

Hello New Residents,

Welcome to Chemeketa Park, a community of 140 households. We hope that you are enjoying your new home and the wonderful area we live in. We have compiled a resource guide to help you become familiar with Chemeketa Park, the services provided by our Mutual Water Company, trash and recycling schedules, fire prevention, electricity and propane, and much more. You can also visit our website at www.chemeketapark.org to see our By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation.



CHEMEKETA PARK MUTUAL WATER COMPANY



The Chemeketa Park Mutual Water Company was incorporated in 1929 as a nonprofit mutual benefit corporation. Its primary purpose is to operate a water system, roads, and recreational facilities for its members. The community funds the cost of providing these services through a bill that is sent each month by the Chemeketa Park Mutual Water Company. Services include treating and distributing drinking water to our residents, maintaining the roads throughout the community, and a recreational area. The Mutual Water Company holds monthly meetings to oversee the operations of the water system, roads, and common areas. There is an Annual Meeting which is normally held on the first Sunday of June to discuss and vote on budgets and projects related to the water system and roads. Each property owner has one vote per each improved lot that they own.

Membership in the Company is attached to ownership of land within the boundaries of the Park. The members own the Company and have ultimate responsibility for the corporation and the services it provides. The Board of Directors oversees day-to-day operations in compliance with the by-laws. The Board consists of five directors and two alternates. The Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Clubhouse at 7:00 p.m. Attending the monthly Board meetings provides the community with an open forum to become familiar with projects in process or being considered. In addition, we depend on community involvement to keep improving and enhancing our neighborhood.

Our water system is operated by Cypress Water Services. The Department of Health Services regulates the operation of the water system, including operator certification requirements, water quality monitoring requirements, and reporting requirements. If you encounter a water service emergency, contact Cypress Water at 831-920-6796 (24 hours). For all other issues, not related to water emergencies, contact the Board of Directors through the website at <http://www.chemeketapark.org/contact/>. The website also lists the current members of the Board of Directors.

Because our water source, Moody Creek, is affected by fluctuations in seasonal rainfall, we work together as a community and respond with water conservation measures when

needed. One situation in which residents should be aware is during heavy rain events. During heavy rain, the water plant cannot process water due to the high turbidity in the creek. Therefore, during a rain event that lasts many days, the Water Company will ask all residents to please conserve water.

CLUBHOUSE AND PLAYGROUND

We have a community playground in the Park. The Clubhouse is available for parties and events for property owners. Contact Lisa Ridenour at 408-792-7762 or email at gdrtax@gmail.com for details about renting the Clubhouse.



GARBAGE AND RECYCLING:

Green Team of San Jose picks up garbage, recycling, and yard waste every Wednesday morning. The phone number to start service or for inquiry is: 408-282-4400, and the website is www.greenteam.com.

ELECTRICITY

Pacific Gas and Electric provides the electric service to our park. Their 24-hour phone number for customer service and emergencies is: **800-743-5000** (800-PGE-5000). Their website is: www.pge.com.

PROPANE

There are a number of companies that provide propane to our park. Here are a few:

1. AmeriGas: 408-293-1252 or website at www.amerigas.com
2. Dassel's Propane: 888-327-7357 or website at www.dassels.com
3. Ferrell Gas: 888-337-7355 or website at www.ferrellgas.com
4. Kamps Propane: 800-795-4427 or website at www.kampspropane.com
5. Suburban Propane: 800-776-7263 or website at www.suburbanpropane.com

As a note, Chemeketa Park Mutual Water Company does not endorse any particular propane company. The list is provided for convenience.

You can also join the South Skyline Association to realize significant discounts on propane for a small annual fee. They participate with many propane companies. Contact them at www.southskyline.org.

FIRE PREVENTION

The beauty of the trees in the mountains is usually why we choose to live here. It is also very important to be fire safe while living here. We work together as a community to keep our park safe from fire. Here are a few things you can do right away:



- Keep all roofs clear of leaves and debris.
- Move your woodpile 30 ft. away from your house.
- Remove dead trees, brush and branches from your property on a regular basis.
- Remove all debris and flammable materials from under your deck.
- Install a reflective address sign in front of your house.

We have an Annual Chipping Program for all of our residents, sponsored by the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council. This program encourages each resident to clear a defensible space around their property and then the FireSafe Council disposes of the brush. Having a defensible space includes keeping each property clear of surface and ladder fuels which can cause fire to spread. Visit the FireSafe Council website at <https://sccfiresafe.org>

Chemeketa Park is a nationally recognized Firewise Community within the Firewise USA group. This is a small team of community residents that have led, completed, and continue to work on a number of fire safety projects within the Park. The committee assists in reducing the risk of wildfire through education and participation in hazard mitigation. Get involved by contacting the Firewise group at: <http://www.chemeketapark.org/your-neighborhood/firewise/>



Get involved with a POD

Chemeketa Park started the POD program in 2019 with the purpose of helping each other in the case of an emergency, large or small. A POD is a self-contained unit (a group of about 10-14 homes) with the function of being able to help each other out in case of wildfire evacuation or an earthquake. Helping each other in small “chunks” of a community has proven to be more effective and helpful in cases of evacuation or earthquake, as we learned from the Battalion Chiefs from both CalFire and Santa Clara County Fire Department. To find out more about joining a POD, contact the Board at <http://www.chemeketapark.org/contact/>.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY SHERIFF

The Santa Clara County Sheriff is the responding department for police emergencies. If you have an emergency, dial **9-1-1**.

If you are calling from a **cell phone**, please understand that the sheriff may not be able to see where you are calling from so be prepared to give your exact location. Here are some tips for calling for help in an emergency with a cell phone:

<https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/911-wireless-services>.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Contact Santa Clara County at www.sccgov.org if you have questions about what can and cannot be done with your property. Santa Clara County, not the Chemeketa Park Mutual Water Company, governs land use ordinances in Chemeketa Park, such as single-family zoning (how many dwelling units per acre/parcel are allowed in Chemeketa Park), restrictions on cutting trees in Chemeketa Park, and noise (barking dogs, hours and days in which commercial power tools can be used in construction, and hours music can be played at a volume audible by neighbors).

HISTORY



Chemeketa Park was developed in 1925 by J.B. Balcomb, a civil engineer from Palo Alto, who acquired a 63-acre orchard in the Santa Cruz Mountains. An advertisement in the Sunday, June 20, 1926 edition of the San Jose Mercury Herald lists a "pre-opening sale" for lots "as low as \$50.00."

Initially, lots were used for vacation cabins. The mountain communities of Chemeketa Park and Redwood Estates were considered too remote and too difficult to access for year-round living. Lots were advertised to Bay Area families as a summer retreat, far from the stress of city living in San Francisco and San Jose.

By the mid-1930's, with the improvement of roads and water systems, many residents began occupying their cabins year-round and combining smaller lots into larger parcels.

Chemeketa is a Kalapuya Indian word with various meanings attributed to it, including "resting place", "meeting place", "old home", or "old camping ground". The Kalapuya lived in the area now known as Salem, Oregon. Chemeketa was an original name of Salem and still exists as the name of a community college, a library, and various parks and streets in the Salem and Portland areas.

When J. B. Balcomb and his wife moved from the Midwest to California, they first stopped through eastern Oregon where they most likely heard the name “Chemeketa”. The Native American theme is present throughout Chemeketa Park with street names like “Comanche Trail”, “Ogallala Warpath”, “Apache Trail”, and “Navajo Trail”.

We are happy to have you join our community! We hope to see you at the Clubhouse for our community get-togethers where you can meet your neighbors. We rely on each other to keep our community safe and free from fire hazards.

You are welcome and encouraged to join our monthly Board Meetings to get to know what is happening within the park. Board Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Look at the [Chemeketa Park Mutual Water Company](#) section above for more information.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors for Chemeketa Park
The Firewise Team

P.S. If you have questions or suggestion on this document please contact the Board of Directors at <http://www.chemeketapark.org/contact/>

