



## **Features**

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### ***Collaboration Key to Future***

In recent years, collaboration has become an important ingredient in Monterey's success. Forging partnerships with other organizations is a great way to ensure that community needs are met. Here's why...

First, the challenges facing most communities are too complex for any one agency or organization to solve. For example, the City alone can't provide enough licensed childcare to meet identified needs, yet we want to make sure that adequate, affordable services are available. As a result, we have worked hard with a number of partners to expand childcare services in Monterey

Second, as the demand on limited resources continues to increase, it is vital that all community organizations utilize their employees/volunteers and funds effectively and efficiently.

By identifying gaps and overlaps in services, we can pursue opportunities to cooperate and do things better and less expensively.

Historically cities have been a sort of "vending machine" for services. However, in addition to providing services, we need to develop relationships to help make sure changing community needs are met. This is an emerging trend for cities across the country, and we are pleased to see its initial success here.

This issue of City Focus highlights some of the many partnerships that help make Monterey a better place to live, work and visit. Stay tuned for more great things!

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### ***City, Schools Work Together***

Healthy, vibrant communities need healthy, vibrant schools to be successful. Our community's future is closely tied to the quality of our education system and its ability to maintain a healthy, safe and stimulating educational environment.

Although the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District serves an area much larger than Monterey, the City is one of many stakeholders committed to the success of our school system. Through programs like Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula and some of the activities described below, we are working together with local educators and administrators to make sure schools are successful and young people are getting the best education possible. Let us know if you have any thoughts or questions about our efforts.

The Library's Homework Pals program is a cooperative effort among the City, MPUSD, Stone Soup, YMCA and the Community Partnership for Youth. Homework Pals provides volunteers for nine afterschool childcare sites including all MPUSD schools in Monterey and one Community Center. Homework Pals work one-on-one with children and help with homework and academic enrichment activities.

In collaboration with MPUSD, the City offers a supervised afterschool program at Larkin Elementary School. The program is offered for Larkin students and is provided daily 2:15 to 6 p.m. Children receive homework assistance, participate in arts and crafts projects and indoor and outdoor games.

A new afterschool program with longer hours, additional staffing and new check-in procedures was introduced this past year to meet community needs and requests. The new program (photo above) is being offered at Hilltop Park, Archer Park and Casanova Oak Knoll Park centers. Registration is taken at the Recreation and Community Services office at 546 Dutra Street (646-3866).

City staff works in concert with Walter Colton Middle School advisors and students to assist in providing safe, entertaining activities/events for middle-school youth. Most recently, a dance was hosted at the Monterey

Youth Center and was attended by more than 200 area young people! The City is also working with Monterey High students on similar efforts. Staff and students are looking to have future dances, activities and shopping and sports excursions.

School Resource Officers (SRO) from our Police Department work with local schools to mentor and educate area youth about healthy behaviors, safety issues and crime prevention. The officers also facilitate campus safety and enforcement. The program will soon have three full-time officers.

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## ***Civic-Military Efforts Successful***

Our local military installations represent a major element of today's economy and will play an even more important role in our region's economic future.

The Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC) and Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) collectively represent approximately 10,000 jobs, an annual payroll of \$250 million and an annual economic impact estimated at \$500 million.

In addition, both schools are considered leaders in the teaching of languages, international studies, air and ocean sciences, management and engineering. They serve as magnets to attract new higher education and research institutions, two other important segments of our local economy.

Partnerships with these installations save money and provide benefits – such as new jobs and recreational opportunities for community members.

We have leased 26 acres of the Lower Presidio at DLIFLC to develop an historic park and keep it open to the public. Plans for the park are now being finalized, and the museum (see photo above) is scheduled to open next spring.

For more than two years, the U.S. Army has paid our costs to maintain infrastructure at DLIFLC, including wastewater, stormwater and street systems and various facilities.

We are also paid to sweep the streets for all U.S. Navy facilities in the Monterey area and will continue to explore ways to provide other services for the Navy.

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## ***All about YOUTH***

Thank you for your comments and suggestions regarding the challenges facing young people and families in Monterey.

At our Community Connections forum in September community members of all ages spoke out about their concerns regarding local youth.

We collected a lot of great information. Ideas submitted ranged from collaborating more effectively with local agencies and working together with young people to develop new programs to extending afterschool program hours and engaging young people in City activities.

Many of the challenges and programs that were raised are community-wide proposals requiring collaborative efforts. The list of ideas was distributed among local organizations that work with youth and families in the community in order to facilitate the process.

While the City alone can't address all of the concerns, we will be working with local organizations to help meet these challenges.

The public submittals will also be considered in the development of City priorities and work programs.

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## ***Volunteers Recognized for Efforts***

Harsha Tummala will always remember the day he was stopped by a Monterey Police officer – for being a City Volunteer.

“That’s when I knew what I was doing was making a difference, and it really made me feel content,” says Harsha, who was recognized by the officer as someone who volunteers at the City. “Volunteering is fun and if you haven’t helped others, you can’t know what it feels like. It’s great!”

As a City Volunteer last summer, Harsha split more than 150 volunteer hours between the Monterey Sports Center’s Sports Camp and Monterey Public Library activities. Now a sophomore at Monterey High School, he plans to volunteer once again with Sports Camp during his winter break.

Born in India, Harsha has lived in the area since he was five. His first taste of volunteerism came at a young age when his piano teacher took him to nursing homes to play for the residents. Since then it has become second nature.

Besides volunteering with the City, Harsha is involved with the Maritime Museum and just finished his training as a CHOMP (Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula) junior volunteer.

“Volunteering gives me a good feeling. I like giving back to the community and it keeps me busy and out of trouble,” Harsha says.

Harsha donated more than 150 hours to programs this summer alone.

To find your place as a volunteer, call 646-3719 or visit [www.monterey.org/vol](http://www.monterey.org/vol)

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### ***Senior Programs Rely on Cooperation***

Local seniors benefit from strong partnerships developed over the years with many organizations.

The Scholze Park Center works hand-in-hand with Alliance on Aging to provide information and services addressing a broad spectrum of needs and interests. Since the Alliance on Aging office is adjacent to the newly renovated Senior Center, staff are in tune with the programs offered by both organizations and are able to quickly point seniors to the program that will best meet their needs.

The Senior Center also hosts a nutrition site and Brown Bag Program in conjunction with Meals on Wheels. Seniors have the opportunity to receive healthy, nutritious meals while socializing with other community members.

Other activities and classes available through multi-agency partnerships include "55 Alive" (a defensive driving course), Income Tax Assistance, Blood Pressure Tests, Flu Shot Clinics and a wide variety of movement and art classes offered through Monterey Peninsula College and Monterey Adult Education.

A Visiting Nurse Association Adult Day Care program operates Tuesday through Thursday at Hilltop Park Center. Seniors participating in this program are often visited by tots enrolled in a City preschool program housed in the same building.

For additional info on these programs, call the Scholze Park Center at 646-3878 ([tefertil@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:tefertil@ci.monterey.ca.us)).

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### ***Grant Enhances Childcare Services***

Monterey's newest childcare center recently was awarded a \$1.1 million grant to augment its service to the community.

The Monterey Center for Children and Families opened this summer and is licensed to serve 144 children ages six weeks to six years old. Located on Pvt. Bolio Road on the Presidio of Monterey, the Center is a joint effort of the City and the Department of the Army. It is managed by Work/Life Partnerships, a division of ARAMARK Educational Resources.

The three-year grant will provide for ...

- Tuition subsidies for 29 children from low-income families
- Professional development training programs for early childhood professionals
- Creation of a lending library and parent resource center, including a desktop computer system
- Parent education seminars and workshops
- Hiring of a full-time family services coordinator
- No-fee family field trips

The Monterey Center for Children and Families is now open and accepting applications for its infant, toddler and preschool programs. The Center is open 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday - Friday. City residents are given first priority for enrollment. For more info or to register, call Center Director Nancy O'Neal at 647-1880.

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## ***Airport Area Contamination Under Close Analysis***

This summer the City and citizens learned of environmental contamination on property at and around the Monterey Peninsula Airport District.

Two plumes of contamination were found in the groundwater about 30 feet under the Airport, one of which has migrated under a part of the Casanova Oak Knoll neighborhood. The contamination does not affect water provided by the California-American Water Company (Cal-Am).

The groundwater pollutant is TCE (trichloroethylene), a solvent used for degreasing metals. Because the contamination was found on the site of the former Naval Auxiliary Air Station Monterey, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is leading the analysis and cleanup effort. The contamination is traced back to the years 1942-89 when the U.S. Navy owned the property. The City is committed to being an advocate for all affected Monterey community members. During the cleanup process, we will work to ensure that information is available and that the interests and concerns of the neighborhood are addressed.

Materials regarding these issues are available at the Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center, 735 Ramona Avenue, from Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sat. 1 to 5 p.m. Updates and contact info are on our Web site (<http://www.monterey.org/>).

The Groundwater Gazette, a newsletter, is published as updates are available and distributed to affected community members. It is also available online and at the Community Center.

For more details call the Army Corps of Engineers hotline at 1-800-227-0951, or call the City's Public Works Dept. at 646-3920.

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## ***Keeping Watch on Runoff into Bay***

Monterey Bay Urban Watch helps answer questions about the types of runoff pollutants that are entering our storm drains and flowing into Monterey Bay.

By monitoring what flows into the ocean, we can

- 1) discover the types of pollutants that are endangering the Bay and the Marine Sanctuary, and
- 2) promote ways to prevent urban runoff pollution.

Urban Watch is a collaboration between the City, the Coastal Watershed Council, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and volunteers from our community.

Volunteers sample runoff during the dry weather season from July to October. Over the past three years, the cities of Pacific Grove and Capitola have joined in the effort.

To help enhance economic stability in area commercial districts, the City works with local community members to develop programs and plans to meet specific neighborhood needs.

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## ***Collaborations Aid Local Businesses***

- In the North Fremont Street area, the City has worked with local merchants and property owners, adjoining residential associations and the Monterey Fairgrounds to develop an area-wide plan. Key goals of the plan are to support neighborhood-serving businesses, improve appearance and establish a Business Improvement District.
- A City design awards program was recently established to recognize new construction projects within Monterey that embrace the setting and character of the surrounding



neighborhood.

- Administered by the Architectural Review Committee, this program grants awards for new development that is both outstanding and harmonious. The program was developed to encourage designers and owners to meet the City's design objectives as they work within architectural guidelines and review procedures.
- Nominate a project by submitting it to the City's Planning Division and explaining why you believe it is exceptional. Nominations will be accepted through December. Awards for the first year of this program will be presented in February.
- For more info call City Planner Rick Marvin at 646-3885 ([marvin@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:marvin@ci.monterey.ca.us)).
- Our historic and commercial facade grant programs support preservation and City beautification goals. The historic preservation grants have helped property owners perform corrective maintenance so historic building materials are not lost. The facade grant program provides funding for commercial building repairs to improve their appearance to the general public.

For more info on these programs, call City Planner Bruce Kibby at 646-3759 ([kibby@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:kibby@ci.monterey.ca.us)).

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## ***Designing "Historic Monterey" Plan Takes Group Effort***

Improving the interpretation, preservation and promotion of Monterey's history takes cooperation. With the support of a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (a federal agency), staff and officials from several local organizations are designing a coordinated plan to present the community's history together as "Historic Monterey."

"Historic Monterey" is being designed to make it easy, inviting and fun to explore Monterey's colorful past.

For example, historic structures, resources and landmarks owned by separate entities and scattered throughout the City would have common signage and be identified and described in one brochure or pamphlet.

Guidelines that define what "Historic Monterey" is and how it will operate are being reviewed by agency participants from the City, Monterey State Historic Park and Monterey History and Art Association.

Restoration of this 1940 Chevrolet Police Sedan was completed in September.

PD-40 will be a part of Monterey's special events and promotions.

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## ***Help Identify Needs in Your Community***

Bring upgrades to your surrounding community and local neighborhood – submit project ideas for the coming year's Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP).

Established in 1985, NIP directs tourist-generated tax dollars into the City's residential neighborhoods.

At least 16 percent of the money collected through hotel taxes (Transient Occupancy Tax) must be spent on neighborhood and community improvements.

What is a NIP project?

A Neighborhood Improvement Program project is any public improvement (not on private property) that upgrades streets, storm drains, sewers, sidewalks, walkways, lighting, traffic control devices, landscaping, parks, recreational facilities and/or other public buildings.

How does it work?

Projects are nominated by community members each year. Project cards are sorted by type of improvement and neighborhood. Costs are determined for valid project submissions and then

projects are voted on by the NIP Committee, composed of residents.

What should you do?

Look around, see what needs improving and submit a project today. Print out the project card at right, fill it out and send the info back via email, fax or mail. The deadline to submit projects is Friday, Feb. 16.

For more info, call the City's Construction Management Division at 646-3997 or email [clement@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:clement@ci.monterey.ca.us)

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## ***Parking Permits Let Residents Park Free***

Monterey residents are eligible for a permit good for two hours of free parking in prime commercial areas of the City.

To get a permit, you must reside within the City of Monterey (evidenced by a current utility bill or rental agreement) and provide a current vehicle registration that shows the resident's name and street address.

The parking permit is valid in the West Custom House Garage (at Franklin and Tyler streets), in the Waterfront attendant lot, the Cannery Row Garage and in the Cannery Row parking lot at Foam and Irving streets.

Permits cost \$10 per year (January to December). Purchase permits at the Parking Division Office at 340 Tyler Street or call 646-3953 (<http://silquero@ci.monterey.ca.us/>) for more info.

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### ***Grizzly Bears Back in California***

This California grizzly bear sculpture was unveiled this fall to mark the 150th anniversary of California's admission to the Union on September 9, 1850. Two cubs, also by sculptor Kris Swanson, have now joined their mother in front of Colton Hall.

### ***Holiday Partnerships Community Tradition***

Holiday lights illuminate Monterey's historic past as City, State and community organizations present "Christmas in Monterey," a series of citywide events. For more than 16 years local organizations have joined together to provide a continuous series of holiday activities held early each December.

- The Christmas Tree Lighting at City Hall
- La Posada and the Holiday Arts and Crafts Festival
- An exhibit of artists' miniatures at Monterey Museum of Art, thru Dec. 31
- Old Monterey Market Place, presented by The Old Monterey Business Association, every Tuesday
- Shop in downtown until 8 p.m. on Fridays in December
- Brighten the Harbor, the annual lighted boat parade
- Christmas in the Adobes, presented in cooperation with California State Parks and the Old Monterey Preservation Society

If you missed the activities this year, look for them to return next season. For more info call 649-1770.

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### ***At the Library***

Sharing System Makes Sense for Library

A collaborative effort between the libraries in Monterey and Pacific Grove some six years ago integrated records for the holdings and customer records of both organizations. By entering into the unprecedented agreement to share the costs of purchasing a computerized library cataloging system, Monterey was able to share and, in turn, reduce the costs to purchase and maintain a much-needed new computer system. The P.G. Library was able to computerize their own system for the first time.

The agreement included a contract to provide library services for residents of both cities, which greatly increased the selection of materials available to all customers.



As a result, when you search the Library's catalog you see the materials in both libraries' collections. Library cards are valid at both sites. Staff members regularly cooperate on purchasing decisions and in filling holds. Both libraries agree on the lasting value of working for improved library services at lower costs. For info call Library Director Paula Simpson at 646-5601 (<http://simpson@ci.monterey.%20ca.us/>).

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### ***New Resources to be Added to Library Catalog***

The Library has received a grant to catalog the books in Monterey History & Art Association's Mayo Hayes O'Donnell Library.

In the next year, Library staff with help from History & Art staff and volunteers will work to inventory the Mayo Hayes O'Donnell collection and record each book in the Library's catalog.

The catalog will be available in the Library and via the Internet at [www.monterey.org/library](http://www.monterey.org/library)

An element of the "Historic Monterey" project, this is another step in building a shared catalog of resources about the rich and diverse history of Monterey and the Peninsula.

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### ***Neighborhood Reaps Rewards of Well-kept Yards***

Beautiful, well-kept yards and gardens promote community pride and spirit in our historic neighborhoods, according to the Old Town Neighborhood Association (OTNA).

That's why the group awards Home and Garden Award Certificates to residents who take the time to enrich their homes and, in turn, the neighborhood with flowers and greenery.

Over the past five years, residents from various parts of "the hill" have received visits from OTNA members who stop by to inspect the Sweet Alyssum, royal blue Bachelor Buttons and Verbena in purple, yellow and orange. Some of those were found in Steve and Christa Allen's garden on Bowen Street – one of the summer 2000 award winners (see photo above). Awards are presented to two residents each spring and summer.

"Many hours are spent caring for all of the well-loved flowering plants in our neighborhood," says OTNA President Mary Ann Finocchi. "The board felt that an expression of appreciation should be shown for the efforts of the Old Town residents who maintain their property and gardens." At the Allen home, "the garden is a veritable potpourri mix of many plants," according to the OTNA newsletter.

For more info on this program, call OTNA President Mary Ann Finocchi at 649-0141.

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### ***Maintenance Shared for State Beaches and Custom House Plaza.***

Thanks to cooperative efforts, residents and visitors can enjoy beautiful, well-maintained beaches, parks and historic facilities owned and operated by other agencies within the city limits.

We worked with California Department of Parks & Recreation on the renovation of the Custom House Plaza and Causeway as well as the Lower Presidio Historic Park Museum, soon to be reopened on the Presidio of Monterey.

Currently we are working together on the Casa Del Oro Garden at the corner of Pacific and Scott streets. State Parks has also been a partner in the Window-on-the-Bay project.

We also work with the State on maintenance of their many facilities, allowing the State to keep historic properties in good condition while utilizing trained City staff.

In addition, the City maintains the State Beach area adjacent to Window on the Bay, and last year, State Parks began paying us to maintain the Custom House Plaza and Causeway areas. For more info, call the City's Parks Division at 646-3860 ([stafford@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:stafford@ci.monterey.ca.us)).

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## ***New City Team Tackles Challenges***

A new citywide problem-solving team was recently formed to deal with community issues that involve many City departments.

The team is composed of city employees from across the spectrum – public works, building safety, code enforcement, recreation, fire, housing, planning, volunteer services, traffic, community education/outreach and police.

The team will work together with members of the community to solve long-term issues. The group is currently focusing on the changing needs in the North Fremont business and residential community. Neighborhood maintenance and community revitalization are two of the concerns being addressed.

For more info on the team, call Lt. Fred Hardee at 646-3965 (<http://hardee@ci.monterey.ca.us/>)

## ***Survey Update***

Nearly 700 individuals and families responded to our Citizen Survey distributed in September.

Community members rated City appearance and services and told us what they thought about traffic, parking, safety issues and broadcasting City Council meetings on local cable TV.

Thank you for your input. Your responses are currently being tabulated and will be summarized in upcoming editions of the City Focus

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## ***For History Buffs Only***

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### ***City Gains Cannery Row Squid Industry Records***

A collection of Cannery Row Squid Industry Records from 1924-1936 has been added to the the Monterey Public Library archives.

The records include those from the Wing Chong Company, owned and operated by Won Yee (on whom John Steinbeck based his character of Chinese grocer Lee Chong in the novel Cannery Row). They document the important role of the Chinese community in the dried squid industry in Monterey's fishing economy.

The collection also contains work records of squid industry employees, including that of Harold "Gabe" Bicknell, who Steinbeck identified as the basis for the character of "Mack" in Cannery Row. With its historical value and literary associations, this collection is important to the preservation and interpretation of Monterey's cannery and fishing heritage.

The Cannery Row Squid Industry Records were donated to the Library's California History Room archives by Frances Yee, owner of the Wing Chong Store.

For more info about this collection or about donating to the archives, call Library Archivist Dennis Copeland at 646-3741 ([copeland@ci.monterey.ca.us](mailto:copeland@ci.monterey.ca.us)).

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### ***The Who Behind Simoneau Plaza***

Simoneau Plaza, informally known as Monterey's transit center, was the site of Jules Simoneau's restaurant in the nineteenth century. He befriended the Scottish writer Robert Louis Stevenson who visited here in 1879, and they remained friends for the rest of their lives.

The City, the Robert Louis Stevenson Club of Monterey and California State Parks have been working together to help tell the story behind the Plaza.

As a result, an information marker that includes photographs of Simoneau and Stevenson and quotations from Stevenson's writings was placed at the Plaza this fall. A painting of Simoneau and Stevenson playing chess, which faces the street, was painted by local artist N. J. Taylor.

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### ***Get to Know Your City***

Tour the City. Get answers to your questions at town hall meetings. Read the City Focus. Fill out community surveys. Attend City Council and commission meetings.

Be a volunteer. Watch for City info on local cable TV.

We strive to provide diverse opportunities for citizen involvement because we want to keep you up-to-date and informed.

Look for upcoming public forums and take the opportunity to help shape the City's future. Data collected from the community survey that was distributed this fall will be shared in upcoming issues. We received nearly 700 survey responses!

Watch for additional activity info in upcoming editions of the City Focus, on our Web site and in the local media.

### ***On Duty***

State Parks lifeguards on watch for the City –

The City pays the State to provide lifeguards for our beaches. The dividend: 88 rescues last summer alone.

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### ***Streetlight Out? Notify the City***

The City owns and operates all streetlights in the public right-of-way within the city limits. If you need to report a problem streetlight, please do the following:

1. Record the pole number located on the pole, (e.g. 122E). Note the location of the pole, including the nearest street address and/or cross streets.
  2. Document what is wrong with the light, e.g., burned out, flickering, damaged or lighted all the time.
  3. Call our Maintenance Division at 646-3927.
- City-owned streetlights are usually repaired in one or two working days.

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### ***Safety Tips***

#### **Practice Home Exit Drills**

Make a home escape plan and practice it! You can survive a fire in your home if you know what to do when you hear the smoke alarm.

1. Plan your escape. Draw a floor plan of your home and find two ways out of each room.
2. Agree on an outside meeting place in front of your home where everyone will gather after they've escaped.
3. Practice! Hold home fire drills. Make them realistic by pretending some exits are blocked by smoke or fire.

For more info call the Monterey Fire Department at 646-3908 or visit [www.monterey.org/fire](http://www.monterey.org/fire)

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### ***Dry, Clean Sidewalks Equal Safe Sidewalks***

When it rains, mossy water often pours over sidewalks and down gutters. Add this to the steep hills found in many of our neighborhoods and you have dangerous sidewalk conditions: slippery when wet.

Under City Code, property owners are responsible for maintaining the area in front of their property and keeping it free of safety hazards. It's time once again to check your sidewalks and clean them if necessary.

A stiff bristle broom usually will clean off moss and other foreign material. If that doesn't do it, some biodegradable soap may be needed. Do not use bleach or other cleaners as runoff ends up in Monterey Bay.

For more info, call our Construction Management Division at 646-3997  
(<http://clement@ci.monterey.ca.us/>)

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