for grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that can be used to further improve safety and preparedness in the community. Having an adopted LHMP can also make Seal Beach eligible to receive more financial assistance from the State when disasters do occur.

The City of Seal Beach LHMP includes:

- A summary of the natural and human-caused hazards that pose a risk to our community. This will include descriptions of past disaster events and the chances of these disasters occurring in the future.

- An assessment of the threat to Seal Beach, which will describe how our community is vulnerable to future disasters.

- The plan will look at the threat to important buildings and infrastructure, such as police and fire stations, hospitals, roads, and utility lines. It will also look at the threat to community members, particularly disadvantaged persons.

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A hazard mitigation strategy which will lay out specific policy recommendations for Seal Beach to carry out over the next five years. These recommendations will help reduce the threat that our community faces from hazard events.

- A section on maintaining the plan, which will help ensure that our LHMP is kept up-to-date. This will make it easier for us to continue to proactively protect ourselves, and will also keep the City eligible for additional funding.

The City plans to include the following natural hazards in our LHMP:
- Flooding and Coastline Disturbances;
- Earthquakes and Liquefaction;
- Tsunamis;
- Wildfire; and
- Tornadoes, Waterspouts, and Wind Events;

Our LHMP will also look at how climate change may affect these hazards and may include other hazards that pose a threat to our community.

The City has assembled a Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC), which includes representatives from public safety officials and City departments, and will guide the overall development of our LHMP. The HMPC is supported by key stakeholders, and technical consultants. Together, these participants form the project team responsible for preparing our plan.

The project team plans to release a first draft of the Seal Beach LHMP for public review in Fall 2018. After members of the public provide comments and feedback, the project team will revise the plan, and send it to state and federal agencies for review and approval. Once approved by state and federal agencies, the Seal Beach City Council will approve the final LHMP. We hope to have the plan ready for adoption in the early 2019, but it may be later depending how long state and federal review takes.

You can get involved in preparing our LHMP in different ways.

The project team will hold public meetings to share information about our LHMP and obtain community feedback. The first of these meetings is scheduled for:

- Community Outreach Meeting #1 - May 30th 2018, Seal Beach Council Chambers, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Community Outreach Meeting #2 - June 27th 2018, Leisure World Clubhouse #4, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Community Outreach Meeting #3 - September 5th 2018, Marina Community Center, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

The City has an online survey available to members of the public asking for information about past experience with natural hazards and how our LHMP can be the most useful. Take the survey, and encourage your friends and family to do the same. Go to the City of Seal Beach website and click on the hazard mitigation tab.

The City will release a draft of the completed LHMP for public review. Please review and provide comments on this document, either at in-person meetings or in writing.

If you need more information you can e-mail hazardmitigation@sealbeachca.gov, or call the City of Seal Beach Emergency Services Coordinator at (562) 799-4100 ext. 1145.

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Dryer Safety

Fires can happen if there is a build-up of lint in the dryer or the exhaust duct. Lint can block the flow of air, which can cause excessive heat build-up that may result in a fire.

Safety Tips

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that your dryer is connected properly.
- Make sure your dryer’s exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and that the outdoor vent flap opens when the dryer is operating.
- Follow the manufacturer’s operating instructions for your dryer.
- Keep the dryer area clear of all combustibles.
- Keep your dryer in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by qualified professionals to make sure that the gas line and connections are intact and free of leaks.
- Replace coiled-wire foil or plastic venting with ridged, non-ribbed metal duct which provides maximum air flow and reduces fire risks.

Things to remember:

- Do not use a dryer that does not have a lint filter.
- Clean the lint filter before or after drying each load of clothes.
- If clothing is still damp at the end of a typical drying cycle or if drying your clothes requires a longer time than normal, this may be a sign that the lint filter or exhaust duct is blocked.
- Be sure to clean behind the dryer, where lint can build up.
- Don’t dry items that have come into anything flammable such as alcohol, cooking oils, or gasoline. Dry these items outdoors or in a well-ventilated area away from heat.
- Never overload your dryer.
- Turn your dryer off if you leave home or when you go to bed.

Remember, the leading cause of home dryer fires is failure to clean them!

Visit OCFA.ORG for more safety information.