

August 2026 Utilities and Community Announcements

Palo Alto's Annual Consumer Confidence Report on water quality conditions for 2025 is now available. Read about your water supply and water quality at paloalto.gov/waterresources

Install a heat pump water heater and get an extra \$500 discount on top of existing City rebates and incentives. Claim this limited time offer before it expires through the City's Electrify My Home program, emergency water heater replacement or if you're upgrading with your own contractor and gaining rebates. If you want your water heater project completed within 48 hours, let us know and we'll help make it happen. Learn more, make the switch and save at paloalto.gov/waterheaterdiscount.

In recent years, wildfires have intensified in California, and utilities are taking action to reduce fire risks related to utility infrastructure. During extreme weather events, a utility may shut off power to electric lines in high threat areas to prevent wildfire. This is called a public safety power shutoff, or PSPS. The City of Palo Alto Utilities (CPAU) has a wildfire mitigation plan that outlines activities by CPAU and other City departments to mitigate the threat of wildfires associated with overhead electric lines and associated equipment. Learn more at paloalto.gov/safeutility.

Composting is not only good for the environment; it's the law. A State requirement aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by requiring residents and businesses to separate and compost organic waste. Materials such as food scraps, yard trimmings, and soiled paper products cannot be placed in the landfill container because they release methane gas when broken down in landfills. Place these compostable materials in the green compost container instead. This is also a requirement of the Palo Alto Municipal Code. Learn more at paloalto.gov/SB1383regulations.

Problem with ants? Avoid ineffective sprays which expose your family and pets to pesticides. They can also enter storm drains, which flow directly into our creeks and the San Francisco Bay, causing harm. Visit ourwaterourworld.org to learn how to safely get rid of home and garden pests.