

# San Diego Astronomy Association

## Tierra del Sol Site Instructions

### Tierra Del Sol Instructions

1. Open the two gates at the front using the numeric combination that appears on the address label of your newsletter (shown as XXXX). The red vehicle gate does not have a lock, but has a loose chain wrapped around it. Unwrap the chain and the gate should swing open. Dial the combination into the lock on the second gate, from left to right, push in towards the hasp, then pull back sharply, and the lock should open. Repeat if necessary. Drive in and close, at least, the chain link gate behind you. It is recommended that you lock the gate, and spin the numbers on the combination, behind you on non-star party nights, to keep out un-invited guests and stray dogs. Always lock the lock and spin the combination to prevent theft of the lock. Also, be sure that when you re-lock the gate, you lock one end to the chain and the other end to the key lock. The key lock is used by the local utilities to gain access to the site in emergencies.
2. The power and water must be turned on next. The main power box and pump are located at the extreme southwesterly corner of the site. Take the road to the right just after you enter the site and go to the end where you'll see the pump house. The combination to the pump and power switch is the same as the front gates. Unlock the locks, turn on the power and pump, and relock and spin the combinations.
3. The combination to the locks to the bathrooms is the same as the front gates. There are hooks and eyes to hold the doors open while you are on the site.
4. The gate to the observatory area and the warming room is the same combination as the front gates. Again, open the gate, and lock and spin the combination on the lock.
5. The warming room is available for your use while at the site. The combination for this lock is, again, on your address label (shown as X-X,X). This lock requires that you press in the first two numbers together, release, press the third number, then rotate the knob clockwise to open the door. Repeat if necessary. The warming room has a heater, microwave and coffeepot for your use. Take out all trash when you leave the site.
6. To close the facility: If you used the warming room, clean the room so that its cleaner then you found it, vacuum, wipe down, sweep, take out trash, etc., there's a vacuum there if you need it. Turn off all appliances and lights in the warming room. Unplug the heater(s). Close and lock the door.
7. Make sure that you are not the last person leaving; this may require you to walk up to all the observatory buildings and through all the private pads. If you are the last person there, turn off the power and the pump and lock them in the off position. Lock all doors and gates and spin the combinations. Take out all trash.
8. Close and lock the front chain link gate remembering to daisy chain the locks. Close the pipe gate and loop the chain to provide the appearance of being secured.

Notes: The brass padlocks can be tight, requiring a significant tug or push to engage the mechanism. They see a lot of extreme weather at the site and very little graphite. All padlocks need to be secured regardless of the position of the gate or switch.