City of Indian Wells
Monthly Newsletter



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There were no regular Council Meetings in August 2025.
A City Council Meeting was held on September 4, 2025.

Indian Wells by the Numbers

293 pounds of debris picked up by maintenance staff throughout the City

Riverside County Department of Animal Services Year-to-Date Highlights

January-June 2025 (compared to the same period in 2024)

22% County transfer rate for dogs

78.8% live release rate, an increase from 70.4% for cats and dogs combined

20% decrease in intake, resulting in 3,370 fewer animals

40% decrease in humane euthanasia, resulting in 1,513 fewer cat and dog euthanasia cases

30-35% increase in adoption rates for cats and dogs combined

Letter From The City Manager

Dear Indian Wells Residents,

As many of our community members return this fall, I'd like to call attention to one of the wonderful things that makes Indian Wells a magical place to call home — the food! It's no secret that our community is home to an array of restaurants featuring delicious bites, top-tier chefs, inviting spaces and stunning views.

With a high-quality dining spot to satisfy every craving, you can enjoy fine dining at Nobu, Tia Carmen and Vicky's of Santa Fe. Don't forget to pay local favorites like Grapefruit Basil, the Nest, Eureka and Don Diego's a visit for an everyday, casual dining experience. And with coffee available at IW Coffee and The Blushing Peony, and sandwiches from It's A Deli and Baby Marche, what's not to love! Our vibrant culinary scene attracts residents and visitors alike who have a passion for good food.

Among these, the award-winning Kestrel: A Richard Blais Kitchen + Lounge has quickly become a new local favorite for dining. Whether it's after a round of golf or a Friday-night outing, Kestrel, created by celebrity Chef Richard Blais, focuses on good food and customer satisfaction. Chef Blais has enlisted top chefs and managers to ensure exceptional service and meals.

Chef Eric Stenberg, whose career spans decades and includes time in France under a Michelin three-star chef and launching Montana's first farm-to-table restaurant, leads the culinary vision at Kestrel. His background in sustainable sourcing and fine dining innovation ensures that every dish reflects both integrity and creativity.

Working alongside him, General Manager Craige Bennett brings more than 20 years of leadership in high-volume, nationally recognized restaurants and wineries. With a career that includes executive roles at Steak 48, Lawry's The Prime Rib and Chalk Hill Estate Vineyards, Chef Bennett's expertise in hospitality and wine elevates the guest experience.



Chef Eric Stenberg



General Manager Craige Bennett



Celebrity Chef Richard Blais

Together, Chef Stenberg and Bennett blend culinary artistry with polished service to bring Chef Blais' vision for Kestrel to life. Their combined experience and passion create memorable dining moments that leave a lasting impression on golfers and guests alike.

Part of this memorable experience includes Kestrel's wide variety of events. The restaurant has hosted events such as Banter with Blais, Burgers with Blais, Noche de Flamenco, Swing into Kestrel Speakeasy Soirée and, most recently, Blaisin' Summer Cluck-Out.

Kestrel is not only a fantastic spot to relax or grab a drink with friends; it is also a great place for residents to enjoy a discounted meal as part of our Resident Benefit Card (RBC) program. Residents with an RBC receive a 20% discount on food and non-alcoholic beverages at Kestrel. To make a reservation or attend an unforgettable event, visit Kestrel's website. You can find out more about Chef Stenberg and Bennett in this Eye on the Desert segment.

To learn more about available resident benefits, please visit our Resident Benefit Card webpage. For a list of top restaurants in Indian Wells, check out our Top Area Restaurants webpage.

I look forward to seeing you at the various eateries around town! If you have any questions, please visit us at City Hall or call (760) 346-2489.



Best Wishes,

Dr. Chris Freeland

Dr. Chris Freeland
City Manager



Indian Wells Golf Resort News

Fresh Growth Underway on the Players Course

The ongoing renovation of the Players Course at Indian Wells Golf Resort is making impressive strides toward a hole-in-one for our City. With a focus on enhancing both the playability and aesthetic appeal of the course, the project has entered its next phase, bringing players one step closer to enjoying an upgraded golf experience.

Recent Progress

- Grass has been planted on the tee boxes and greens.
- Sand placement and sand bunker construction are finished.
- The construction of the new golf cart path is complete.

Over the next few months, work will continue on the construction of the Players Course putting green, along with landscaping the course with local plants. A new four-faced clock will also be installed, adding a distinctive touch to the course while helping golfers stay on pace.

The updated course will offer a refined blend of performance and visual appeal, raising the bar for every round.
Stay tuned for further updates!







Watch these clips and more at @CityOfIndianWells on YouTube!

Summer Hours and Course Closures

Please note the following summer hours and course closures for the Indian Wells Golf Resort:

Players Course Closure:
Closed through November

Kestrel: A Richard Blais Kitchen + Lounge Hours:

Monday & Tuesday | Closed
Lunch Service | Wednesday-Sunday: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Happy Hour | Wednesday-Sunday: 1-3 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 3-5 p.m.
Dinner Service | Friday & Saturday: 5-9 p.m.
Sunday Brunch | 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Market Place Hours:
Daily from 6-11 a.m.

Golf Shop Hours:

Sunday-Thursday | 6 a.m.-2 p.m.
Friday and Saturday | 6 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kestrel will return to regular hours starting Monday, September 22.

Construction is Underway at the Miles Avenue and Washington Street Intersection



Please be aware of the traffic impacts on Miles Avenue and Washington Street as the City conducts ongoing improvement work. To ensure the safety of our community and project crew, temporary lane closures are in effect:

- **Miles Avenue (Westbound):** A single lane will remain open
- **Washington Street (Southbound):** Two lanes will remain open

These schedules are subject to change.

Your patience and cooperation are greatly appreciated as we work to improve our City's infrastructure.

Stay Informed

Updated construction information will be available on the City Projects webpage. Indian Wells will send out regular updates to keep the community informed.

Sign up for email alerts or subscribe to Nixle for text updates by texting 92210 to 888777. For more detailed instructions, watch this video.

View the City Projects Webpage

CityofIndianWells.org/Projects

The Indian Wells Historic Preservation Foundation Presents

Historic Landmarks in Indian Wells

Step back in time with us as we spotlight Indian Wells' designated historic landmarks. In 2004, the Indian Wells Historic Preservation Foundation established the recognition and significance of historic landmarks within the City of Indian Wells. Each of the eight designated properties meet stringent criteria, including architectural distinction, cultural significance and connection to notable individuals or events.

Cavanagh Adobe | 1922 45-410 Cook Street

Between 1922 and 1928, brothers Albert and Bert Cavanagh oversaw the construction of the adobe home with contractor H. Addison Sanders, using thousands of 4x12x18-inch adobe bricks handmade on-site. Years later, Bert Cavanagh would go on to serve as one of the City's original council members, sworn in following Indian Wells' incorporation on July 14, 1967.

Stay tuned as we continue to explore the legacy and stories behind the landmarks that help define the character and heritage of Indian Wells, thanks to the Historic Preservation Foundation.





Preparedness Starts with You

September is National Emergency Preparedness Month

Disasters can occur unexpectedly, and the Coachella Valley is no stranger to earthquakes, wildfires, floods and power outages. That's why the City of Indian Wells encourages all residents to follow three simple steps to ensure they are ready for anything:

Stay Informed

1. Sign up for RivCoReady alerts at RivCoReady.org/Alert-RivCo
2. Text 92210 to 888777 for Nixle emergency notifications.
3. Download apps like MyShake for earthquake warnings.
4. Stay tuned for #IWFastFacts this month by following us on social media:

Facebook.com/CityofIndianWells
X.com/Indian_Wells
Nextdoor.com

Make a Plan

1. Know evacuation routes and meeting points.
2. Plan for pets, medications and special needs.
3. Share your plan with family and neighbors.

Build a Kit

1. Keep 3-5 days of food, water and supplies.
2. Include flashlights, batteries, first aid and documents.
3. Don't forget pet food and essential medications.

At City Hall, emergency preparedness is a priority. Let's make sure it's a priority in your household, too. For more resources, visit CityOfIndianWells.org/Emergency-Preparedness

IW Fast Fact

The City of Indian Wells ensures that every employee is trained in emergency preparedness! Staff receive foundational training, with ongoing refreshers that include annual fire extinguisher training, CPR/First Aid certification and section-specific emergency response courses. Whether it's a drill or a real emergency, Indian Wells employees are prepared to act.





Show Us Indian Wells Through Your Lens!

We want to see Indian Wells the way you experience it! Whether it's a scenic trail, a stunning sunset or a hidden gem around town, send us your best photos of Indian Wells for a chance to be featured on the City's official social media platforms or in the monthly newsletter.

Email your snapshots to Community@IndianWells.com. Your photo could be showcased online for the community to enjoy!

Photos should highlight locations within the City and avoid showing identifiable people, including children. By submitting, you're giving the City permission to use your photo in promotional materials such as social media, videos, newsletters, the City website and IW-TV.

Stay Cool: Riverside County Cooling Centers Offer Heat Relief

As temperatures soar in Indian Wells, we urge you to stay safe and take advantage of the designated cooling centers across Riverside County.

What Are Cooling Centers?

Cooling centers are public, air-conditioned spaces, like libraries, senior centers and community centers, open during periods of extreme heat. They provide a safe place to cool off, hydrate and escape dangerous temperatures.

Heat-related illnesses, including heat exhaustion and heat stroke, are dangerous, especially for seniors, young children, outdoor workers and those without air conditioning.

Find a Cooling Center Near You

CAPRiverside.org/Cool-Centers

Heat Safety Tips

- Stay indoors during peak heat hours (10 a.m.-4 p.m.).
- Drink plenty of water.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Never leave people or pets in hot vehicles.
- Check on your neighbors.

Find More Heat Safety Information

Ready.gov/Heat





Save the Date: Epson Tour Championship and ProAm Tour Return This Fall

Mark your calendars for one of the premier events in women's golf! The Epson Tour Championship and Pro-Am Tour return to Indian Wells next month, showcasing the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA)'s rising stars in a week full of competition, community and celebration.

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to support women's sports, meet the future stars of golf and enjoy a great community event. Stay tuned for more information.

Pro-Am Tour: October 1

Play alongside future LPGA pros in this exclusive experience.

40% Resident Discount
(Download and mail or email the sign-up form)
Team Price: $2,400
Individual Price: $800

Epson Tour Championship: October 2-5

Watch top women golfers compete in the season finale of the Epson Tour.

Tickets Discounted Exclusively for City of Indian Wells Residents

The Epson Tour is pleased to offer discounts to City of Indian Wells residents on General Admission and Hospitality tickets.

- Daily general admission tickets are discounted from $19.99 to $12.99.
- 4-Day general admission tickets are discounted from $59.99 to $39.99.
- 4-Day VIP Hospitality tickets are discounted from $389.99 to $349.99.

Ticket prices are inclusive of taxes and fees.

General admission ticketholders will have access to a shaded public viewing area on the tournament #18 green that is reserved for Indian Wells residents.

4-Day VIP Hospitality tickets include access to a shared hospitality area on the tournament #18 green with complimentary food and beverage available.

Discounted tickets can be purchased at Bit.ly/4mO4vfp







Upcoming Traffic Safety and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Program

The Indian Wells Police Department will soon begin increased enforcement in residential neighborhoods to improve safety and protect City streets. Officers will focus on speeding, unauthorized commercial trucks and overweight vehicles.

Residents are urged to follow posted speed limits and report recurring issues to the Indian Wells Police Department. Contractor and service vehicles must use approved routes and meet weight requirements.

Thank you for helping keep Indian Wells safe.

For questions or additional information, please contact
Lt. Frank M. Schiavone at 760-836-1724 or Fschiavo@RiversideSheriff.org



Upcoming Events

September 8
Emergency Preparedness Backpack Sale
8 a.m.
Indian Wells City Hall

October 1
Pro-Am Tour
40% Resident Discount
Click here to sign up
Team Price - $2,400
Individual - $800

October 2–5
Epson Tour
Discounted resident tickets and ticket lottery coming soon!

Upcoming Meetings
Dates and times are subject to change; please check the City Calendar.

September 9
Grants In Aid Committee
Indian Wells City Hall

September 11
Community Activities Committee
Indian Wells City Hall

September 23
Indian Wells Golf Resort Advisory Committee
Indian Wells City Hall

September 25
Planning Commission
Indian Wells City Hall

Contact Indian Wells

Visit City Hall

44-950 Eldorado Drive
Indian Wells, CA 92210

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
(Closed for lunch 12-1 p.m.)

Contact Indian Wells
CityOfIndianWells.org/ContactUs

Contact the City

City Hall .....(760) 346-2489

Indian Wells Golf Resort .....(760) 346-4653

For Emergencies 911

Police Department..... (760) 836-3215, ext. 5

Fire Department ..... (760) 568-5252

For General Inquiries, contact
Community@IndianWells.com

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- Facebook.com/CityofIndianWells
- X.com/Indian_Wells
- YouTube.com/CityofIndianWells
- Nextdoor.com
- @VisitIndianWells
- Nixle: Text 92210 to 888777