



Nancy Gardner

Council Member

Newsletter: July 2013

Newport Beach, California

City Contacts

City Hall 644-3309
General Information

Departments 644-
Administrative 3127
Building Dept 3275
City Clerk 3005
City Council 3004
City Manager 3001
Economic Dev 3225
Graffiti Hotline 3333
Harbor Resources 3034
Licenses 3141
Mayor 3004
Municipal Ops 3055
Public Info Office 3031
Planning Dept 3200
Public Works 3311
Recreation 3151
Refuse Collection 3066
Senior Services 3151
Streets/Sidewalks 3060
Utilities 3011
Water/Sewer 3050

Emergency Services
Emergency 9-1-1
Fire Dept 633-3104
Police Dept 644-3717

Libraries
CdM 644-3075
Main 717-3800
Mariners 717-3838
Balboa 644-3076

Oasis Senior Center
644-3244

Post Office
CdM 673-2989
Main 640-4663

COUNCIL MEMBER

Nancy Gardner

City of Newport Beach
100 Civic Center Drive
Newport Beach, CA
92660

PHONE
949.644.3004

WEBSITE
www.nancygardner.org

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THE BORERS ARE COMING

Not the kind that take twenty minutes to describe something that could be covered in one and isn't that interesting to start with. This is the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer, or as you and I know it, *Euwallacea sp.* This tiny bug (females blackish, .4-1.5 inches, males brown, 1.4 inches) bores—as its name suggests—into a large number of trees (avocado, locust, oak, liquid amber, sycamore, persimmon, mimosa, olive included) and once inside it infects the tree with *fusarium sp.*, causing dieback. The first sign is a single exit hole with white powdery stuff around it. Most critical—the *fusarium* can be transferred from one tree to another by tainted pruning instruments. If you have gardeners, you should tell them to disinfect their equipment with 25% bleach, Lysol or 70% ethyl alcohol. If you suspect one of your trees has the beetle, you are requested to contact the county Agriculture Commissioner, 714 447 7100 or Dr. Akif Eskalen at akif.eskalen@ucr.edu. And yes, there's a difference between informative and boring.

LOWER CASTAWAYS

To kick off the discussion of the future use of this property, the Harbor Commission held a well-attended study session in March, generating a number of fruitful ideas including a launch area for paddle boards and kayaks, a hub for cyclists, and some sort of educational aspect, perhaps by providing an area that could be used by different groups for varying periods of time. Also popular—ice cream, undoubtedly from those who fondly recall Wil Wright's. A sub-committee of the Commission will work with a couple of Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commissioners to refine these ideas and sooner, rather than later, their suggestions will be presented to council.

ALL IT TAKES IS AN ACT OF CONGRESS

And seeing that Congress seems to have a little trouble getting things done, the Tidelands Management Committee recommended not trying. If this seems a little in media res, another subcommittee of the Harbor Commission sought guidance from the TMC on whether, because of the

larger boats in the harbor, to pursue changing the pierhead line established in the 30s. The direction from TMC was to look at things that could be handled locally instead of those that could only be handled in D.C.

AND SPEAKING OF TMC

The reconstituted Tidelands Management Committee will be appointing a new citizens advisory panel to help steer the Tidelands Capital Infrastructure plan. If you are interested in applying, go to the city web site, scroll to Boards, Commissions and Committees for the application or contact the city clerk, lbrown@newportbeachca.gov. Application deadline is July 15.

FOR CLEAN WATER TRY SWEEPING

And no, I don't mean sidewalks and driveways, although they should be swept and not hosed off. In this case it's streets. Street sweeping is one of the best tools for mitigating the effects of urban runoff, and yet there are a number of areas in the city where the streets aren't swept. The Water Quality/Coastal Tidelands committee is recommending the council take corrective steps in the matter. Not sure when this will be on the agenda. Meanwhile, as evidence that our continuing focus on water quality pays off, Heal the Bay's annual grading of beaches gave the city excellent marks with an A+ for the Wedge, and A grades for a number of other ocean and bay beaches including Harbor Patrol Beach. This last is particularly noteworthy because not many years ago it was seeing high bacteria counts and became a target for city cleanup efforts. Fast forward to the present, and shazam! It sparkles.

TECHNICAL GLITCH

From time to time it happens – the proverbial computer crash. My website will be updated when all is fixed in a couple of weeks.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

This is a two-way process; please don't hesitate to contact me with your ideas and opinions.
NGardner@NewportBeachCa.gov