

LathropSMART

City News

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Lathrop Transit Van

CITY OF LATHROP LAUNCHES FARE FREE PILOT PROGRAM ON FIXED ROUTE TRANSIT SERVICE

LATHROP, Calif. — August 2025 — The City of Lathrop is making it easier than ever for residents to get around town. Beginning immediately, Lathrop Transit will launch a Fare Free Fixed Route Pilot Program on its “School Tripper” route, eliminating fares through December 31, 2025.

The fare free program is designed to improve access, boost ridership, and reinvest savings back into the community. By removing the financial barrier to using fixed-route service, the City is ensuring equitable mobility for students, parents, school employees, seniors, and all residents who rely on public transit.

About the Pilot Program

- Applies to the “School Tripper” fixed route that operates in the mornings and afternoons.
- No fares required for adults, seniors, youth, or ADA-eligible riders.
- Dial-a-Ride and ADA Paratransit services will continue with existing low fares.
- Riders benefit from faster service, as drivers will no longer need to manage fare collection or eligibility questions.
- The program will be evaluated in Q4 2025 to determine if it should be extended.

Why It Matters

- Equity: Ensures all residents, regardless of income, can access reliable transportation.
- Economy: Keeps household dollars in the community instead of fare boxes.
- Efficiency: Allows drivers to focus on service, not fare collection.
- Data: Helps the City better measure demand for transit services by removing barriers to use.

More Information

Lathrop Transit microtransit service operates Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM (excluding holidays). More details on routes, schedules, and reservations are available at www.lathroptransit.com or by calling (866) 495-LIFT (5438).

NEW BUSINESSES

Name	Address	Type / Product
World System Builder	17395 S. Manthey Road	Financial Services
Spirited Packaging, Inc.	18755 Business Park Ct.	Distribution
EV Auto Service, LLC	15499 Seventh St.	DMV Services

UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND COMING SOON

Auto Zone	Stanford Crossing South	Auto Related Retail & Services
Tulip Kid's Academy	Lathrop Marketplace	Daycare/Preschool
Curry Pizza	Lathrop Marketplace	Pizza
Cold Stone Creamery	Lathrop Marketplace	Ice Cream
Kung Fu Tea	Lathrop Marketplace	Various Tea Drinks
Sourdough & Co.	Lathrop Marketplace	Sandwiches, Soups, & Salads
88 Bao Bao Dumplings & Ramen	Lathrop Marketplace	Dumplings & Ramen
Redwood Café & Event Center	River Islands Town Center	Fine-Dining Restaurant
Maverik Gas Station	410 East Louise	Gas Station & Convenience Store
Sutter Health	Lathrop Marketplace	Urgent Care Services

Key: Retail Service Industrial

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Come in! We are open. sign

Come in!
*** WE ARE ***
OPEN

Greater Lathrop Chamber of Commerce Launches Membership!

The Greater Lathrop Chamber of Commerce announced that it officially launched its membership program, which began in January 2025. This marks a major milestone in fostering economic growth, supporting local businesses, and strengthening community ties.

“As one of the fastest-growing cities in California with award-winning expansion, forthcoming new retail strips, town centers, and more, the timing was perfect to create a new Chamber that supports both incoming and existing businesses,” said Leandro Vicuña, JD, Founder & Chairman of the Greater Lathrop Chamber. “It’s an honor to help shape the future of our thriving community. Grateful for our exceptional team who volunteer their time and expertise to provide business owners with meaningful resources. Together, we will build a stronger, more prosperous Lathrop!”

To read the full press release, visit their website at <https://www.greaterlathrop.org/>



PLANNING HOME IMPROVEMENTS?



Man drilling wooden board

To avoid delays or unexpected issues, we encourage you to consult with the knowledgeable staff at the City of Lathrop’s Planning & Building Divisions prior to starting any seasonal home improvements, such as landscape, electrical, or plumbing upgrades. Staff are available to clarify permit requirements and will help you determine whether your specific project requires formal approval.

For assistance, please visit the Planning or Building Divisions at City Hall during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday) or via email or phone to planning@ci.lathrop.ca.us, (209) 941-7260, or building@ci.lathrop.ca.us, (209) 941-7270.

KEEP LATHROP CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL



Every small action makes a big difference. Please remember to pick up your trash and clean up after your pets when enjoying our parks, sidewalks, and neighborhoods.

TRAFFIC SAFETY What Do The Arrows Mean?

Traffic Alert: New Flashing Yellow Arrows in Lathrop!

Heads up, Lathrop drivers! The City is upgrading several intersections with flashing yellow arrows to improve traffic flow and safety. Here’s what you need to know:

Solid Red Arrow: No left turn, stop and wait.



Solid Yellow Arrow: The light is about to turn red, prepare to stop or complete your turn.



Flashing Yellow Arrow: You may turn left after yielding to oncoming traffic, bicyclists, and pedestrians. Proceed with caution.



Solid Green Arrow: Left turns are protected, oncoming traffic has a red light.



Why the change?

Flashing yellow arrows reduce confusion and delays, especially during lighter traffic, while keeping safety a top priority.

Look for the new signs going up at modified intersections. Drive safe, Lathrop!

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2025!

Join us in celebrating Fire Prevention Week 2025. This year’s theme is “Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home”. It is important to BUY, CHARGE, and RECYCLE safely when it comes to lithium-ion batteries.

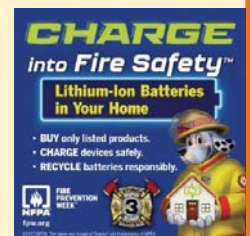
Charge into Fire Safety: 3 Steps

1. Buy only listed products. When buying a product that uses lithium-ion battery look for a safety certification mark such as UL, ETL, or CSA. This means it meets important safety standards.

2. Charge devices safely. Always use the cords that came with the product to charge. Follow the instructions from the manufacturer. Charge your device on a hard surface and don’t overcharge your device. Unplug it or remove the battery when it’s fully charged.

3. Recycle batteries responsibly. Don’t throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit call2recycle.org to find a recycling spot near you.

The Lathrop-Manteca Fire District invites the community to celebrate the conclusion of Fire Prevention Week with an Open House on Saturday, October 11, 2025 at Fire Station 31, 800 J Street. Come visit with our firefighters and learn about fire safety!



KNOW WHEN TO GO PRO

ADVICE FOR HIRING LANDSCAPE & PEST CONTROL PROFESSIONALS



Landscape professional

have specialized equipment, pesticides, and technical training to get the job done. A landscape or pest control professional who practices Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods and stays up to date on the latest information can provide you with the safest and most effective management strategies.

Here's what to do before you hire a landscape or pest control professional:

- **Consider your options**
 - Inquire with pest control companies about their methods and policies to see what option best suits your needs and pest problem.
- **Check certifications** – Make sure the company has the required licenses, registration, certificates, and insurance. Verify the status of a pest control company's license at <https://www.pestboard.ca.gov/license.shtml>.
- **Ask about Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** – IPM is an eco-friendly and effective method of pest control. Before hiring, check if your pest control or landscaping professional practices IPM. Three programs that certify and list pest control companies that provide IPM services are [EcoWise](#), [GreenPro](#), and [Green Shield](#).



Pest control professional

LEARN MORE!

Visit <https://ourwaterourworld.org/hiring-a-pest-control-company/> or the <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74125.html> for more information about hiring a professional pest control or landscaping company.

Dispose of Pesticides Like a Pro

Do you have any unused pesticides (liquid or solid) that you no longer need? These items must be disposed of properly so they do not harm you or the environment.

Any leftover pesticides must be taken to a household hazardous waste facility. You may only dispose of empty, unrinsed pesticide containers in the trash. Household Hazardous items can be dropped off at the San Joaquin County Household Hazardous Waste Consolidation Facility located at:

7850 R.A. Bridgeford St.
Stockton, CA 95206
(209) 468-3066
Hours of Operation:
Thursday - Saturday
9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.



Pesticide containers

Go Green with Green Waste

Whether you maintain your own yard or choose to hire a landscaper, it's important to know how to properly dispose of yard waste to prevent plant material (e.g., leaves, branches, and trimmings) from clogging local storm drain systems.

Wondering what to do with your leaves and other yard waste this fall?

Annual Leaf and Limb Pickup

- During the first 2 weeks of January, leaves and limbs that do not fit into your organics cart will be collected on the curb.
- Leaves must be bagged and cannot exceed more than 50 lbs.
- Bundle brush with string or twine. Do not use wire.
- Limbs must not exceed 4 feet in length and 4 inches in diameter

For more information about acceptable or unacceptable items, please visit Republic Services website www.republicservices.com or by phone at (209) 466-3604

For more information about how to work toward improving local water quality, visit <https://www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/publicworks/page/friendly-tips-landscapers-and-home-gardeners>.



Raking leaves

RECREATION Mark your calendars! The City of Lathrop is hosting some exciting community events this fall and we'd love to see you there.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Join the City of Lathrop, in partnership with No Limit Familia, at the annual Trunk-or-Treat event! This fun-filled spook-tacular night will include decorated vehicles to trick-or-treat from, a car decoration contest, a costume contest, a live DJ and Food Trucks. Don't forget to bring a bag, pillowcase, or bucket to collect candy! Saturday, October 18, 2025 from 5:00pm-7:00pm Lathrop Generations Center, 450 Spartan Way



VOLLEYBALL

Join the City of Lathrop's Adult Volleyball drop-in. Grab your friends, neighbors, family and co-workers and come bump, set, and spike Wednesday nights between 7pm-9pm at Scott Brooks Gymnasium. \$5 per drop-in or 10 drop-ins for \$40. For more information, call us or visit our website. www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/parksrec



CITY OFFICES CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF HOLIDAYS

NOVEMBER

Nov 11 – Veterans' Day
Nov 27 – Thanksgiving
Nov 28 – Day After Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

Dec 24 – Christmas Eve
Dec 25 – Christmas Holiday
Dec 31 – New Year's Eve

JANUARY

Jan 1 – New Year's Day

VETERANS DAY

Join the City of Lathrop on Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. as we honor all who have served in the U.S Armed Forces.
Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 11:00am
Lathrop Community Center, 15557 5th Street



REPUBLIC SERVICES DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

Senior Discount 24%

Veteran Discount 10%

Low Income Discount 20%

Fill out an application o-line today at

www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/parksrec/page/residential-waste-services



DON'T FORGET! SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY IS NOVEMBER 29, 2025!

Mark your calendars—Small Business Saturday is November 29, 2025! It's the perfect time to shop local and support the hardworking entrepreneurs who help Lathrop thrive. The City of Lathrop proudly offers the LathropSMART Business Directory as a free resource to help residents discover and connect with local businesses. Shopping local strengthens our economy and builds community pride. Let's come together this Small Business Saturday to celebrate and uplift the businesses that make Lathrop unique. Your support matters—every dollar spent locally helps build a stronger, more connected community.



TEENS

Teen Friday Fun Nights are back for the 2025-26 School Year. We've got a full lineup of awesome activities just for teens this year - don't miss out! From game nights and movies to cooking and parties.

• Fun • Friends • Memories to be made

Check out the full calendar of Friday Fun Night activities below.



ACTIVITY FEE ASSISTANCE

The City of Lathrop Activity Fee Assistance Fund is designed to assist qualifying Lathrop residents with registration fees for Parks & Recreation programs.



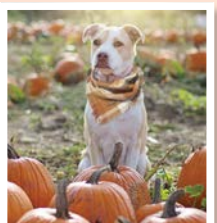
Approved residents will be eligible for a maximum of up to \$250.00 per fiscal year (July 1-June 30). Financial assistance will be granted to pay 75% of any program as long as funds are available. For

eligibility requirements and an application, please visit our website at www.ci.lathrop.ca.us/parksrec or call 209-941-7370.

SPOOKY SEASON IS HERE, AND IT'S A GREAT TIME OF YEAR TO ENGAGE WITH YOUR PETS!

While much of the month of October revolves around Halloween, there are a few other important pet holidays that should make an appearance on your calendar. These include:

- Adopt A Dog Month/Adopt a Shelter Dog Month
- Black Cat Awareness Month
- National Pet Wellness Month
- 1st Full Week: National Walk Your Dog Week
- **Oct. 1:** National Black Dog Day
- **Oct. 4:** World Animal Day
- **Oct. 4:** Kindness to Animals Day
- **Oct. 9:** CATober (AKA a universal birthday for all cats)
- **Oct. 11:** National Pet Obesity Awareness Day
- **Oct. 16:** Global Cat Day
- **Oct. 20:** National Fetch Day
- **Oct. 22:** National Make a Dog's Day
- **Oct. 29:** National Cat Day
- **Oct. 30:** National Treat Your Pet Day
- **Oct. 31:** Halloween



Dog and pumpkins