

Mesilla Town Hall
2231 Avenida de Mesilla * P.O. Box 10, Mesilla, NM 88046
Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 6 p.m. (closed Fridays)
Phone (575) 524-3262; Fax (575) 541-6327
www.mesilla-nm.org

Community Calendar

Dia de los Muertos (Plaza)

Sat. Nov. 1 12-7 pm
Sun. Nov. 2 12-7 pm

San Albino Church Basilica Event (Plaza)

Sat. Nov. 1 9:30-11:30 am

Mariachi Sunday Finale (Plaza)

Sun. Nov. 2 2-5 pm

Argentine Tango (Plaza)

Sun. Nov. 9 7-10 pm

Veterans Day Ceremony
(Parque de los Veteranos)

Tue. Nov. 11 11 am-12 pm

Gadsden Purchase Flag-Raising Event (Plaza)

Sat. Nov. 15 2-3 pm

***Mesilla Mercado**

(Art, Crafts & Seasonal Produce Market)

Thursdays 11 am to 4 pm
Sundays 12 to 4 pm

*No Mercado held Sun. Nov. 2

***Adult Pilates Classes (Community Center)**

Mondays 4:30-5:30 pm
Wednesdays 12-1 pm
Fridays 5:30-6:30 pm

*No class Friday, Nov. 28

***Children's Dance Class (Community Center)**

Tuesdays 3-4 pm
Thursdays 3-4 pm

*No class Tuesday, Nov. 4 or Thursday, Nov. 27

Meetings

Mon. Nov. 3 P&Z meeting (BOT rm) 6 pm
Mon. Nov. 10 BOT meeting (BOT rm) 6 pm
Mon. Nov. 17 P&Z meeting (BOT rm) 6 pm
Mon. Nov. 24 BOT meeting (BOT rm) 6 pm

Town Holiday Observance Day(s)

Tue. Nov. 11 (Veterans Day)
Thurs. Nov. 27 (Thanksgiving Day)

News from the Mesilla Fire Department

USING HEATERS IN THE COLDER WEATHER

With the recent temperature drop, Town residents have begun using portable heating devices to help keep their homes warm. While many are anxious to get their units up and running quickly, safe measures and precautions should always be taken to ensure a safe, warm home through the upcoming winter. Heating equipment is the leading cause of home fires during the months of December, January and February, and trails only cooking equipment in home fires year-round.



Space Heaters

Residents that utilize wall space heaters or other heating device should remember to pull all furniture and other combustible items at least three feet away from any heating devices. Space heaters are temporary heating devices and should only be used for a limited time each day and should **never** be connected to an outlet with an extension cord. When not in use, be sure to unplug the unit and let it cool down if you will be storing the unit. Keep a window ajar or the door open in a room where an un-vented heater is in use. Never use heaters to dry clothing or other combustibles. Electric heaters with frayed or damaged cords should never be used. Young children should be kept away from any appliance that has hot surfaces that can cause burns. Kerosene heaters should be cleaned and wicks replaced annually.

Fireplaces

Before using the fireplace for the first time in a season, make sure the flue is open. The flue is a trap door that keeps heat out in the summer and cool air from coming in when the fireplace is not in use. You can check it by looking up the chimney to see if you are able to see daylight. If there are any obstructions, remove them. If not removed, these obstructions will cause carbon monoxide to back up into your home. Carbon monoxide is a deadly, odorless and invisible gas. Artificial logs made from wax and sawdust should be used one at a time. Pressure-treated wood should not be burned in stoves or fireplaces because it contains toxic chemicals that can make you sick. Never leave a fireplace unattended. Chimneys and vents should be inspected and cleaned annually. Have chimneys inspected and cleaned when necessary by a professional chimney sweep. Creosote is an unavoidable product of wood-burning stoves and fireplaces. Creosote builds up in connectors and chimney flues and can cause a chimney fire. Don't burn newspapers or other trash in a fireplace because they burn too hot and can ignite a chimney fire. Also be sure your fireplace is covered by a properly designed screen or cover to prevent embers from coming out of the hearth.

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Gas or Electric Furnaces

Gas or electric furnaces that have not been used for several months will most likely have a build-up of dust and dirt on heating elements. This can cause a burning smell and even a light haze of white smoke when first operated for the season. This smell and haze are not harmful, and will take only several uses before all the dust and dirt on the heating unit are burnt away. To be safe, try to run the furnace on a warm day while opening all windows so the smell can escape. If the smoke turns black and the furnace starts to rumble leave the building immediately and call the fire department by dialing 911.



Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Test your home smoke alarms at least once per week. Do this by pressing the test button on the unit. Some newer models also feature the ability to test the unit with a flashlight as well. If you are unsure as to whether your unit has this feature, check your operations manual or consult the manufacturer.

If you do not have one already installed, install a carbon monoxide detector. Carbon monoxide is a tasteless, odorless, invisible gas, which is absorbed by the human body 200 times faster than oxygen. Carbon monoxide will cause people to fall into a deep sleep and cause death. Gas fireplaces, gas stoves, barbecues, gas furnaces, automobiles, propane appliances and any other device that produces a flame will produce carbon monoxide.

Coal and Wood Burning Stoves

Use coal only if specifically approved by the stove manufacturer. Gasoline or other flammable liquids should never be used to start a wood fire since it might explode or flare up. **Never** use gasoline in kerosene heaters. Gasoline or other flammable liquids should never be used to start a wood fire since it might explode or flare up. The directions on artificial logs made from wax and sawdust say they should be used one at a time in fireplaces and never used in wood stoves. This is because the heat can melt the log causing it to flare up or leak burning liquid from the appliance. Pressure-treated wood should not be burned in stoves or fireplaces because it contains toxic chemicals that can make you sick.

Barbecues

Barbecues should **never** be used indoors or as a heating device. Barbecues produce large amounts of carbon monoxide.

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Safety Tips:

- Space heaters need space. Portable space heaters need a three-foot (one meter) clearance from anything that can burn and should always be turned off when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- When buying a new unit, make sure it carries the mark of an independent testing lab. Be sure that a qualified technician installs the unit or checks that the unit has been installed properly.
- Wood and coal stoves, fireplaces, chimneys, chimney connectors, and all other solid-fueled heating equipment need to be inspected annually by a professional and cleaned as often as the inspections indicate.
- Portable kerosene heaters must be fueled only in a well-ventilated area, free of flame and other heat sources, and only when the device has cooled completely. Use only the type of kerosene specified by the manufacturer for that device, and **never** use gasoline instead of kerosene. Also, be sure that portable kerosene heaters are legal for home use in this state.
- When turning a heating device on or off, be careful to follow the manufacturer's instructions. When buying heaters, purchase devices with automatic shut-off features.
- Be sure any gas-fueled heating device is installed with proper attention to ventilation, and never put unvented gas space heaters in bedrooms or bathrooms. Also, LP (liquefied petroleum) gas heaters with self-contained fuel supplies are prohibited for home use by NFPA codes.

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