

Town of Yucca Valley
57090 Twentynine Palms Highway
Yucca Valley, California 92284
Tel. 369-7207 FAX 369-1605

NEWS RELEASE

December 1, 2009

Release # 09-0162

For Information Contact

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Town of Yucca Valley to Implement New Hours Beginning in January

The Yucca Valley Town Council has approved an alternative work schedule that will result in expanded customer service hours Monday through Thursday, beginning in January, 2010. With the implementation of the new schedule, the offices at Town Hall, Community Development and the Community Center will be open from 7:30 am until 5:30 pm Monday through Thursday, typically the busiest days in those departments. These offices will be closed on Fridays, but staff will work and be available by appointment on alternating Fridays.

Other Town services and facilities will not be affected by the change. Remaining open on Fridays will be the Hi Desert Nature Museum, the Animal Shelter, Animal Control, Building and Safety and Public Works inspections.

As several California cities have adopted alternative work schedules in recent years, the Town has considered various options that will optimize access

to Town services, conserve on the use of utilities, reduce the Town's carbon footprint, and boost employee morale. The extra half-hour at the beginning and end of the customary workday will provide additional opportunities for working people to conduct business with the Town.

The Town's Administrative Services Department studied the issue for several months, reviewing research and literature and surveying other cities that have implemented alternative work schedules. The "9/80" work schedule, so named because 80 hours in a two-week pay period are worked over nine days instead of ten, was determined to be preferable to the "4-tens" that would require employees to work four 10-hour days each week because of concerns that productivity could diminish over a 10-hour work shift.

Even with the changes, some departments will remain flexible in order to provide services. For example, certain recreation events and activities require staff to work after hours and weekends, so individual work schedules will be adjusted as necessary.

The new schedule will begin January 4, 2010. The first working Friday will be January 8th, when staff will be available by appointment only. To ask questions or gain additional information on the alternative schedule, residents may contact any Town business office.