



SCOTT BANGLE
KYLA BROWN
BRANDE HUNE

Parks Director/General Manager
Assistant Director – Operations & Resources
Assistant Director – Business Services

Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District

July 11, 2017

Pine Crest – Riv. Co. Play. Rd. Neighborhood Watch
c/o Dawn Papaila
PO Box 4451
Idyllwild, CA 92549

Dear Members of the Pine Crest-Riverside County Playground Road Neighborhood Watch:

I am in receipt of your letter outlining your concerns regarding trespassing and homelessness in and around Idyllwild County Park. In recent months, our Idyllwild Park staff have observed increased activities as well and are continuously cleaning up remnants of illegal camps. To address your question, yes, individuals that enter the park without paying appropriate fees are asked to leave immediately. The citations issued ask that they remove their personal belongings within 24-48 hours. Our staff conduct clean ups after that time. In all of our interactions with park visitors, our rangers seek voluntary compliance. If we do not receive compliance, we call public safety, which in the case of Idyllwild is the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

The public safety and health issues you have outlined in your letter are valid and Riverside County Regional Park & Open-Space District share your concerns. Fire prevention is of utmost concern as we approach the dry season. Fires are never permitted unless they are in District provided/approved locations. In addition, all fires are typically banned during the driest part of the year.

Currently, our on-site Rangers, maintenance staff, and volunteer Camp Hosts are implementing the following:

- Seeking out park visitors to ensure entrance and camping fees are paid;
- Enforcing all camping and park rules, including fire and litter restrictions;
- Working with local law enforcement to address ongoing offenders;
- Cleaning up litter/debris from encampments as quickly as possible.

I appreciate your group sharing information with District staff as you become aware of new incidents. The more people we have watching and reporting, the faster we will be able to respond and address the issues. Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at (951) 955-4306.

Sincerely,

Kyla Brown

Assistant Director – Operations & Resources

4600 Crestmore Road, Riverside, CA 92509

Tel: 951.955.4310 • Fax: 951.955.4305 • www.RivCoParks.org

NATIONALLY ACCREDITED AGENCY

**C: County Supervisor Chuck Washington
Attn: Brian Tisdale, Legislative Assistant**

**Riverside County Sheriff's Department
Attn: Captain Leonard Purvis**