



KENSINGTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

This newsletter provides updated information regarding the KCSD and your community.

KENSINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

In Kensington, wildfire preparedness starts at home. Dry vegetation, steep hillsides, and wind-driven embers increase fire risk, making defensible space one of the most important steps residents can take. Defensible space is the maintained buffer around a structure that slows fire spread and reduces ember ignition. By dividing this space into three zones, homeowners can take clear, practical actions that make a real difference.

Defensible Space: Three Zones That Protect Kensington Homes

About half of Kensington is designated a *Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone*. Creating defensible space in three zones, extending up to 100 feet or to the property line, is a key way to reduce wildfire risk. The Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone is essentially above Arlington Avenue although not all of the area above the Arlington. The area below the Arlington is either a High or Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zone or in no zone. See map: <https://tinyurl.com/45kbc5am>

- **Zone 0 (0–5 feet):** Keep this area ignition-resistant. Use hard surfaces, clear debris, and move combustible items away from the home.
- **Zone 1 (5–30 feet):** Reduce fuels by removing dead vegetation, pruning, spacing plants, and clearing areas under decks and stairs.
- **Zone 2 (30–100 feet):** Slow fire spread by maintaining low grass, removing debris, and spacing trees and shrubs.



Kensington Ember Exclusion Program (KEEP)

The Kensington Community Services District has launched the *Kensington Ember Exclusion Program (KEEP)* to help protect homes from wind-driven embers, a major wildfire threat. Offered with *Firesafe Kensington* and *Wildfire Defense Mesh*, the program combines education with practical home-hardening resources. Backed by \$15,000 in KCSD funding, the pilot supports resident-led projects that reduce ember entry and fire risk, along with material support for qualifying households, including ember-resistant metal mesh. Apply April 1 through May 31, 2026.



Red Flag Parking Restrictions Under Consideration

Are You Willing to Sacrifice for the Good of the Community?

During Red Flag weather conditions, rapid emergency response is critical to protecting lives and property. To ensure fire apparatus can access narrow streets without delay, the Kensington Community Services District is considering a Red Flag “No Parking” program.

Continued

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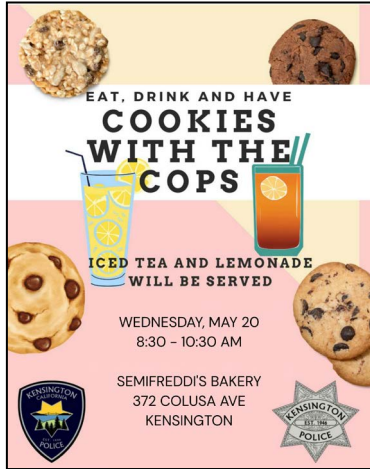
Spring 2026

*Committed to
Keeping
Kensington
Residents
Informed*

Red Flag Parking Restrictions Under Consideration *Continued*

The Board of Directors will discuss and vote on a county-supported resolution to implement temporary no-parking restrictions on designated streets during Red Flag days. Initial streets under consideration include Westminster Ave., Kenyon Ave., and Purdue Ave. Residents on these streets will receive direct notification from the Fire Chief.

Historically, Kensington experiences only a few Red Flag days each year. The Board meeting will take place on **May 14, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** Community input is encouraged.



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Kensington Police Department is pleased to announce the return of its seasonal community engagement program, featuring events such as *Cookies with the Cops*, *Coffee with the Cops*, and similar gatherings designed to strengthen relationships with residents. The next event will be held on **May 20 from 8:30–10:30 AM at SemiFreddis Bakery**, with additional monthly events planned through September. Details to be shared through District communication channels, and the Department extends its appreciation to local business partners for their continued support.

Separately, **Sergeant Brian Lande** and **Officer Jose Fajardo** proudly represented Kensington at the *2026 Baker to Las Vegas Relay*, delivering strong performances alongside the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office team in this internationally recognized law enforcement event. The Department looks forward to sponsoring two runners again next year if invited.

The Department has also added two new patrol vehicles to its fleet, valued at more than \$150,000, which were procured through a grant from the California Highway Patrol; **Lieutenant Amit Nath** oversees the fleet and manages the Department's grant programs.

PARK & RECREATION

Food Truck Night in the Park

KCSD, together with **Kensington Community Council (KCC)**, is launching a new monthly community event at the upper lawn of Kensington Park, starting May 8 from 5–8 PM. Hosted by *The Foodie Crew*, the event will feature six food trucks with food available for purchase. Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy an evening with neighbors and great food. With strong support, trucks will return every second Friday from **May through October**. Visit www.KensingtonFoodTrucks.com. See you there!



Kensington Community Tennis Association (KCTA)

A new community tennis initiative is launching in Kensington. Local resident Damon Levy has started the Kensington Community Tennis Association, a volunteer-led effort to make tennis more accessible for all ages. Supported by a grant from the United States Tennis Association and in partnership with the KCSD, KCTA aims to create more opportunities to play. The program will kick off with a free kids' "red ball" clinic for beginners, using smaller courts and softer balls to make learning fun. Plans also include social, beginner-friendly clinics for adults, with details to be shared in the *Outlook* and around town. Info: KensingtonCTA.com or KensingtonCTA@gmail.com.



Facilities and Rentals:

The Kensington Community Center offers flexible facility rentals ideal for meetings, classes, celebrations, and events in a welcoming neighborhood setting. Spaces include indoor rooms and outdoor areas with convenient amenities to accommodate a variety of needs. Learn more or book at www.kppcsd.org/kensington-community-center or contact the District office for availability and details.