



City of Needles

817 Third Street, Needles, California 92363
(760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-6765
www.cityofneedles.com

Mayor, Janet Jernigan
Vice Mayor Ellen Campbell
Councilmember Tona Belt
Councilmember Jamie McCorkle
Councilmember JoAnne Pogue
Councilmember Henry Longbrake
Councilmember Larry Ford

City Manager Patrick J. Martinez

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: PATRICK J. MARTINEZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: WEEKLY MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 24, 2026

City Manager's Weekly Highlights

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness

- Continued the City's coordinated recovery efforts following the July 17 monsoonal storm, including infrastructure assessments, damage documentation, and ongoing cleanup while maintaining essential public services.
- Coordinated with the National Weather Service and San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services to prepare for the ongoing Extreme Heat Warning and provide residents with information on cooling resources and heat safety.

Community Partnerships & Quality of Life

- Partnered with St. Vincent de Paul and the BHHS Legacy Foundation to expand utility bill assistance for qualifying residents through a new \$15,000 community assistance grant.
- Welcomed new members to the Housing Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission, strengthening citizen participation in local government.

Economic Development & Tourism

- Continued promoting Needles as a regional tourism destination through the City's partnership with SouthWest RailCams, which generated nearly 46,000 views and more than 5,780 hours of watch time during June, providing worldwide exposure for the community.

Community Engagement

- Prepared for upcoming community events, including the Beat the Heat Night Pool Party and the Rivers Edge Golf Course 4th Annual Night Golf Tournament, supporting recreation, tourism, and community engagement.

Environmental Stewardship

- Continued promoting the City's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program to encourage proper disposal of hazardous materials and protect public health and the environment.

1. **Storm Recovery Update:** City crews have made substantial progress in recovering from the significant monsoonal storm that impacted the community on July 17, 2026. The storm caused localized flooding, roadway debris, erosion, washouts, temporary road closures, and damage to public infrastructure, including drainage facilities, retaining walls, parks, and portions of the Rivers Edge Golf Course. Public Works, Utility, Parks, and other City staff worked extended hours to restore essential services, reopen roadways, remove debris, and stabilize affected areas. While the majority of cleanup efforts have been completed, staff continues to assess permanent repairs and document storm-related damage to support potential reimbursement opportunities. The City's response reflects the professionalism, dedication, and preparedness of City employees, supported by the Mayor and City Council's continued investment in the personnel, equipment, and infrastructure necessary to respond effectively during emergencies. Residents are encouraged to report any remaining storm-related concerns by calling **760-326-5700** or by submitting a request through the **Needles Connect** app, available on the [Google Play Store for Android](#) and the [Apple App Store for iOS](#). These reporting tools assist staff in identifying, prioritizing, and responding to any remaining issues as recovery efforts continue.
2. **Extreme Heat Warning:** The National Weather Service has issued an **Extreme Heat Warning** for the Needles area through **8:00 p.m. on Monday, July 27**, with dangerously hot conditions expected. Afternoon temperatures are forecast to range from **108°F to 114°F**, with temperatures potentially exceeding **115°F** along the Colorado River Valley. Heat-related illnesses increase significantly during periods of extreme heat. The City continues to coordinate with the **San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services**, which is monitoring conditions and providing National Weather Service updates to support local preparedness efforts. Residents are encouraged to stay hydrated, remain in air-conditioned environments whenever possible, limit outdoor activities during the hottest part of the day, and check on elderly neighbors, family members, and pets. Children and pets should never be left unattended in vehicles, as interior temperatures can become life-threatening within minutes. Residents seeking relief from the heat may utilize the **Needles Branch Library (1111 Bailey Avenue; 760-326-9255)** or **Pacific Clinics' Spike's Clubhouse (1060 East Broadway Street; 760-623-0855)** during normal business hours. The **Needles Municipal Aquatics Center (1661 J Street; 760-326-3866)** also offers scheduled public swim hours, and the Duke Watkins Park Splash Pad remains open during normal operating hours as additional community cooling amenities.
3. **St. Vincent de Paul Receives Grant to Assist Utility Customers:** St. Vincent de Paul has been awarded a **\$15,000 grant** from the **BHHS Legacy Foundation** to provide financial assistance to Needles residents struggling with electric utility bills. The City appreciates St. Vincent de Paul's longstanding commitment to serving vulnerable members of our community and the BHHS

Legacy Foundation's continued investment in programs that directly benefit Needles residents. The City will work collaboratively with St. Vincent de Paul by referring eligible residents who may qualify for assistance, helping ensure these resources reach those with the greatest need. This partnership reflects the positive impact that can be achieved when nonprofit organizations, philanthropic partners, and local government work together to support the community. Residents interested in learning more about the program or scheduling an eligibility appointment may contact St. Vincent de Paul at (760) 326-4420 or by email at svdpneedles@frontier.com.

4. **Commission Appointments:** The City recently appointed **John Valter** to the **Housing Commission** and **Dr. Mary McNeil** to the **Parks and Recreation Commission**. The Housing Commission serves as the governing board of the Housing Authority of the City of Needles, providing oversight of housing programs, reviewing policies, and supporting efforts to expand affordable housing opportunities for the community. The Parks and Recreation Commission serves as an advisory body to the City Council on parks, recreational programs, and community facilities, helping guide initiatives that enhance the quality of life for residents of all ages. Staff looks forward to the valuable contributions each commissioner will bring through their service and extends its appreciation for their willingness to serve the residents of Needles.
5. **Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program:** The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District (SBCFPD) continued to provide Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection services to Needles residents through its permanent Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program. During Fiscal Year 2025, 91 Needles residents utilized the program, resulting in the safe collection and proper disposal of 4,459 pounds of household hazardous and electronic waste. Materials collected included approximately 749 pounds of electronic waste, 535 pounds of latex paint, 477 pounds of cathode ray tubes (CRTs), 413 pounds of used motor oil and oil products, 375 pounds of used oil filters, and 223 pounds of oil-based paint, along with household batteries, pharmaceuticals, corrosives, flammable materials, and other household hazardous waste. The program supports the City's Solid Waste Management Plan while helping protect public health and the environment through the safe and responsible disposal of hazardous materials.
6. **SouthWest RailCams Continues to Showcase Needles:** SouthWest RailCams expressed its appreciation to the City for serving as the host for its live rail cameras, which provide viewers with a unique perspective of Needles' historic BNSF rail corridor. During **June 2026**, the Needles East Camera recorded **27,214 views** and more than **3,883 hours** of watch time, while the Needles West Camera recorded **18,664 views** and nearly **1,897 hours** of watch time. Combined, the cameras generated nearly **46,000 views** and **5,780 hours** of viewing during the month, showcasing Needles to rail enthusiasts and visitors around the world while supporting the City Council's goals of promoting tourism and increasing the community's visibility through digital platforms. Residents may view the live cameras on the SouthWest RailCams website at the following [link](#).

7. **Fall Spay & Neuter Clinic Scheduled for September 24–25:** The Needles Animal Shelter will host its Fall Spay and Neuter Clinic on September 24–25, 2026, in partnership with Dr. Angelina Beeks of Angel's Touch Veterinary Services. The biannual clinic provides affordable spay and neuter services to pet owners throughout the tri-state area, promoting responsible pet ownership and helping reduce pet overpopulation. Appointments are required, and a completed application with a non-refundable cash deposit must be submitted at the Needles Animal Shelter, located at 1662 Flip Mendez Parkway. Due to strong demand, appointments are expected to fill quickly, and early registration is encouraged. Residents may contact the shelter at (760) 326-4952 for additional information or to schedule an appointment. This ongoing partnership supports the City's commitment to animal welfare, public health, and responsible pet ownership. Please refer to the attached flyer for additional information.
8. **Community Events Calendar Now Live:** The City's new website now features a [Community Events Calendar](#)—a centralized location for community events, public meetings, and civic programs. Local organizations are invited to submit or update events through the City Clerk's Office to help keep the calendar current and inclusive. Residents can subscribe and sync the calendar to mobile devices for real-time updates, making it easier to stay informed about local events and civic activities.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & RECOGNITION

- I. **Beat the Heat Night Pool Party:** Tri-State Community Healthcare, in partnership with Route 66 Pharmacy, will host a **free Beat the Heat Night Pool Party** on **Saturday, August 1, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** at the **Needles Municipal Aquatics Center (1661 J Street)**. The event will feature free swimming, inflatable water slides, music, food, drinks, and free admission for all attendees. The City appreciates Tri-State Community Healthcare and Route 66 Pharmacy for their continued partnership in providing family-friendly community events.
- II. **Rivers Edge Golf Course – 4th Annual Night Golf Tournament:** Rivers Edge Golf Course will host its 4th Annual Night Golf Tournament on Saturday, August 1, 2026. This annual event attracts golfers from throughout the region, promotes recreation and tourism, increases utilization of City facilities, and supports local businesses while showcasing Rivers Edge Golf Course as a premier community asset.

1. STORM RESPONSE



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2. EXTREME HEAT WARNING

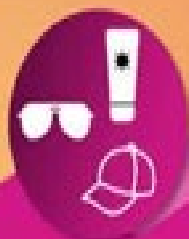
EXTREME HEAT WARNING



Limit Time Outside During the Heat of Day: 10 am to 7 pm



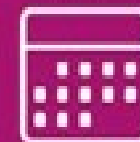
Hydrate with Water & Sports Drinks



Protect Yourself from the Sun



Wear Lightweight, Light Colored Clothes



THU, JUL 23rd, 2026 –
MON, JUL 27th, 2026



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
WEATHER.GOV/LASVEGAS

3. ST. VINCENT LEGACY GRANT



4. COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS



5. HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

2824 "W" Street Bldg. 302 • San Bernardino, CA 92415-0799 • (909) 382-4401 • Fax (909) 382-5413

Office of the Fire Marshal
Household Hazardous Waste Section
sbcfire.org

Daniel R. Munsey
Fire Chief/Fire Warden

Monica S. Ronchetti
Fire Marshal

San Bernardino County Fire Protection District
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Please call me at (909) 382-5401 or e-mail arojas@sbcfire.org, if you have questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alejandra Rojas".

Alejandra Rojas, REHS
Assistant Fire Marshal

April 23, 2026

Rainie Torrance, Finance Assistant
City of Needles
817 3rd St.
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Rainie,

Subject: Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The data listed below can be used to fulfill the reporting requirements of the city's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Element of the city's Solid Waste Management Plan. During fiscal year 2025, 91 Needles residents used the HHW collection facilities and 0 Very Small Quantity Generator. Residents of Needles visited the following permanent household hazardous waste facilities:

Sites Visited	Total Participants
NEEDLES	91
Total	91

The following table lists the calculated waste averages collected. The amounts of waste per individual participant are not tracked.

Waste	Amounts (lbs.)	Waste	Amounts (lbs.)
Latex Paint	535.08	Household Batteries	138.23
Oil Base Paints	222.95	NiCad Batteries	111.48
Flammable Liquids/Solids	151.61	Motor Oil/Oil Products	412.90
Bulked Flammable Liquids	84.72	Oil Filters	375.45
Poison (excluding aerosols)	121.28	Cathode Ray Tubes (CRT)	477.11
Corrosive Acids	107.02	Electronic Waste	749.11
Corrosive Bases	57.97	Fluorescent Tubes	124.85
Oxidizers	71.34	Compressed Gas Cylinders	8.92
Aerosols	80.26	Cooking Oil	102.56
Home Generated Sharps	0.00	Pharmaceuticals	120.39
Antifreeze	17.84	Waste Exchange Materials	147.15
Lead/Acid Batteries	102.56	Other	138.23
TOTAL: 4,459.00			

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)
First District

Jesse Ammendarez
Second District

Dawn Rowe
Chairman, Third District

Curt Hagman
Fourth District

Joe Baca, Jr.
Vice Chair, Fifth District

Luther Snoke
Chief Executive Officer

6. SOUTHWEST RAILCAMS



7. NEEDLES ANIMAL SHELTER CLINIC

SPAY & NEUTER CLINIC!

SEPTEMBER 24TH & 25TH 2026

A full service veterinary clinic at your door!
Dr. Angelina Beeks
Angel's Touch
Veterinary Services



-  All of the tri-state area welcome.
-  Call the animal shelter with all questions.



NEEDLES ANIMAL SHELTER

 1662 Flip Mendez Parkway 
Needles, CA 92362

 An application must be completed with a **non refundable** cash deposit to schedule appointment.

**HELPING PETS. SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY.
HEALTHY PETS, HAPPY FAMILIES!**



COMMUNITY EVENTS I & II



**4th ANNUAL
NIGHT GOLF
TOURNAMENT**

SAT 2026
AUG 1ST

Rivers Edge
Golf Course
8:00PM Shotgun Start

\$60 PER PLAYER
2-Person Scramble

DEADLINE TO SIGNUP
JULY 29TH, 2026

CONTACT: PRO SHOP
(760) 326-3931

This event is sponsored by **tri-state** COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE



NIGHT POOL PARTY

FREE ENTRY

6:00-9:00 PM
SATURDAY - AUGUST 1
CITY POOL - 1661 J STREET

NEEDLES, CA



Free hot dogs, drink & chips
Water Bouncy House Slides
Family Friendly Event