

NEWSLETTER

CITY OF MERCED

Merced Fire Department Combines Wildfire Training with Ecological Restoration at Wastewater Facility

The Merced Fire Department conducted live fire wildland training exercises on June 23, June 26, and will continue on July 1 at the City of Merced Wastewater Treatment Plant. The training took place on more than 100 acres behind the facility and served a dual purpose: providing critical hands-on experience for firefighters and supporting fuel reduction and wetlands rehabilitation efforts.

During the exercises, crews practiced building control lines using prescribed burns and other fuel management techniques commonly used in wildfire response. This work supports the City's ongoing partnership with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, which monitors local waterfowl populations year-round. As part of the site's habitat enhancement efforts, wood duck nesting boxes are also maintained throughout the area. This multi-benefit project not only prepares fire crews for wildfire season but also contributes to ecological restoration and risk reduction in a vital natural habitat.





Swim Season Kickoff!

Congratulations to our first 2025 Swim Lesson graduates! Over 200 Merced children will receive affordable, life-saving lessons this summer—just \$25 thanks to a generous donation from the Central Valley Opportunity Fund.

A big thank you to our dedicated pool managers and lifeguards for keeping our kids safe!

Recreational Swim has officially started at McNamara Pool! Stop by any day from 1–7 p.m. for just \$2 per person and enjoy the beautiful Memorial Plunge.



Torch Run for a Cause

This past Wednesday, around 70 community members gathered in Merced at 6:30 a.m. to support the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Northern California. Runners took off at 7 a.m., carrying the Flame of Hope on its journey to the Opening Ceremonies in Santa Clara.

A big thank you to CHP–Merced, the Merced County Sheriff's Office, and the Merced Police Department for their support and participation!



Training in Action: City Staff Boost Emergency Response Skills

Thank you to the City of Merced Fire Department for leading emergency response certification training for Parks and Community Services staff. This hands-on session ensures the team is ready to act quickly and effectively in the event of an emergency — supporting a safer workplace and community.

Disclaimer: No mannequins were harmed during this training.



Honoring Excellence: Officers Chavez and Lopez Recognized with MADD Award

The City of Merced proudly recognizes Officers Chavez and Lopez of the Merced Police Department for receiving the prestigious Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Award.

This award honors law enforcement officers who show exceptional dedication to preventing impaired driving and improving roadway safety—and Officers Chavez and Lopez have done just that. Through their focused DUI enforcement efforts, they've helped hold offenders accountable and reduce the risk of serious crashes in our community.

Their commitment to proactive policing, public education, and traffic safety has made a real difference in protecting lives. We thank Officers Chavez and Lopez for their professionalism, vigilance, and unwavering service to the residents of Merced.

Congratulations, and thank you for your continued dedication to keeping our streets safe!



Community Refreshment Stop

On this hot Friday, Merced police officers stopped by a local lemonade stand to cool off and support some young entrepreneurs. These small moments highlight the heart of our community—kindness, smiles, and ice-cold lemonade. Thank you to the kids who helped keep our officers refreshed and smiling!



Merced Police Department Community Academy Graduation

The Merced Police Department celebrated the graduation of its latest 10-week Community Academy this past Wednesday. Participants gained valuable insight into the department and the responsibilities of local law enforcement.

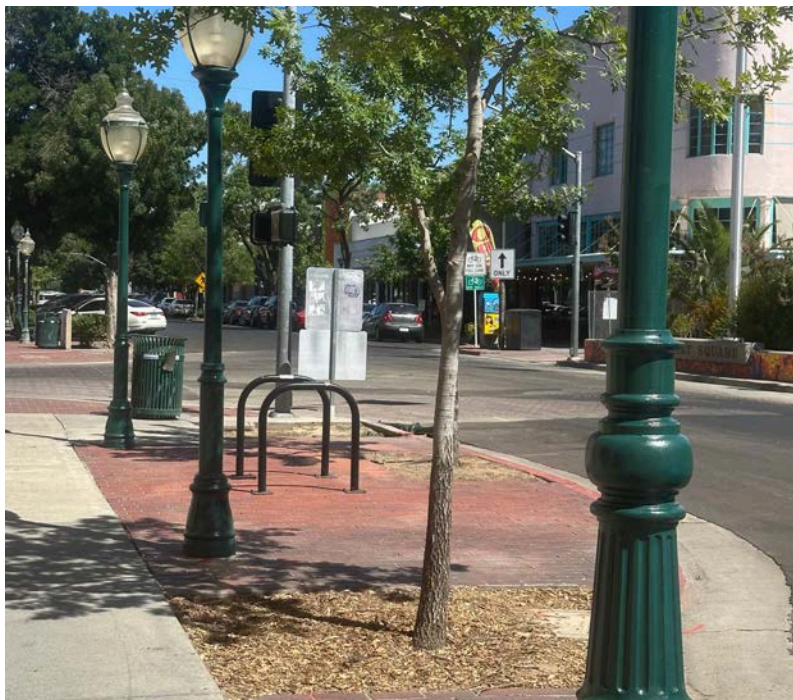
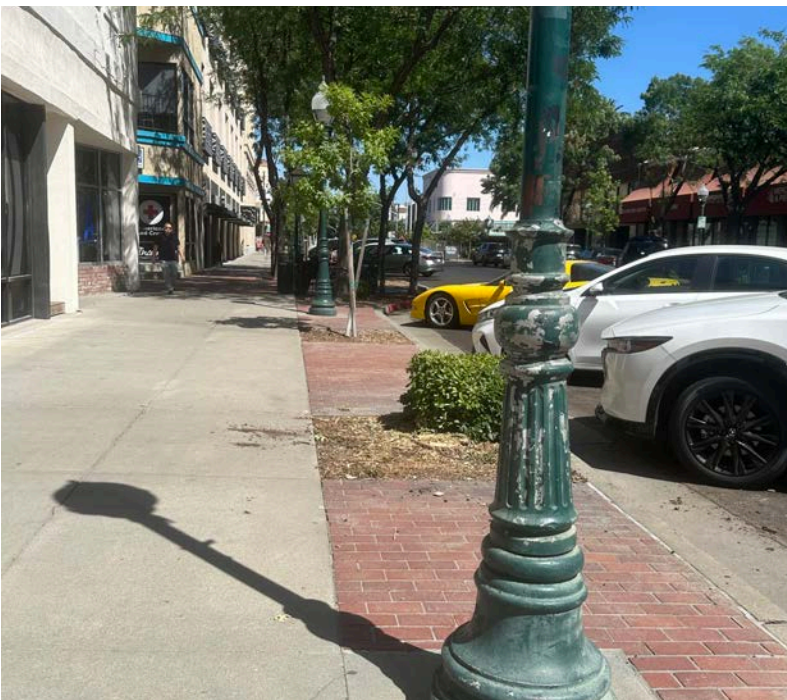
The department also announced plans for an upcoming all-Spanish Community Academy. Those interested can contact Community Liaison Rosa Alcaraz at alcarazr@cityofmerced.org for more information.

The City extends its thanks to all who participated for their time, energy, and dedication. More details on the next Community Academy will be shared soon.



Downtown Ambassadors Kick Off Streetlamp Restoration Project

The Downtown Merced Partnership has launched a streetlamp cleaning and repainting project along Main Street, Canal, and K streets. Funded by the Partnership and carried out by Downtown Ambassadors in collaboration with Restore Merced, the effort is supported by the City's Public Works team. As Bob Hart Square construction and traffic updates continue, this beautification work helps set the tone for downtown's future. Ambassadors are also tackling litter pickup, sidewalk power washing, and light landscaping—with more to come!



Merced PD Welcomes New Officer Esteban Martinez

This week, the Merced Police Department proudly welcomed Officer Esteban Martinez, who successfully completed Class 177 at the State Center Regional Training Facility in Fresno.

Officer Martinez now begins the next phase of his law enforcement journey as he enters the Field Training Program, where he'll continue building his skills and experience alongside seasoned officers. This important step helps prepare new officers to serve our community with professionalism, confidence, and care.

Fun fact! Before joining the department, Officer Martinez participated in the Merced PD Community Academy. The knowledge and insight he gained there helped guide him through the application and training process — a great example of how our outreach programs can inspire and shape future public servants.



Parks and Community Services Dance Program Update

Thank you to everyone who joined the Ballet Folklórico & Aztec dance performance—it was a wonderful way to close out the season!

A new season begins Wednesday, July 2, and all are welcome to join. Whether returning or trying dance for the first time, classes are held every Wednesday at the Rossotti Center. To register or learn more, call (209) 385-6855 or visit us at 632 W. 18th St., Merced.



Junior Giants Season Kickoff

What an amazing opening day it was for Junior Giants in Merced! Over 300 kids enjoyed a fun, safe, and inclusive sports experience, thanks to the support of the Junior Giants and the Merced City School District.

A special thank you to Commissioner Joe Bauer for throwing out the first pitch to officially open the season!



FREE Yoga in the Park

Every First & Third Sunday
of the Month : 9:30am -10:30am

Location: Bear Creek Park Strip
on 28th & H Street

Instructors:

Aron Scott & Jamie Pangelina



Bring a Towel or Mat

For more information contact:

City of Merced
Parks and Community Services
(209)385-6235

Parks
Make
Life
Better!



FUNDING PROVIDED THROUGH THE LOW CARBON TRANSIT OPERATIONS PROGRAM (LCTOP)



JULY - AUGUST 2025 | FREE FOR ALL RIDERS!

UC MERCED AND MERCED COLLEGE STUDENTS
MUST STILL PRESENT VALID STUDENT I.D. TO RIDE FREE

SENIORS, VETERANS, AND ADA PASSENGERS
MUST STILL PRESENT VALID I.D. TO RIDE FREE



**SCAN TO DOWNLOAD THE
MERCED THE BUS APP FOR
ROUTE PLANNING AND
SERVICE INFORMATION**



WWW.MERCEDTHEBUS.COM

RECREATIONAL SWIM
NOW OPEN at

MCNAMARA



Make a Splash this Summer with
Parks & Community Services!!

FRIDAYS &
SATURDAYS

1:00PM-6:00PM

Special Swim Blocks

June 30 – July 5
(Closed July 4th)

1040 Canal Street
Merced, Ca

CITY OF MERCED PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES



Registration July 1st - August 1st

LEAGUE INFO

- \$80 per child/ \$100 non residents
 - Merced City School District K-6 Students Free!
- Divisions
 - Tiny Tots: K-2nd
 - Pee-Wee: 3rd & 4th
 - JV: 5th & 6th
 - Varsity: 7th & 8th
- 10 week season (August -October)
 - NFLF Combine/ Skills Assessment
 - 2 weeks of Preseason Practice
 - 8 Weeks of Play
 - One game, one practice per week
 - 6 Saturday morning games
 - 2 Monday night games (under the lights)
- Each player will receive official NFL flag performance jersey, flags, and certificate of completion
- No team/ buddy/ coach requests in Pee-Wee, JV, or Varsity divisions
 - Coaches will draft teams after Player Combine (skills assessment)

LEAGUE SPONSORS WELCOMED

CALL PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR MORE INFO

IMPORTANT LEAGUE DATES

- Parent Orientation- 8/4 @ 5:30pm (Zoom)
- Coaches Orientation- 8/5 @ 6:00pm
 - Location:
City Hall Sam Pipes Room
678 W 18th St, Merced
- NFLF Player Combine/ Skills Assessment- 8/9
 - Location: McNamara Turf Field
1040 Canal Street, Merced
 - Mandatory for Pee-Wee, JV, and Varsity Divisions
 - Pee- Wee- 8:30am
 - JV - 9:45am
 - Varsity- 11:00am
 - Coaches must be present to rank each player in their division for the draft
- Coaches Draft
 - Pee-Wee draft (8/11/2025) 6:00pm- 7:30pm
 - JV draft (8/12/2025) 6:00pm-7:00pm
 - Varsity draft (8/12/2025) 7:15-8:15pm
- Preseason practices begin the week of August 18th
- Games run Sept. 6th- Oct. 25th
 - All games played on Saturdays at Joe Herb Park softball fields (2200 Yosemite Parkway)

**REGISTER AT PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES- 632 W. 18TH ST.
MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00AM - 12:00PM & 1:00PM - 5:00PM**

QUESTIONS? GIVE US A CALL AT (209) 385-6255

