



City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

www.CityofSebastopol.org

July 31 - August 6 Special Weekly Edition of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

Please visit the City of Sebastopol website at www.CityOfSebastopol.org for the most up-to-date local information on the coronavirus crisis. There is a page dedicated entirely to the crisis, the [Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resource Page](#), where you will find specific resources and answers to many questions that you may have. The City of Sebastopol is also on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [NextDoor](#).

[View as Webpage](#)

KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER? FORWARD THIS EMAIL.

WAS THIS EMAIL FORWARDED TO YOU BY SOMEONE ELSE?

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PROTECT YOUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY FROM COVID-19.



Cover



Wash



Remove



Shower



Clean

covid19.ca.gov

URGENCY ORDINANCE ALLOWS FINES FOR VIOLATING
LOCAL AND STATE CORONAVIRUS HEALTH ORDERS

On August 6, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors approved a [code enforcement ordinance](#) that allows the issuing of citations ranging from \$100 for individuals up to \$10,000 for businesses for noncompliance with local and state health orders related to the coronavirus.



The ordinance was approved unanimously and on an urgency basis, which will allow it to take effect immediately. The ordinance applies to all cities and unincorporated areas in Sonoma County, including Sebastopol. Citations may be issued by law enforcement or government officials such as staff with code enforcement or regional parks.

The Board also approved the creation of a new County hotline – **1-833-SAFE707 (1-833-723-3707)** that will allow the public to report infractions. The public also can register complaints by sending emails to safe707@sonoma-county.org.

Under the ordinance, individuals can be fined a flat fee of \$100 for such infractions as failing to wear facial coverings, not practicing safe social distancing (maintaining 6-foot separations from non-family members) when in public or hosting gatherings of more than 12 people who aren't sheltering in the same household. Individuals also can be fined for refusing to abide by COVID-19 safety protocols required at restaurants, stores and other businesses. Commercial operations such as restaurants, bars and stores face fines starting at \$1,000 for noncompliance. A commercial violation is subject to a civil penalty of \$5,000 for a second violation and \$10,000 for each additional violation by the same responsible party.

See the [Full Press Release](#) and [Ordinance FAQs](#) for more information.

CURRENT RESTRICTIONS FOR SONOMA COUNTY DUE TO RECENT RAPID SPREAD OF COVID-19

On July 13, 2020, the state of California issued new restrictions for Sonoma County and counties across the state in an effort to slow the recent rapid spread of COVID-19 statewide. These new restrictions require the closures of indoor gyms and fitness centers, hair salons, worship services, malls and other operations. These are in addition to the restrictions announced on Friday, July 10 for the State of California, which prohibit indoor operations at restaurants, bars and brewpubs, movie theaters, museums and other businesses as a means of discouraging large indoor gatherings.

The public can see [what's open and what's closed in Sonoma County](#), and find more details about the state restrictions by visiting the [Guidance on Closure of Sectors in Response to COVID-19](#) on the California Department of Public Health website.

We must all do our parts to slow the spread of the coronavirus: wear a mask when in public settings indoors or outdoors when you cannot maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and others outside your household, maintain social distance in all public situations, wash hands frequently and thoroughly, cover a cough or sneeze, and stay home when sick. You will find information and resources on the [City's COVID-19 page](#) and the [SoCoEmergency page](#).

STATE ISSUES NEW DIRECTIVES ON SCHOOL REOPENINGS

On July 17, Governor Newsom issued new state directives regarding school reopenings. The Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE) will be working over the next two weeks

to update the information on its [website](#) to reflect the new guidance. Until then, please see the new state guidance [here](#) and view SCOE's statement in response to the new guidance [here](#).

HAVE YOU BEEN COUNTED YET? 2020 CENSUS TAKERS GOING DOOR-TO-DOOR NEXT WEEK



As of August 6th at noon, the total 2020 Census response rates for all Sonoma County cities has now exceeded the 70% total response rate reaching a major milestone.

Sebastopol (78.8%) and Petaluma (77.1%) continue to lead Sonoma County cities with the three cities of Windsor (74.9%), Cloverdale (74.6%), and Cotati (74.5%) in the middle of the group.

The cities of Rohnert Park (71.2%), Sonoma (71.0%), Healdsburg (70.7%) and Santa Rosa (70.8%) are clustered just above the 70% total response rate milestone.

For those households who have not yet responded to the 2020 Census, census takers will begin knocking on doors next week. You can expect to see census employees canvassing neighborhoods across the north bay through September.

Census employees will be wearing the required PPE to meet all public safety requirements including masks and practicing social distancing. They will also be displaying proper identification as census employees.

All Census Bureau staff who interact with the public (census takers, ongoing surveys staff, partnership and recruiting specialists, etc.) will be provided with face masks. They are mandated to wear a mask while conducting their work. 2020 Census interviews are quick – just about 10 minutes long and all the surveys can be done 6 feet apart. If you would like to avoid a 2020 Census in-person interview, the best way is to respond to the 2020 Census [online](#), by phone at **844-330-2020**, or by mail.

Here is a [video](#) that demonstrates how they will be conducting the Non Response Follow Up.

SKATE PARK RETURNS TO REGULAR HOURS

Thanks to cooperation and support from Skatepark users, the City has returned the park to its regular operating hours of 8am to 10pm daily.

Over the past month, the Skatepark was temporarily closed for several days and then reopened with shorter hours due to failure to adhere to Sonoma County Health Orders by park users, as well as repeated incidents of vandalism. Police Department and Public Works officials have been impressed with the quick turnaround and positive response by loyal park users. They're appreciative of the



NAPA-SONOMA SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER HOSTING FREE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS WEBINARS FOR BUSINESSES



**SMALL
BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT
CENTER**

NAPA-SONOMA

Whether it is a natural disaster or Covid-19 outbreak, emergency preparedness is an important part of any business plan. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), more than 40% of businesses risk reopening after a natural or pandemic disaster. Now, with recent disruptions in business there is even more risks for businesses.

The Napa-Sonoma Small Business Development Center is hosting a free disaster preparedness webinar to help small businesses be prepared. Click the link below to register.

[Tuesday, August 18, 2020 - Preparacion Ante un Desastre y Covid-19](#) (En Español)

[Wednesday, August 26, 2020 - Disaster Preparedness and Covid-19](#) (English)

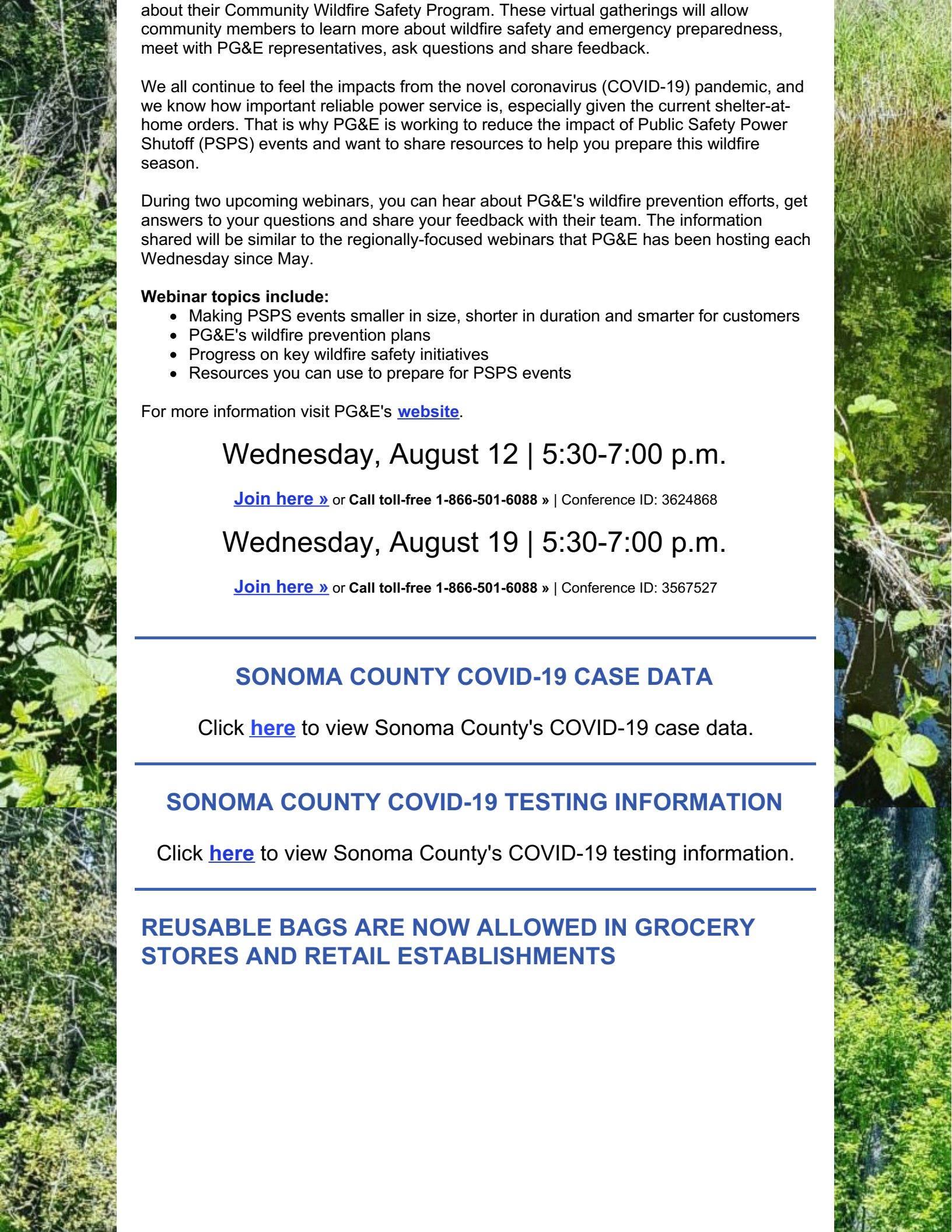
For additional webinars for small businesses see the Napa-Sonoma Small Business Development Center [website](#).

PG&E HOSTING WILDFIRE SAFETY WEBINARS



PG&E Wildfire Safety Webinars

You are invited to join Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) for an interactive webinar about the work we are doing this year to prevent wildfires and keep customers and communities safe.



about their Community Wildfire Safety Program. These virtual gatherings will allow community members to learn more about wildfire safety and emergency preparedness, meet with PG&E representatives, ask questions and share feedback.

We all continue to feel the impacts from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and we know how important reliable power service is, especially given the current shelter-at-home orders. That is why PG&E is working to reduce the impact of Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) events and want to share resources to help you prepare this wildfire season.

During two upcoming webinars, you can hear about PG&E's wildfire prevention efforts, get answers to your questions and share your feedback with their team. The information shared will be similar to the regionally-focused webinars that PG&E has been hosting each Wednesday since May.

Webinar topics include:

- Making PSPS events smaller in size, shorter in duration and smarter for customers
- PG&E's wildfire prevention plans
- Progress on key wildfire safety initiatives
- Resources you can use to prepare for PSPS events

For more information visit PG&E's [website](#).

Wednesday, August 12 | 5:30-7:00 p.m.

[Join here »](#) or Call toll-free 1-866-501-6088 » | Conference ID: 3624868

Wednesday, August 19 | 5:30-7:00 p.m.

[Join here »](#) or Call toll-free 1-866-501-6088 » | Conference ID: 3567527

SONOMA COUNTY COVID-19 CASE DATA

Click [here](#) to view Sonoma County's COVID-19 case data.

SONOMA COUNTY COVID-19 TESTING INFORMATION

Click [here](#) to view Sonoma County's COVID-19 testing information.

REUSABLE BAGS ARE NOW ALLOWED IN GROCERY STORES AND RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS

COVID -19 BAG USE

USO DE LA BOLSA REUTILIZABLE DURANTE COVID -19

CUSTOMERS SHOULD LEAVE REUSABLE BAGS IN THE SHOPPING CART WHEN CHECKING OUT.

LOS CLIENTES DEBEN DEJAR LAS BOLSAS REUTILIZABLES EN EL CARRITO DE COMPRAS AL MOMENTO DE HACER SU PAGO.



CUSTOMERS SHOULD NOT PUT REUSABLE BAGS ON THE CHECKOUT CONVEYOR BELT.

LOS CLIENTES NO DEBEN PONER LAS BOLSAS REUTILIZABLES EN LA BANDA TRANSPORTADORA QUE ESTÁ EN LA CAJA DE PAGO.



CUSTOMERS MUST BAG THEIR OWN PURCHASES.

LOS CLIENTES DEBEN PONER LAS COMPRAS DE MERCADO EN SUS BOLSAS REUTILIZABLES ELLOS MISMOS.



STORES MAY PROVIDE A REUSABLE BAG OR RECYCLED PAPER BAG TO CUSTOMERS FOR A MINIMUM 10¢ CHARGE.

LAS TIENDAS PUEDEN PROPORCIONAR UNA BOLSA REUTILIZABLE O BOLSA DE PAPEL RECICLADO A LOS CLIENTES POR UN CARGO MINIMO DE .10 CENTAVOS.



ZEROWASTESONOMA.GOV/CARRYOUTBAGS ECO-DESK 565.3375



SONOMA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT AGENCY (ZERO WASTE SONOMA)
WASTE REDUCTION PROGRAM FOR CARRYOUT BAGS ORDINANCE 2014-2

LA AGENCIA SONOMA COUNTY WASTE MANAGEMENT (ZERO WASTE SONOMA) PROGRAMA DE REDUCCIÓN DE RESIDUOS PARA LA ORDENANZA 2014-2 DE BOLSAS PLÁSTICAS DESECHABLES



JUNE, 2020

ARE YOU READY FOR FIRE SEASON?

WILDFIRE IS COMING. ARE YOU READY?

In his daily briefing on July 9 Governor Gavin Newsom reported that there are early indications that we may suffer an especially robust fire season this year. He urged all

Californians to step up their emergency planning for wildfires, including maintaining defensible space around the home, having an emergency plan in place, preparing a “go-bag” (including masks, gloves, and sanitizer), evacuating if ordered, and knowing several routes out of town. See the links below for more information and resources.

[Homeowners Checklist: How to Make Your Home Fire Safe](#)
[Ready, Set, Go! Your Personal Wildfire Action Plan](#)
[Defensible Space and Hardening Your Home](#)

See the [Fire Department Page](#) for More Information and Additional Resources

Governor Newsom also reassured citizens that, in the case of evacuation, planning is in place for emergency shelters that will operate under COVID-19 social distancing guidelines.

If you have not already done so, sign up for alerts from both [Nixle](#) and [SoCoAlert](#). It is important to sign up for both types of alert.

HANDWASHING STATION LOCATIONS IN DOWNTOWN SEBASTOPOL

In an early response to help make our community safer during the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Sebastopol set up a number of handwashing stations throughout the downtown area in mid-March.

In the meantime, we’ve added more locations and re-located some of the stations to be more convenient, including new portable restrooms and handwash facilities on Morris Street for homeless support services.



Current locations are:

- 1) City Parking Lot at Main St. and Burnett
- 2) North Main St., mid-block (south side of street between Bodega and Wilton)
- 3) 328 N. Main Street - On sidewalk entrance Community Bank parking lot
- 4) Adjacent to southwest corner of Town Plaza parking lot against rear wall of Silk Moon
- 5) Sebastopol Ave. (Route 12) at alley between Ramen Gaijin and WestAmerica Bank
- 6) 6902 Sebastopol Ave - Screamin' Mimi's Ice Cream- at side window on Petaluma Ave
- 7) & 7A) Outside public restrooms on east side of Town Plaza. There are also portable toilets at this location.
- 8) & 8A) Morris St. north of Laguna Park Way, northeast side of street. There are also portable toilets at this location

REGULAR CITY BUSINESS CONTINUES

[Administrative Services:](#)

- Administrative Service staff are available by phone or email for questions. Please email customerservice@cityofsebastopol.org; or call **707-823-7863** and leave a message and someone will respond to you.

Building Department:

- The Building Department is open and operating regular office hours - Monday - Thursday 7am to 5:30pm, Closed 12pm to 12:30pm.
- The Building Department is located inside the Fire Station.

City Manager's Office:

- City Hall is closed, but staff are available by phone or email for questions. Please email info@cityofsebastopol.org; or call **707-823-1153** and leave a message and someone will respond to you.
- City staff encourage the public to keep up with news and updates by following the City's [Facebook](#) page and checking out Council videos.

Engineering Department:

- The Engineering Department is open and operating regular office hours - Monday to Thursday 7am to 5:30pm. The Engineering Department is located in the Public Works office. Please note signage on door with instructions for safe interaction with staff.

Fire Department:

- The Fire Department is open and continuing to provide fire response and emergency services as usual.
- The Fire Department lobby is open during normal business hours Monday - Thursday 7am to 5:30pm, Closed 12pm to 12:30pm.

Planning Department:

- The Planning Department is (virtually) open Monday - Thursday 7am to 5:30pm (Closed 12pm to 12:30pm) and continues to accept applications. Staff is available via email or phone (707-823-6167). Planning is accepting new applications; please contact staff for instructions for submittals. Click [here](#) for details.

Police Department:

- Lobby is open to the public. For non-life-or-safety-threatening situations, we encourage the public to call the 24/7 police non-emergency line at **707-829-4400**. As always, in the event of emergency, call **911**.
- [Sebastopol Police Log July 27 - August 2](#)

Public Works Department:

- The Public Works Department is open and operating regular office hours - Monday to Thursday 7am to 5:30pm. Please note signage on door with instructions for safe interaction with staff.
- Water and sewer utility systems continue to be monitored and maintained.

CITY MEETINGS

All meetings will be held virtually and are open to the public to attend via web or phone link.

Agendas for upcoming meetings can be found on the City website by clicking the "[Meetings](#)" link on the home page. Agendas will contain information about participating virtually in real time when this feature is available.

City Council Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before the meeting:
 - **For Items Not on the Agenda:** Members of the public may submit written emails/comments for items not on the agenda either by email as a public record or by public comment during the public comment period of the virtual City Council meeting. All written emails/comments will be provided to the entire City Council as a public record but will not be read into the minutes at the City Council meeting. Written emails/comments should be received by 5:00 pm of the Council Meeting Date for submission to the entire City Council

prior to the meeting and will be included as a part of the record of the meeting. Please submit your comments via email for this meeting to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

- **For Items Listed on the Agenda:** Members of the public may submit written emails/comments for items listed on the agenda either by email as a public record or by public comment during the public comment period of the agenda item during the virtual City Council meeting. **Email comments must identify the Agenda Item Number in the subject line of the email.** All written emails/comments will be provided to the entire City Council as a public record but will not be read into the minutes at the City Council meeting. Written emails/comments should be received by 5:00 pm of the Council Meeting Date for submission to the entire City Council prior to the meeting and will be included as a part of the record of the meeting. Please submit your comments via email for this meeting to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org

- **Next Meeting:** [City Council Meeting of August 18, 2020 @ 6:00 PM](#)

Planning Commission Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 7pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org

- **Next Meeting:** **Planning Commission Meeting of August 11, 2020 @ 7:00 PM - CANCELLED**

(NOTE: All meetings will be held virtually and are open to the public to attend via web or phone link. Information for meeting attendance can be found here: <https://www.ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Meeting-Event.aspx>)

Design Review Board Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 4pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to amontes@cityofsebastopol.org

- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of August 19, 2020 @ 4:00 PM](#)

Public Arts Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 10:30am
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to amontes@cityofsebastopol.org

- **Next Meeting:** [Public Arts Committee Meeting of September 2, 2020 @ 10:30 AM](#)



WATER CONSERVATION

Please continue to practice water conservation as much as possible. Things are green now, but California is still technically in a drought, with Sonoma County showing "Moderate Drought" conditions. Click [here](#) for more information.

CREDIBLE SOURCES FOR COVID-19 UPDATES

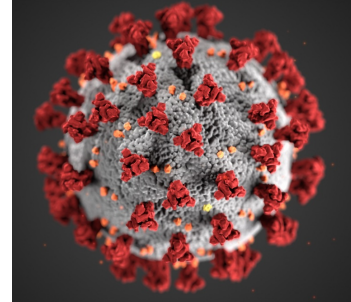
[California Department of Public Health](#)

[County of Sonoma Department of Health Services](#)

[SoCo Emergency Page](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)



WARM LINE FOR EMOTIONAL & MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT



WARM LINE FOR
EMOTIONAL &
MENTAL HEALTH
SUPPORT

The last few months have been very difficult for everyone in our community. You may be feeling stressed, isolated, depressed, and anxious. You do not need to suffer alone. Help is available.

**Please call the Sonoma County Warm Line
for Emotional and Mental Health Support:**

(707) 565-2652

Or visit [SoCoEmergency.org](https://www.socoeemergency.org)

This free and private warm line is available seven days a week from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Telephone interpretation for other languages is available.



LEGAL AID'S DISASTER TEAM IS HERE TO HELP PEOPLE IMPACTED BY COVID-19

If you have employment questions, benefits questions, or any other legal issues related to the pandemic, please contact Legal Aid of Sonoma County.

Legal Aid of Sonoma County

Disaster Relief Team

The Disaster Relief Team has assisted hundreds of survivors with their recovery.

We assist disaster survivors with:

- ❖ Disaster Unemployment Insurance
- ❖ EDD Appeals
- ❖ Price Gouging
- ❖ FEMA Benefits
- ❖ Information and Referrals
- ❖ Other legal issues resulting from a disaster or declared emergency, including COVID-19

Contact us for a free, confidential appointment with our Disaster Relief Team to discuss your legal rights or navigate the recovery process.

Contact Us:

Legal Aid Disaster Relief COVID-19
Response Hotline
(559) 429-6974

Para asistencia en español, por favor llame al (707) 542-1290.



Legal Aid's mission is to promote social justice and advance basic human rights for vulnerable people in our community.

Our Team:

Kendall Jarvis, JD, LMN
Disaster Relief Attorney
kjarvis@legalaidsc.com

Kristopher Lopez, JD
Disaster Relief Attorney
klopez@legalaidsc.com

Tomás González
Disaster Relief Caseworker
tgonzalez@legalaidsc.com

WEEKLY COVID-19 VIDEO UPDATES

See the City's [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Resource Page](#) for recent City, County, and State video updates.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES WILL CONTINUE:

- **The City of Sebastopol will not turn off water due to nonpayment.** The City recognizes the hardship that the pandemic and resulting Shelter in Place Orders,

have created in our community, and will temporarily suspend non-emergency turnoffs and late fees.

- **PG&E will not cut off power due to nonpayment.** PG&E voluntarily implemented a moratorium on service disconnections for non-payment, effective immediately. This suspension will apply to both residential and commercial customers and will remain in effect until further notice.
- **Recology will not suspend trash service due to nonpayment.** Recology understands that customers are starting to request delay of payments or payment plans due to the circumstances, and they are sensitive to what the community is going through. Recology will not stop service due to non-payment at this time.

Click [here](#) for more information on Essential Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

ONLINE EDUCATION RESOURCES



See the [Sonoma County Office of Education](#) website for news and information about Sonoma County schools.

The [PBS LearningMedia](#) website has several free online resources including standards-aligned videos, interactives, lesson plans, and more. The website also includes [PreK-12 Resources for Emergency Closings](#) that include activities, lesson plans, and videos organized by grade and subject area.

NEED HELP WITH ESSENTIAL RESOURCES?

Visit the [2-1-1 Free Referral Service](#) website if you have questions or needs.

For additional assistance, resources, and help with essential needs, see the [SoCo Emergency](#) resources webpage.

SEBASTOPOL CURB SIDE DELIVERY LOCATIONS

The city currently has three curb side pickup locations for businesses in Downtown Sebastopol.

Locations:

150 N. Main Street
162 N. Main Street
124 S. Main Street

The city is in the process of providing additional curb side delivery locations in an effort to help our local businesses. If your business will have curb side delivery please call [707-823-6167](tel:707-823-6167) or email business@cityofsebastopol.org with this information as this information will help guide the City to locations that will be set aside.



OPEN BUSINESSES

Be sure to contact them first as this information may change from day to day.



[Sonoma West Times & News](#) list of open businesses

[Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce](#) list of open businesses

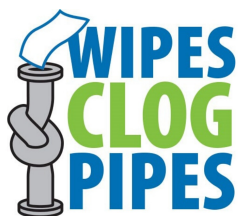
[Press Democrat](#) list of open businesses

Designated as an essential business, the Sunday Farmer's Market on the Plaza is currently open and taking safety precautions and practicing social distancing. Check their [website](#) for more information.

The City of Sebastopol has compiled a [list](#) of open essential businesses. If your business supplies essential services, please email business@CityOfSebastopol.org with details such as offerings, days/hours and any special services like online ordering, takeout, delivery, curbside pickup, and special hours for seniors, at-risk, or first responders.

When visiting local businesses for essential needs, please wear a facial covering and maintain social distance (at least 6 feet between you and anyone outside your household).

DON'T FLUSH WIPES!



Flushing wipes, paper towels and similar products down toilets will clog sewers and cause backups and overflows at wastewater treatment facilities, creating an additional public health risk in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Please do not flush disinfectant wipes or paper towels down the toilet.

SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Sebastopol Center for the Arts has gone virtual with online exhibits, lectures, and classes including a "How to Draw" series that teaches kids to how to draw a different animal each week. Click [here](#) for more information.

CHECK OUT THE VIRTUAL PEACETOWN CONCERTS EVERY WEDNESDAY THIS SUMMER

The Peacetown Summer Concert Series has gone virtual. Every Wednesday at 7:00pm PDT you can tune in to their [website](#) and see the action.

SUMMER LINEUP:

August 12th ~ Bill Kirchen w/ Lost Planet Airmen | New Copasetics (Dance Grooves)

August 19th ~ Gator Nation (Cajun/Zydeco) | Mr. Music & Friends (Big Fun)

August 26th ~ Whiskey Family Band | Rockin Jimbo Scott Original Grooves

September 2nd ~ Soul Fuse (Funky Funk) | Burnside (Local Favorites)



PEACETOWN

A BEAUTIFUL PLACE TO BE

Contact
Us



7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-823-1153

www.CityofSebastopol.org