



City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

www.CityofSebastopol.org

June 12 - June 18 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](#).

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The City of Sebastopol
CONGRATULATES
ALL WEST COUNTY
GRADUATES of 2020

ANALAY HIGH SCHOOL LAGUNA HIGH SCHOOL EL MOLINO HIGH SCHOOL

SPECIAL MEETINGS JUNE 23 & 30 TO PLAN PROCESS TO ADDRESS COMMUNITY PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS

At its June 16th City Council Meeting, the City Council approved two special meetings to plan a process to address community concerns regarding police policies and racism and nurturing a safe and healthy community. Both meetings will be held virtually via Zoom. The first meeting will take place on June 23rd at 7:00 PM and will cover specific information

about the City's law enforcement policies and procedures and planning next steps to facilitate more community input. The second meeting is scheduled for June 30th at 6:00 PM. Public participation and comments regarding steps that should be taken by the City are especially appreciated. The agenda and information on how to participate in the June 23rd meeting will be posted on the City's [Meetings page](#) no later than noon on Monday, June 22.

NEW STATE MANDATE REQUIRES CALIFORNIANS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS



Starting June 18, Californians are now required to wear face coverings in public spaces - particularly indoors or when physical distancing is not possible.

Read more on the state's new face covering mandate: covid19.ca.gov

REGULAR CITY BUSINESS CONTINUES

Administrative Services:

- Administrative Service staff are available by phone or email for questions. Please email info@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.

Fire Department:

- The Fire Department is open and continuing to provide first 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, but has moved to electronic 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 June 9 - June 15](#)

Public Works Department:

- The Public Works Department is open and operating regular office hours - Monday to Thursday 7am to 5:30pm.
 - 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 July 7, 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 June 23, 2020 @ 7:00 PM](#) - **The Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for June 23, 2020 has been 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:** There are currently no meetings scheduled.

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:** There are currently no meetings scheduled.



SEBASTOPOL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES OPENINGS

The City of Sebastopol has the following committee position openings. Please see the links below for details on the positions and how to apply.

Public Arts Committee

[Job Notice](#)

[General Application](#)

Climate Action Sub-committee

[Job Notice](#)

[General Application](#)

Citizen Liaison to the SCTA/RCPA Climate Action Advisory Committee

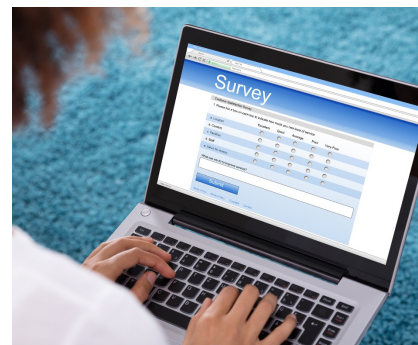
[Job Notice](#)

[Application Form](#)

SURVEY/POLLING SEASON IS UPON US

There are several important surveys coming up to help gather information for local organizations including the Sonoma County Transportation Authority, Sonoma County Water Agency, and a community vitality survey of Sebastopol residents being conducted by the City's Community Vitality Coordinator, CoMission.

However; we have recently gotten calls from concerned citizens about requests that they have received to participate in other surveys for an unnamed "local public agency" that we are not aware of. We recommend that citizens research the legitimacy of any survey they receive before participating and do not share sensitive personal or financial information online or over the telephone. If you have any concerns about a survey that purports to be from the city, please contact City Hall at info@CityofSebastopol.org or (707) 823-1153 to confirm authenticity.



NEW PROGRAM INCENTIVIZES ORGANIZATIONS TO INSTALL ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS



On July 8, 2020, the [Sonoma Coast Incentive Project](#) will begin providing rebates for installing electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. This is an excellent opportunity for **businesses, nonprofits, tribes, and government entities** to attract EV drivers, become a local leader in sustainability, get ahead of the state-wide transition to clean vehicles, and save money on equipment and installation.

The incentives will help cover the purchase and installation costs of publicly available or workplace EV chargers. Eligible applicants may qualify for:

- Up to \$80,000 per direct current (DC) fast charger
- Up to \$7,500 per Level 2 connector

The incentives will be on a *first-come, first-served basis*, and demand is expected to be high. With the launch date approaching, it is important to start preparing for the application process.

To sign up for email notifications about important deadlines, and to learn more about this exciting opportunity, visit our [CALeVIP webpage](#).

A [webinar](#) is being hosted on Wednesday, June 17 at 1:00 PM which will provide more information and walk interested parties through the application process.

SEBASTOPOL YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

JUNE

Maria Pennacchio - Police Reserve - 20 years

ARE YOU READY FOR FIRE SEASON?

Now is the time to prepare! CalFire has several resources to help you make these preparations.

[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

WILDFIRE IS COMING. ARE YOU READY?



Defensible Space is your property's front line defense against wildfire. Creating and maintaining defensible space around your home can dramatically increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire and improves the safety of firefighters defending your property. 100 feet of defensible space is required by law.*



*For more information on creating defensible space and legal requirements visit

READYFORWILDFIRE.ORG

TWO ZONES MAKE UP THE REQUIRED 100 FEET OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE:

ZONE 1: 30 feet of Lean, Clean & Green

- 1 Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds.
- 2 Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from your yard, roof and rain gutters.
- 3 Keep tree branches 10 feet away from your chimney and other trees.

ZONE 2: 30-100 feet of Reduced Fuel

- 4 Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- 5 Create horizontal spacing between shrubs and trees.
- 6 Create vertical spacing between grass, shrubs and trees.

Use Equipment Properly to Keep from Sparking a Wildfire

- 7 Mow before 10 a.m., and never on a hot or windy day. String trimmers are a safer option (vs. lawnmowers) for clearing vegetation.



VERTICAL SPACING

Large trees do not have to be cut and removed as long as all of the plants beneath them are removed. This eliminates a vertical "fire ladder."



HORIZONTAL SPACING

Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants, the amount of spacing will depend on how steep the slope is and the size of the plants.

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.

REDWOOD EMPIRE FOOD BANK DONATION STATION COMING TO SEBASTOPOL JUNE 18TH

DONATION STATION

DRIVE UP. DROP OFF. **END HUNGER.**
THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH, 2020 | 11 AM - 2 PM
7450 BODEGA AVENUE, SEBASTOPOL



HOSTED BY:
PARK SIDE ELEMENTARY

Help the Redwood Empire Food Bank end hunger by donating food and funds for our neighbors in need.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Tuna and Canned Meat
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Soups + Stews
- Rice and Dry Beans
- Cereal
- Canned Fruits + Veggies
- Protein Bars

*NO GLASS CONTAINERS



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Donate funds or fill a bag (or more!) with non-perishable food
2. Drive your donations to the front parking lot of **Park Side Elementary**
3. Stay in your car, and drive-thru to drop off your donation
4. Feel great about helping your neighbors in need!

*PLEASE REFRAIN FROM DONATING IF YOU, OR A MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD, HAVE HAD A FEVER OR HAVE BEEN ILL WITHIN THE LAST 72 HRS

Contact Cassidy Jourdan for info: 707-523-7900 ext 178 | cjourdan@refb.org
3990 Brickway Blvd | Santa Rosa | refb.org

REMINDER: CONTINUE TO FOLLOW HEALTH ORDER GUIDELINES

The most current order from the County Health Officer was released on June 5, 2020. The order, No. C19-14: Stay Well Sonoma County, extends the Shelter in Place, allowing more businesses to operate in the County.

As businesses continue to open up and more activities are allowed to resume they are still subject to the requirements for social distancing, hygiene, and face coverings, as well as any specific protocols or business-specific guidance.

For details and more information see the [Order](#).

BROAD COVID-19 VIRAL TESTING NOW AVAILABLE

Get tested and help Sonoma County open safely. Viral tests are quick, easy, and free.

Community-wide testing is a critical step toward re-opening the County and allows us to identify and increase our understanding of COVID-19 community transmission. This includes collecting a broad sample of results from people with or without symptoms. We know that upwards of 40% of people who test positive experience no symptoms (asymptomatic), but are still spreading the disease.

Those who are tested will be assessed for the need to quarantine. Only those individuals with a temperature and flu-like symptoms will be required to quarantine while they await test results. Most will be free to continue their regular shelter in place while they await their test results.

For more information about testing and to find testing locations visit the SoCoEmergency [website](#).

CREDIBLE SOURCES FOR COVID-19 UPDATES

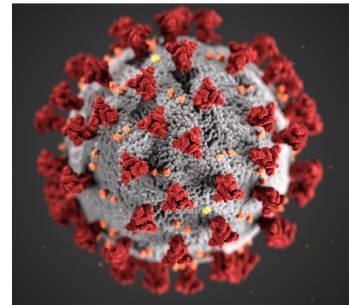
[California Department of Public Health](#)

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

[SoCo Emergency Page](#)

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

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



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 two curbside pickup locations for businesses in Downtown Sebastopol.

Locations:

150 N. Main Street

124 S. Main Street

The city is in the process of providing additional curbside delivery locations in an effort to help our local businesses. If your business will have curbside 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

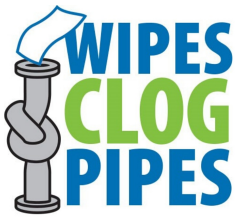
[Press Democrat](#) list of open businesses

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 face covering or mask and maintain social distance.

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.

TIPS: GETTING GASOLINE

The CDC offers some helpful tips for getting gasoline:

Use disinfecting wipes on handles or buttons before touching them

After fueling, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

Wash your hands when you get home

For more tips visit the CDC [Website](#)



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.

TIPS: EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Want to boost your remote learning

experience!

Sonoma County Library offers free one-on-one tutoring, writing review, practice quizzes, video lessons, and more for all ages through [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com).

Adult Learning and Career Resource Center

Online Homework Help, Tutoring and Test Prep



Contact Us



7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-823-1153

www.CityofSebastopol.org