



Arroyo Grande Police Department

MEDIA RELEASE

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STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

The 2010 Strawberry Festival will be occur on Saturday, May 29, 2010 and Sunday, May 30, 2010 in the Village of Arroyo Grande. The event normally attracts large crowds of between 20,000 and 40,000 visitors from throughout San Luis Obispo County and beyond for both Festival dates.

In response to this major influx of visitors, the Arroyo Grande Police Department will be implementing an operational plan that includes street closures, detour routes, designated parking areas, transportation for Festival visitors and increased police and security presence.

On Friday, May 28th at 4:00 PM, the park behind the Arroyo Grande City Hall between Mason, Nelson and Short Streets will be closed through Sunday, May 30th at 6:00 PM. On Friday, May 28th at 5:00 PM Olohan Alley between Mason Street and Bridge Street will be closed through Sunday, May 30th at 6:00 PM. On Friday, May 28th at 10:00 PM the parking lot north of Branch Street and east of Nevada Street will be closed through Sunday, May 30th at 6:00 PM.

Branch Street will be closed between Traffic Way and Mason Street, Bridge Street will be closed between Branch Street and Traffic Way, and Nelson Street will be closed between Traffic Way and Mason Street, all between 6:00 AM on Saturday, May 29th and 6:00 PM on Sunday, May 30th, although Nelson Street will be re-opened during the evening and overnight hours on both dates between 6:00 PM and 6:00 AM. Branch Street and Bridge Street will not re-open during the overnight hours until the conclusion of the Festival. On Sunday, May 30th Branch Mill Road to the City limits will be closed from 8:00 AM until about 9:30 AM for the annual Strawberry Stampede run. In the interest of public safety, no vehicles will be permitted to enter the closed areas during the Festival.

Ensuring Quality of Life

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There will be “No parking” restrictions posted throughout the area of the Village during the Strawberry Festival. Vehicles found in violation of the “No Parking” restrictions will be cited and towed at the owner’s expense.

The detour route around the Strawberry Festival will be clearly marked with detour and informational signs. The detour route will be Branch Street, Mason Street, Poole Street and Traffic Way. The SCAT bus company has been advised of the detour route and will make adjustments to their loading and unloading locations.

Lost and Found will be located at the Arroyo Grande Building Department site at Short Street and Branch Street. Individuals who become separated or children who become separated from their parents should meet at the Lost and Found location.

Disabled parking will be provided at the Bank of America parking lot at Branch Street and Wesley Street. Free bus transportation to the Strawberry Festival will pick up passengers at the Arroyo Grande Community Center and Women’s Club on West Branch Street at Vernon Street, Saint Patrick’s Catholic School on Rodeo Drive at West Branch Street, and the Arroyo Grande High School parking lot on Fair Oaks Avenue and Valley Road.

Spanish language translation will be provided for emergency situations by a member of the Strawberry Festival staff.

If you have any questions regarding the Arroyo Grande Police Department operational plan for the 2010 Strawberry Festival, please contact Commander John W. Hough at the Arroyo Grande Police Department at 805/473-5126.