



# City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

[www.CityofSebastopol.org](http://www.CityofSebastopol.org)

March 5 - March 11 Special Weekly Edition of  
Sebastopol Community Newsletter

Please visit [socoemergency.org](http://socoemergency.org) for the most up-to-date information on the coronavirus crisis in Sonoma County.

[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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Subscribe](#)

## To Prevent COVID



Wear a facemask



Stay 6 feet apart



Stay at home when sick



Avoid large gatherings



Travel only if needed

## NEW POP-UP TESTING LOCATIONS AT ST. SEBASTIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & ANALY HIGH SCHOOL

CLICK LINK FOR DETAILS

[ST. SEBASTIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH](#)  
[ANALY HIGH SCHOOL](#)

Increased testing will help our county to move out of the Purple Tier.

## THIEVES ARE STILL ON THE PROWL FOR CATALYTIC CONVERTERS IN SEBASTOPOL



## SEBASTOPOL POLICE DEPARTMENT

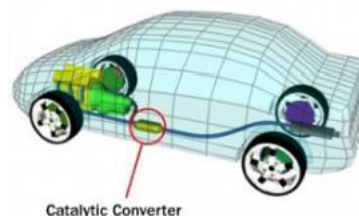
6850 Laguna Park Way

Sebastopol, CA 95472

(707) 829-4400

### WARNING!

A catalytic converter is located underneath your car and is attached to your exhaust system. Since catalytic converters contain expensive metals like platinum, palladium and rhodium, they are often stolen and “scrapped” for a quick profit. Thieves often use power saws in the middle of the night to quickly cut the converters off. The City of Sebastopol and other parts of Sonoma County have recently seen an increase in the number of catalytic converter thefts. If you have a Toyota Prius, you’re most at risk.



Below are some prevention tips that can help reduce your risk.

- Parking in your enclosed garage is always best.
- If parked outside, park in front of high-resolution security cameras and motion lights.
- Install a catalytic converter protection device (usually around \$500).
- Etch your converter with your vehicle’s license plate number in several different locations.
- If your converter is stolen, file a police report immediately after the theft is discovered.
- Spread community awareness. Thieves sometimes strike repeatedly in the same neighborhoods so it’s good for the neighbors to be aware.

If you see or hear anything suspicious, call us immediately at (707) 829-4400.

**IMPORTANT: Please be sure to report all thefts immediately to Sebastopol PD so they can continue to take steps to mitigate this criminal activity.**

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## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS FROM THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

The [California Public Utilities Commission](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov) (CPUC) is

committed to supporting and encouraging both water and energy conservation throughout the state.

Did you know that almost 20 percent of electricity and more than 30 percent of natural gas is used to treat, transport, and use water? It's a win-win situation - when you save water, you save energy too!

Below are some tips for you and your family to save water and energy. By working together, we can save the environment.



- **Install water-saving devices.** You can save water by installing low-flow showerheads, high-efficiency toilets, and kitchen/bathroom faucet aerators. Check with your utility – you may be able to get these devices at a discount, or for free.
- **Take shorter showers.** Reduce your shower by 1-2 minutes and save 5 gallons.
- **Turn water off while brushing your teeth.** Save 3 gallons.
- **Fix leaky faucets.** Save up to 20 gallons per day.
- **Wash a full load of laundry.** Save 15 to 50 gallons per load.
- **Use a broom instead of a hose.** You can save as much as 100 gallons of water cleaning your driveway by sweeping instead of using the hose. Plus, it's good exercise!
- **Water before 8 a.m.** You can save about 25 gallons each time you water by watering before 8 a.m. Watering early reduces evaporation and puts that water to work helping your plants grow.
- **Make the switch from lawn to xeriscape (low-water use landscaping).** Switch your garden from turf to drought-tolerant plants and reduce your household water use by more than 30 percent. Outdoor water use accounts for between 50 to 70 percent of all household water use!

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## SONOMA CLEAN POWER OFFERS BIKE ELECTRIC INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR INCOME-QUALIFIED CUSTOMERS



**Replace car rides and commutes to work with a clean electric bicycle!**

Sonoma Clean Power has launched a new program to help connect residents in need of personal transportation with incentives for electric bicycles (eBikes).

Sonoma Clean Power customers who qualify for CARE/FERA, CalFresh/SNAP, LIHEAP, Head Start, and other income-based assistance programs can apply to receive \$1,000 off the purchase of an eBike from participating local bike retailers.

Through the "Bike Electric" program, SCP hopes to stimulate the local eBike market, further support the adoption of clean modes of transportation, and make eBikes accessible to residents who could benefit most from owning one.

To learn more and see if you qualify for the Bike Electric incentive, visit the Sonoma Clean Power website [here](#).

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# CELEBRATE THE OFFICIAL RE-OPENING OF THE LIBBY PLAYGROUND BY PARTICIPATING IN SLOW CAT'S TREASURE HUNT FOR KIDS!!

After a planning and construction process of more than a decade, the City of Sebastopol officially marked the re-opening of the Willard Libby Playground, located on Pleasant Hill Road and Valentine Avenue with a small, socially-distanced ceremony on March 4, 2021.



See the [Press Release](#) for more info.

**Re-Opening Ceremony Attendees** From left, Michael McGlothlin of Rotary Club of Sebastopol Sunrise, Planning Director Kari Svanstrom, City Manager Larry McLaughlin, Mayor Una Glass, Vice Mayor Sarah Glade Gurney, Dan Rasmus of Rotary Club of Sebastopol

## To celebrate the official launch the City of Sebastopol invites kids to participate in Slow Cat's Treasure Hunt!

Slow Cat's Treasure Hunt runs through April 29, 2021. Children up to the age of 16 years old are invited to look for Slow Cat stickers placed throughout Libby Park and mark sticker locations on a map. Participants are not to remove stickers or attempt to remove stickers. Download a map [here](#) or pick one up from the Little Free Library box at the playground or the City Hall breezeway.

Take your map through Libby Park and hunt for [these](#) Slow Cat stickers hidden around the park. A parent/guardian needs to fill out the waiver form on the reverse of the map and completed forms can be mailed in to City Hall at 7120 Bodega Ave., Sebastopol, CA 95472 or dropped off through the mail slot at City Hall. **All entries must be received by April 30, 2021.**

Slow Cat will mail you your own sticker and you'll also have a chance to win a Slow Cat trophy. A drawing will be held from the entrants in each age group. The age groups are 5 and under, 6-9, and 10 and up. Winners in each age group will be announced in media and will receive a prize: a trophy donated by Patrick Amiot. Winners will be notified May 5, 2021. Trophies will be distributed at the end of May.

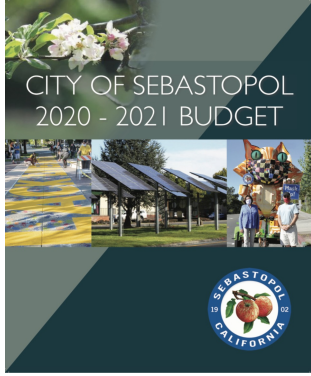
**QUESTIONS?** [outreach@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:outreach@cityofsebastopol.org) or (707) 823-1153

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## BUDGET MEETINGS ARE COMING UP! STUDY UP AND BE A PART OF IT!

Review the [2020-2021 Adopted Budget](#)

The public is invited to join the meeting via zoom. Zoom information coming soon.



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## MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS NEWS

### Introduction to MYN:

Provided through the Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) Program as part of the Sebastopol Fire Department's support of community preparedness. Open to all Sebastopol area residents.



Introduction to MYN - 60-minute Zoom class. Learn the 9 steps of the MYN program to help neighborhoods prepare for emergencies and disasters. Two dates to choose from in March and April:



- March 24 from 6:30-7:30 pm
- April 21 from 6:30-7:30 pm

### The Sebastopol Neighborhood Communication Unit (SNCU):

Part of the MYN Program, SNCU is a radio communications network that will connect MYN neighborhoods to each other and to a central base station housed within the Sebastopol Fire Department. Neighbors using handheld radios are the most important link in this communications plan. Monthly skills training classes are being scheduled now.

To sign up or learn more about these and other preparedness programs, contact Skip Jirrels, Sebastopol Fire department Public Safety Outreach Coordinator at [sjirrels@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:sjirrels@cityofsebastopol.org) or 707-799-2204.

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## RECOLOGY LIVE ZOOM SERIES - "ASK A WASTE ZERO EXPERT"

**Make sorting mysteries history!**



## Ask a Waste Zero Expert

Learn more about what goes where and get your recycling, compost, garbage, and hazardous waste questions answered.

March 19th / April 2nd, 16th  
Fridays, 11:30am - 12:30pm  
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

March 24th / April 7th  
Wednesdays, 5:30pm - 6:30pm  
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)



**BAY AREA BIKE MONTH IS JUST 8 WEEKS AWAY**



# BAY AREA

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# BIKE MONTH 2021

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May is National Bike Month, created by the League of American Cyclists in 1956 to promote the benefits of bicycling and encourage more folks to give it a try. In preparation for local festivities, the [Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition](#) (SCBC) has opened nominations for two awards: Bicycle Champion of the Year and Bike-Friendly Business of the Year.

Each year, SCBC honors an individual whose commitment to bicycle riding serves as an inspiration to others, someone who is truly committed to riding their bike for everyday transportation, a cyclist who encourages others to get out and pedal maybe for the first time or to start again. Our Bike-Friendly Business of the Year award is designed to educate employers on ways they can encourage bicycle commuting. Nomination forms are available online at [bikesonoma.org/BTWD](http://bikesonoma.org/BTWD) and the deadline is **April 1st**.

Other Bike to Wherever events include; a virtual pre-Bike to Wherever Day bike clinic; Safe Cycling classes; and Bike to Wherever Day Energizer Stations on Friday May 21st. For more information, visit [bikesonoma.org/btwd](http://bikesonoma.org/btwd) or contact Cherie Barnett at 707-545-0153 or [cherie@bikesonoma.org](mailto:cherie@bikesonoma.org).

**Logo Sponsors: DEADLINE FOR THIS IS MONDAY MARCH 15TH.** If you are interested in being on the swag bag this year get your logo to the design team by Monday. Click [here](#) to learn more about participation and sponsorship opportunities.

To date 72 folks have signed up for our [Bike2it!](#) Challenge!

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## OPEN APPOINTMENTS FOR COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS IN DISTRICT 5 AND SONOMA COUNTY

Become part of an advisory group guiding the future of District 5 and Sonoma County. You can help bring the community perspective to future plans.

[Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee](#)

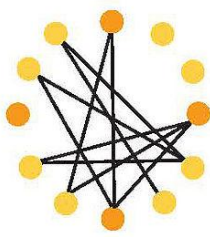
[Sonoma County Advisory Redistricting Commission 2021](#)

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## SEBASTOPOL AREA TIME BANK - BUILDING COMMUNITY ONE HOUR AT A TIME

[Sebastopol Time Bank](#) is a network of local residents who help each other by sharing their skills and talents on an hour-for-hour basis.

Virtual orientations are held by appointment and on the



10th of each month at 5pm. To register or receive more details email [info@sebastopoltimebank.org](mailto:info@sebastopoltimebank.org).

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## RENTAL AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE FOR WEST COUNTY RESIDENTS

Rental and utility assistance may be available to West County residents who meet the following criteria:

1. Can document that they owe back rent or utility payments as a result of the loss of income due to COVID-19 (as far back as March 2020)
2. Did not receive any rental or utility support through the previous CARES program from October-December 2020, from any agency.

For more information, or to apply to the program, please visit the West County Community Services website at [westcountyservices.org](http://westcountyservices.org) or River to Coast Children's Services [rccservices.org](http://rccservices.org) para asistencia en español.

We anticipate the program will operate through April 30 or when funds are exhausted.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR CITY BUDGET MEETINGS

<b>Public Meeting</b>	March 30, 2021 Tuesday 8:30am-11:30am	Budget Subcommittee reviews Community Service Agency requests and provides recommendation to City Council for approval. City Department requests are reviewed by the Budget Subcommittee.
<b>Public Meeting</b>	June 1, 2021 Tuesday After 6pm	City Council Budget and Street Lighting Assessment District Hearings.
<b>Public Meeting</b>	June 15, 2021 Tuesday After 6pm	City Council Adoption of Final Budget and the Street Lighting Assessment District.

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## COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION

Residents aged 65 and older are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Information



on vaccines and the availability of vaccination appointments in our county changes rapidly.

Please visit [Socoemergency.org](https://Socoemergency.org) for the most current updates.



## YOUR CITY NEEDS YOU!

# HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC MEETINGS



## DURING THE PANDEMIC

### Attend One City Council Meeting per Month.

Public participation is the cornerstone of our community. One impact of pandemic restrictions on public gatherings is that it's easier than ever to attend City Council meetings virtually and make your voice heard. These meetings typically take place the first and third Tuesday of each month and begin at 6:00 PM. Here's how to log in and participate. <https://bit.ly/3tVZF4K>

Click image for new infographic on how to participate in virtual City Council meetings.



## TAKE THE TAKEOUT PLEDGE

# TAKE THE TAKEOUT PLEDGE



## Once a Week is All We Ask

Join Mayor Una Glass and Vice Mayor Sarah Glade Gurney in pledging to order takeout once each week from one of our local restaurants. If even half the households in Sebastopol were to participate, it would go a long way towards helping to keep our local restaurants in business and many local residents employed. The dozens of restaurants in Sebastopol offer everything from budget friendly pizzas and tacos to fine dining. Most restaurants offer online ordering and curbside pickup, and some even deliver.

Check out the [City's Open Businesses](#) page or the [Chamber of Commerce's](#) site to see what's open and offering special services, and take The Takeout Pledge! With support from local news app Townsy, you can now [sign up](#) to take the Takeout Pledge to receive additional information, special offers, and discounts from local restaurants.

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**PLEASE ABIDE BY DOWNTOWN PARKING LIMITS**

# PARK ONCE and WALK in DOWNTOWN SEBASTOPOL

It's free, easy, and convenient!



**Legend**  
Not to scale; Subject to change.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>P1</b> Behind Library &amp; City Hall</li> <li><b>P2</b> Town Plaza</li> <li><b>P3</b> Near Rialto Cinemas</li> <li><b>P4</b> At CVS</li> <li><b>P5</b> Near HopMonk</li> <li><b>P6</b> Behind Chamber of Commerce</li> <li><b>P7</b> Across from Ives Park, Veteran's Bldg/SCA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4a7ebb; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Free Public Parking Lot</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #e67e22; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> City Building</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #27ae60; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> City Park</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #90c17e; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (P3, P4, P7)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #4a7ebb; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Parking Lot Entrance</li> </ul>	
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City of Sebastopol, California www.cityofsebastopol.org 12/1/2020

In order to help support our downtown businesses, please abide by the 10 minute and 1 hour parking limits as posted.

Don't forget that free long-term parking is available at several parking lots around Downtown.

Click [here](#) for a PDF of the Free Public Parking Lots map.

## ASK SLOW CAT!



**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:** I am curious to learn more about the section in the north west corner near the intersection of Bodega and Pleasant Hill. There is a grouping of burial sites there with Asian characters (none of which I can read) that look to be very old and I would like to learn more about them. What is their history here? Are they some of the first immigrants here? Was there a strong Asian community here when the area was being settled?

**ANSWER:** My friend Mary Paul Dodgion at the [Western Sonoma County Historical Society](#) (WSCHS) and West County Museum pointed me to the fascinating story behind the discovery of this once-forgotten section of the Sebastopol Memorial Lawn Cemetery in a 2016 [article from Sonoma West Times & News](#). The article details a veritable detective story and collaborative effort between Historical Society volunteers and members of the Enmanji Buddhist Temple. The short answer to your question is that, although Sebastopol did indeed have a Chinatown at one point in its history, according to the article the section of the cemetery that you mention is the resting place of Japanese residents. Some of the headstones date back to the 1800's. Mary also shared the following: "One of our volunteers, Brad Duval, was inspirational in researching this section of the cemetery. He has compiled a binder which has the obituaries, some death certificates, and locations of the headstones. The binder is in our Museum Reference Room." My other museum friend Donna Pittman adds, "volunteer Jim Passage also helped in this effort."

Two other great resources are the books "Images of America: Sebastopol," by The Western Sonoma County Historical Society and "Sebastopol's Historic Cemetery: a serendipitous directory of pioneers and citizens residing therein,"

by former Sebastopol resident and former museum director Evelyn S. McClure.

And, I would also like to put in a plug for the wonderful “Cemetery Walk” tour, historical re-enactment, and dinner that the WSCHS put on for many years every October in pre-pandemic times and will hopefully revive in the future. You didn’t know Slow Cat got around so much, did you? Cats have been known to hang around in cemeteries from time to time!

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Have a question about the town we all know and love? Want to know more about the history of Sebastopol? We want to answer your questions. Submit a question via email to by clicking the button below. We'll post answers in our weekly newsletter and on our Facebook page.

[Submit A Question](#)

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**WHY GET TESTED?**



Knowing your status helps you protect yourself and others, reduces transmission, and moves Sonoma County closer to getting people **back to work and school.**

[SoCoEmergency.org](https://SoCoEmergency.org)

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**COVID-19 TESTING LOCATIONS FOR MARCH 15-21**



# COUNTY OF SONOMA

## COVID-19 TESTING LOCATIONS

*Free, convenient, confidential COVID-19 testing is available to all Sonoma County residents, regardless of document status*

### Monday, March 15

**Molecular Matrix @ Luma Fitness**, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
800 Petaluma Boulevard South, Petaluma

**Alexander Valley Healthcare**, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
6 Tarman Dr., Cloverdale (FQHC)

**St. Leo's Catholic Church**, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
601 Agua Caliente Rd W Sonoma (Curative)

**Alliance Medical Center**, 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM  
1381 University Ave., Healdsburg (FQHC)

### Tuesday, March 16

**Guerneville School**, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
14630 Armstrong Woods Rd, Guerneville (HRSupport)

**A Place to Play Park**, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
2375 W 3rd St, Santa Rosa (DHS)

**Rincon Valley Unified School District**, 10 AM - 4:00 PM  
1000 Yulupa Ave., Santa Rosa (Curative)

**Petaluma HC - Rohnert Park**, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
5900 State Farm Dr., Rohnert Park (FQHC)

**St. Sebastian Roman Catholic Church**, 2:00 - 4:00 PM  
7983 Covert Ln, Sebastopol, CA 95472 (DHS)

### Wednesday, March 17

**Healdsburg Day Labor Center**, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
405 Grove St., Healdsburg (Curative)

**Sonoma Valley Community Health**, 2:00 - 4:00 PM  
601 Agua Caliente Rd W, Sonoma - St. Leo's (FQHC)

### Thursday, March 18

**Analy High School**, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM  
6950 Analy Ave, Sebastopol (HRSupport)

**Cloverdale Senior Center**, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
311 N Main St, Cloverdale (DHS)

### Thursday, March 18

**Santa Rosa Community HC**, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
Vista Campus 3569 Round Barn Cir., Santa Rosa (FQHC)

**Resurrection Roman Catholic Parish** 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
303 Stony Point Rd., Santa Rosa (Curative)

### Friday, March 19

**Hanna Boys Center**, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
17000 Arnold Drive, Sonoma (LHI)

**Andy's Unity Park**, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
3399 Moorland Ave, Santa Rosa (DHS)

**Burton Avenue Recreation Center**, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
7421 Burton Ave, Rohnert Park (Curative)

**Bayer Farm**, 2:00 - 4:00 PM  
1550 West Ave, Santa Rosa (DHS)

**Healdsburg Community Center**, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
1557 Healdsburg Ave, Healdsburg (DHS)

### Saturday, March 20

**Hanna Boys Center**, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
17000 Arnold Drive, Sonoma (LHI)

**Molecular Matrix @ Luma Fitness**, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
800 Petaluma Boulevard South, Petaluma

**Coddington**, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
1000 Coddington Center, Santa Rosa (Curative)

### Sunday, March 21

**Hanna Boys Center**, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
17000 Arnold Drive, Sonoma (LHI)

**Molecular Matrix @ Luma Fitness**, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
800 Petaluma Boulevard South, Petaluma

**Coddington**, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
1000 Coddington Center, Santa Rosa (Curative)

**We are now offering Department of Health Service (DHS) pop-up testing, as well as testing opportunities with Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC), Curative, LHI, HRSupport, and Molecular Matrix:**

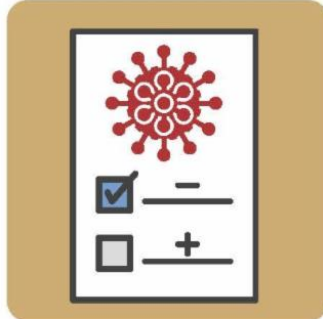
- DHS/FQHC: Make an appointment @ [sonomacounty.fullslate.com](http://sonomacounty.fullslate.com) or call (707) 565-4667.
- Curative: Appointments must be made on the Curative website @ [curative.com](http://curative.com).
- LHI: Call (888) 634-1123 or make an appointment @ [lhi.care/covidtesting](http://lhi.care/covidtesting).
- HRSupport: Pre-register online by going to [hrsupportpros.com](http://hrsupportpros.com).
- Molecular Matrix: Make an appointment @ [molecularmatrix.com/covidtesting](http://molecularmatrix.com/covidtesting)

**SoCoEmergency.org**



## VACCINES AND COVID TESTING ARE KEY TO KEEPING US HEALTHY AND PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY

*It is still unknown if you can carry and transmit the virus after vaccination. Until more is known, continue to use the following safety precautions to protect yourself and others.*



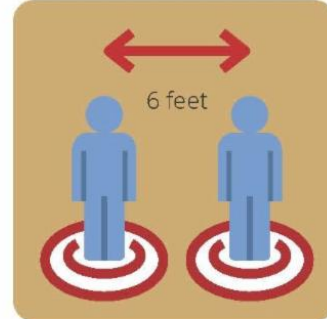
### GET TESTED

Testing is free and confidential and lets you know if you are sick or infecting others.



### WEAR A MASK

Cover your nose and mouth with a mask. Wear a mask at all times in public spaces.



### STAY 6 FEET APART

Use social distancing as a tool to prevent a possible exposure.



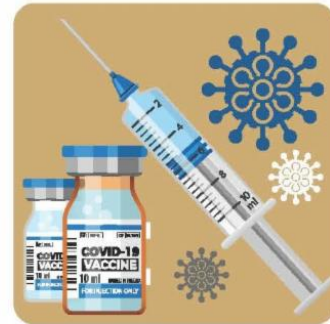
### WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, and before and after meals.



### AVOID CROWDS

Limit gatherings to three or fewer households and keep duration short.



### GET VACCINATED

Vaccines are safe and effective. Get protected from COVID-19 when it's your turn.

**Questions? Call 2-1-1 for 24/7 information. For assistance including scheduling an appointment, call our hotline at (707) 565-4667.**

**Testing:** <https://socoemergency.org/test> | **Vaccine:** <https://socoemergency.org/vaccine>

**SoCoEmergency.org**

## SONOMA COUNTY WINTER SHELTERS

Sonoma County Winter Shelters offer 16 beds in addition to year-round shelters and help to protect people from the year's harshest weather. Spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and may offer wraparound services as well.

[Winter Shelter Flyer - English](#)  
[Winter Shelter Flyer - Español](#)



# COVID-19 & HEALTH UPDATES

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## SONOMA COUNTY'S REGIONAL STAY HOME ORDER LIFTED

The California Department of Public Health has lifted the Regional Stay-Home Order for the 11-county Bay Area region, including Sonoma County, effective immediately. Sonoma County, will remain in the purple tier under the Blueprint for a Safer Economy, meaning many restrictions will remain in place. Under the purple tier, outdoor gatherings are permitted with up to three households and personal care businesses can open with modifications.

The following are permitted to operate only outdoors with modifications:

- Movie theaters
- Wineries
- Restaurants
- Family entertainment centers
- Museums, zoos, and aquariums
- Gyms
- Places of worship

For more information, please read the County's press release [here](#) or visit <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/> or [SoCoEmergency.org](http://SoCoEmergency.org).

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## ONLINE TOOL AVAILABLE TO BOOK COVID-19 TESTING APPOINTMENTS



Sonoma County is conducting **free, confidential COVID-19 Viral** testing for those that live or work in Sonoma County. You can now make an appointment online by visiting the online scheduler [here](#) and selecting one of the available locations (you do not need to create an account to make an appointment).

- **Each individual must schedule their appointment separately.**
- Each person must provide a **unique email address OR cell phone number** in order to receive results automatically. (Email address not required for appointment)
- Two people cannot share the same email nor cell phone number.
- If you need help making appointments for multiple family members or young children, call our hotline at 707-565-4667.

Visit the SoCo Emergency website [here](#) for more testing information.

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## LEGAL AID OF SONOMA COUNTY IS HERE TO HELP PEOPLE IMPACTED BY COVID-19

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



website [here](#) for more information.



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## EXPANDED FREE COVID-19 POP UP TEST SITES

The County of Sonoma is doubling the number of pop-up test sites available to the public beginning Tuesday, Oct. 20 and is encouraging residents, particularly those disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus, to be tested regardless of whether they have symptoms or have been exposed to someone who is COVID-19 positive. [Read the press release.](#)

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## SONOMA COUNTY COVID-19 TESTING INFORMATION

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

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## HANDWASHING STATION LOCATIONS IN DOWNTOWN SEBASTOPOL

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. Click [here](#) for a list of locations.

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**DID YOU KNOW:**

**IF EVERYONE WORE MASKS**

**PROPERLY, COVID-19 CASES**

**WOULD REDUCE UP TO 80%**

[covid19.ca.gov](https://covid19.ca.gov)

Coronavirus spreads when an infected person speaks, sneezes, or coughs within 6 feet of others. You may have the virus and spread it even if you feel well.

To prevent infection, you must cover your nose and mouth when outside your home. So wearing a mask is now required statewide. Wearing a mask or cloth face covering can slow the spread of COVID-19 by limiting the release of virus into the air. It also reinforces physical distancing, and shows you care about the health of others.

See the following website for more information and guidance on wearing masks:

<https://covid19.ca.gov/masks-and-ppe/>

## **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.

## **ESSENTIAL SERVICES WILL CONTINUE:**

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

Pandemic.

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## 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](http://SoCoEmergency.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.*



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## CREDIBLE SOURCES FOR COVID-19 UPDATES

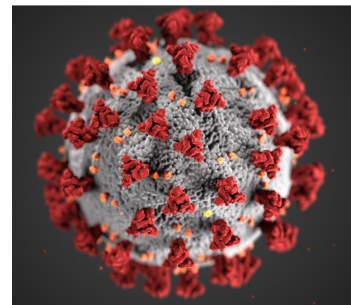
[California Department of Public Health](#)

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

[SoCo Emergency Page](#)

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

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



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## EMERGENCY SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS

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### HAVE YOUR GO BAGS READY!

Are you prepared to evacuate if necessary?  
Are your go bags ready?

Even though Sebastopol hasn't been under any evacuation orders or warnings, all citizens should be prepared to evacuate in the event one becomes necessary.

Everyone in your family should have their own Go Bag that contains a minimum of 72 hours worth of essential supplies. Personalize kits and keep them where they can easily be reached—at home, in the car, at work or school.



This is particularly important during fire season when a quick getaway may be needed. A backpack or other small bag is best for these kits so that they can be easily carried in an evacuation. During the COVID-19 pandemic additional considerations for your Go Bag include cloth face coverings, hand sanitizer, anti-bacterial wipes, and a thermometer.

### [Build A Personal Go Bag](#)

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# SIGN UP FOR ALERTS

**Make sure that you have signed up for:**

[SoCoAlerts](#); and

Nixle Alerts (either [online](#) or by texting your zip code to 888777)

It is important to register for both types of alerts. If you receive Nixle alerts, read them thoroughly and click on any links.

Text Fire or Fuego (for Spanish) to 211-211 for updates.

More information on alerts may be found [here](#).

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# KNOW YOUR ALERTS

The City of Sebastopol uses multiple notifications and warning systems to make sure emergency alerts are delivered to the people who need the information.



## Emergency Alert System (EAS) - No Registration Required

National public warning system that will interrupt local broadcast tv and radio programming to provide an alert in the event of a large-scale emergency.



## Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA) - No Registration Required

Urgent alerts sent as text-like messages to your mobile phone based on your location (you will only receive notification if you are in the area of the emergency). WEAs have three alert categories– Imminent Threat, AMBER, Presidential. You must keep the factory settings on to your WEA- capable phone to receive a WEA.



## SoCoAlert - Registration Required

Emergency notification service providing Sonoma County first responders the ability to alert residents by landline or mobile phone, text message and email about imminent threats to life and property in specific impacted areas. Register all addresses that you'd like to receive alerts for (work, child's school, etc.). You don't have to be in the location of the emergency to receive alert.

Must register at [SoCoAlert.com](http://SoCoAlert.com) OR call (866) 939-0911, press "0" at the menu, ask operator for assistance with registering for SoCoAlert.



## Nixle - Registration Required

Community information service managed by Sonoma County Fire District and Sonoma County Sheriff's Office. Community messages are sent to email, and for critical emergencies, Alert messages are sent via text message and email (notifications are NOT delivered by phone call). Customize your settings at [nixle.com](http://nixle.com) to control which types of notifications you receive. Must register at [nixle.com](http://nixle.com) or text your zip code to 888-777



## Local Radio and Television

Local news broadcasters to provide updates during an emergency. Tune radio to 1350 AM, 103.5 FM, 100.1 FM, 89.1 FM (bilingual), 98.7 FM (Spanish); watch preferred local TV news channel.



## Hi/Lo Sirens

Sebastopol police cars and fire department vehicles are outfitted with new Hi/Lo sirens, a different sound than traditional sirens. This European-style, 2-tone siren will only be used in an emergency to alert residents within specific areas of the need to evacuate.

### Other Ways to Stay Informed

Sebastopol Police Dept.   
Sebastopol Fire Dept.   
City of Sebastopol  



More information on emergency alerts and notifications at [SoCoEmergency.org](http://SoCoEmergency.org)

Thank you to the City of Santa Rosa for sharing their graphics.

**FOR NON-EMERGENCY SUPPORT  
FOR FIRES IN SONOMA COUNTY  
DIAL 2-1-1 OR TEXT "FIRE" TO 211-211**

**PARA AYUDA CON LOS INCENDIOS EN EL CONDADO  
DE SONOMA QUE NO SEA DE EMERGENCIA,  
MARQUE 2-1-1 O MANDE UN MENSAJE DE TEXTO  
CON LA PALABRA "FUEGO" AL 211-211.**

**FREE + AVAILABLE 24/7 GRATIS + DISPONIBLE 24/7**



Get Connected. Get Help.™



POWERED BY: United Way of the Wine Country

## ARE YOU FLOOD READY?

The rainy season runs from October to May. The most severe flooding historically occurs between December and March. During this time you should be aware of anticipated weather conditions and take appropriate actions.

**Know the flood warning signals:** The Police, Fire Department, Public Works Department and Emergency Manager for the city are notified of rising floodwaters. Listen for Flood Warnings on local TV, and radio station KRSO 1350. Sign up for local alerts on your mobile phone. ***Be sure to heed the flood warnings.***

### Flood safety:

**Do not walk through flowing water.** Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. Use a pole or stick to ensure the ground is still there before you go through an area where the water is flowing. Avoid contact with floodwaters. Do not allow children or pets play in floodwater. This water may be contaminated and poses a health hazard.

**Do not drive through a flooded area.** More people drown in their cars than anywhere else.

**Don't drive around road barriers;** the road or bridge may be washed out.

**Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.** The number two Killer after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to PG&E or call 911.

**Be alert for gas leaks.** Use a flashlight to inspect damage. Don't smoke or use candles,



lanterns, or open flames until you are positive the gas service is turned off and the area has been ventilated.

### **Sandbags**

During the storm season, the Public Works Department offers free sand and sandbags behind the Youth Annex at 425 Morris Street. Please note, this is a self-serve area without night lighting. Shovels, bags, and sand (of course) are provided.

### **What can you do now to prepare?**

- Find out if you live in or near a flood zone
- Have a personal/family emergency plan
- Have personal/family/pet disaster kits prepared

**REMEMBER: *Turn around, don't drown***

Disaster Preparedness information is available on the Sebastopol Fire Department [website](#).

For more information on preparing for floods and other disasters go to:

<https://socoemergency.org/get-ready/>

<https://myhazards.caloes.ca.gov>

<https://www.fema.gov>

<https://water.ca.gov>

Information on power outages during a disaster and other safety information from PG&E can be found at [PG&E natural disaster Safety page](#)

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## **BUSINESS NEWS**

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### **BUSINESS LICENSE APPLICATIONS AND RENEWALS**



We're moving to a completely paperless system for business license applications and renewals. Renewal notices will be sent electronically to the email info we have on file. Make sure your contact information is updated. You can check and update your information at our renewals portal [here](#). We're also upgrading our online business directory to allow you to make it easier for your customers to find your business. Make sure that your business information is up to date by visiting the online portal [here](#) where you can also apply for a business license. Please make sure to fill out all applicable fields. Give us a call at **(707) 823-7863** with any questions.

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### **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](mailto: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).

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## CITY NEWS

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### REGULAR CITY BUSINESS CONTINUES

#### Administrative Services:

- Administrative Service staff are available by phone or email for questions. Please email [customerservice@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto: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](mailto: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:

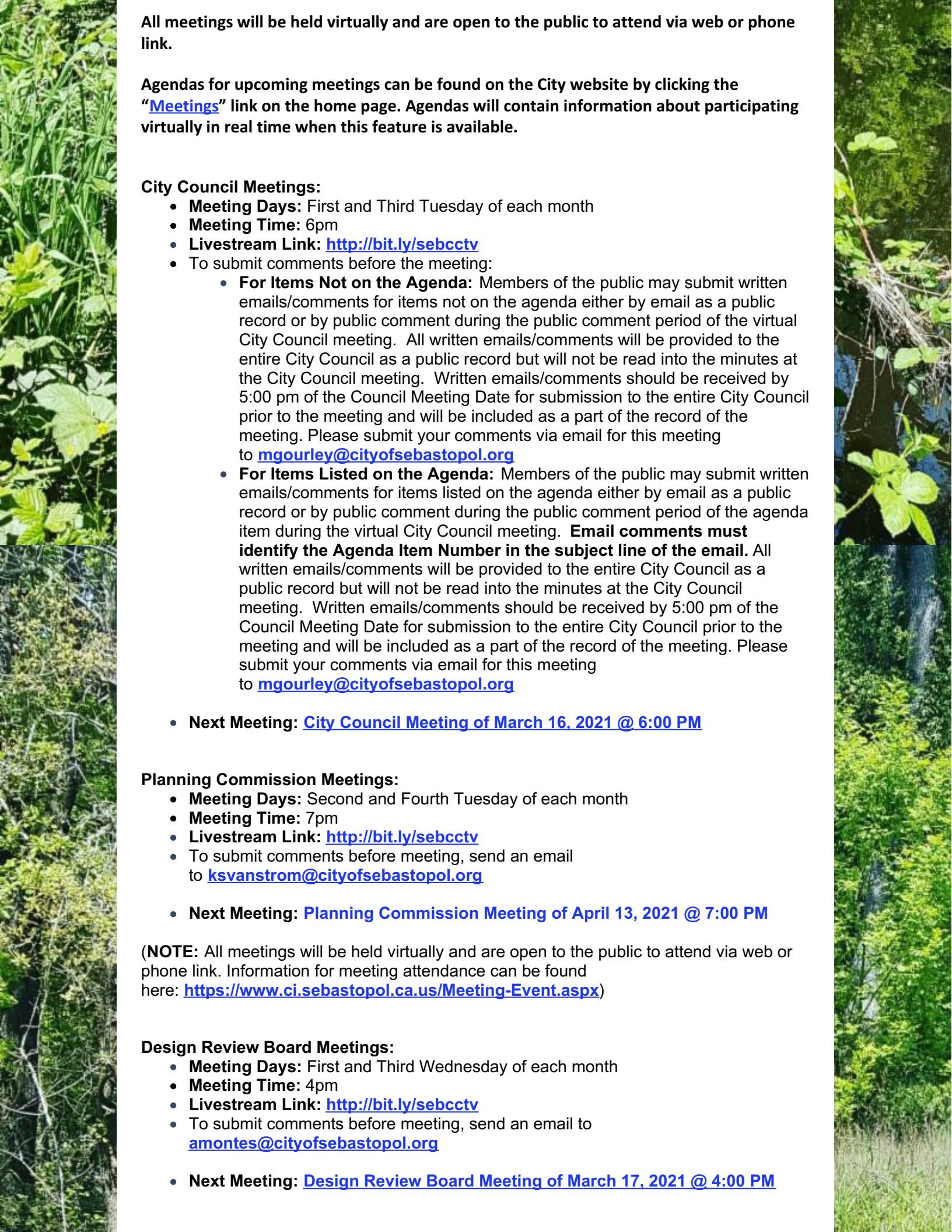
- Lobby is open to the public. For non-life-or-safety-threatening situations, we encourage the public to call the 24/7 police non-emergency line at **707-829-4400**. As always, in the event of emergency, call **911**.
- [Sebastopol Police Log March 1 - March 7](#)

#### 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.
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### 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](mailto: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](mailto:mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [City Council Meeting of March 16, 2021 @ 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](mailto:kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Planning Commission Meeting of April 13, 2021 @ 7:00 PM](#)

(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](mailto:amontes@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of March 17, 2021 @ 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](mailto:amontes@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Public Arts Committee Meeting of April 7, 2021 @ 10:30AM](#)



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## GENERAL INFO

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**Check out the Sebastopol Area Senior Center's weekly and monthly virtual classes and workshops!**

The classes include Chair Sail, Chair Yoga, Gentle Yoga, 10 Series Lecture on A Psychological Approach to the Old Testament, Support Groups, and more.

Click [here](#) to see what classes are available and to register.

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**The Sebastopol Center for the Arts has a fantastic education program lined up just for you!!**

The classes include Spanish Songs, Pastels with Clark Mitchell, Spring Colored Pencil Workshop, Creative Process in Watercolor, ART SPOTS and more!

### [Adult Classes](#)

Some classes have already started, so check them out and act fast... For full details visit the Sebastopol Center for the Arts website [here](#).

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**SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY REVAMPS DIGITAL**

SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY

# Digital Collections



More archives • More maps • More images • More data access

*An elegant user experience*

[digital.sonomalibrary.org](http://digital.sonomalibrary.org)

Interested in local history, culture, art, and archives from the library's special collections? [Sonoma County Digital Collections](#) is easier than ever to use and enjoy. The updated Digital Collections is growing all the time, so bookmark it and discover new ways to keep exploring!

#### Featuring

- Completely redesigned, user-friendly website
- Searchable photographs and maps from Sonoma County history and culture
- [Archival Collection Guides](#)
- Videos, audio, oral histories
- Local authors
- Community memories
- [Guides to historical research](#)
- [International Wine Research Database](#)
- And much more!

Dive into [Sonoma County Digital Collections](#) today!

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**ADD YOUR VOICE TO THE SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY  
MEMORY ARCHIVE PROJECT**



# SONOMA RESPONDS

## A Community Memory Archive Un Archivo de Memoria Comunitaria

### Tell Your Story

What comes to mind when you think about the past year? Sonoma County Library invites our communities to collectively build the historical record of living through COVID-19, the Black Lives Matter movement, and the impacts on daily life locally. [Sonoma Responds](#) is an English/Spanish online portal where you can preserve your stories through a variety of media.

### Ways to Share

- Post on social media using #SonomaResponds
- Respond to reflective prompts online
- Upload images, videos, recordings, writings
- Nominate online content for a web archive
- Nominate material for the physical archive

Your submissions will be the primary sources that future generations use to understand the age of social distancing. These stories will live in the library's [Digital Collections](#) and with its online partners such as the Online Archive of California, Calisphere, and the Internet Archive.

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## EDUCATION RESOURCES

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### SUPERVISED DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM WITH THE SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Sebastopol Center for the Arts is offering supervised distance learning for families needing daytime help for children Grades 1-5.

The program offers:

- A safe, supervised environment for schoolchildren grades 1-5
- Small groups of 10-12 children who are staying in the same group for 6 weeks
- Supervision of the children by experienced educators who actively support the children during the zoom classes offered by their school

- An ideal environment for children who do not perform well at home due to lack of assistance or supervision
- A place for the children to interact with peers and continue to have a social life during Covid
- Outdoor activities together
- After school program of art classes taught by experienced artists in their field: music, dance, arts and crafts and more

If you know of a family or child that could use this help, write as soon as possible to Dana Swint, Education Manager at [edumanager@sebarts.org](mailto:edumanager@sebarts.org).

First priority goes to Sebastopol Union School District students, but invite anyone interested to contact us. Scholarships and sliding scale fees available.

Click [here](#) for more information. Check out a video on the program [here](#).



**SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

**PRESENTS**  
SUPERVISED DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS  
WELCOMING ALL CHILDREN GRADES 1-5  
A SAFE supervised space for your child's daily schooling during the pandemic with after school art enrichment. We'll keep your child on track academically and socially, while you're at work.

**PRESENTA**  
PROGRAMAS EDUCATIVOS SUPERVISADOS CON DISTANCIAS SEGURAS  
PARA NIÑOS DE LOS GRADOS 1 – 5  
Ofrecemos un espacio seguro y supervisado para actividades académicas con enriquecimiento artístico después del colegio para que sus hijos se mantengan al tanto socialmente como académicamente mientras Ud. trabaja durante la pandemia.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**  
Contact Dana Swint at [edumanager@sebarts.org](mailto:edumanager@sebarts.org), (707) 829-4797 x 1009 to learn more. Only 46 spots available.

## BORROW MORE MATERIALS FROM MORE LIBRARIES WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD



*Borrow more materials from more libraries with your library card*



### Access More Than 9 Million Titles from Other Libraries

Can't find what you're looking for in the library collection? Try [LINK+](#), a free resource sharing service which allows you access to more than nine million titles from over 70 participating libraries in California and Nevada. All you have to do is [search](#) for and select your item, choose Sonoma County from the list of libraries, and select your preferred [curbside pickup](#) location. Books, DVDs, music CDs, audiobooks, and more may be borrowed from participating libraries.

Great precautions are being taken with deliveries outside the system—LINK+ materials are quarantined for seven days before they are moved on to you, just like book drop returns. Up to three LINK+ holds may be placed at a time. Explore a new world of books and media today with [LINK+](#)!

# SCHOOL RESOURCES FROM SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY

## School Resources

## Recursos Escolares

### Online Library 24/7

### Biblioteca Virtual 24/7



Learn a Language  
Aprende un idioma



Learning Express



BookFlix



Streaming Media

Transmisión de películas y más



Study Help

Ayuda con las tareas



StudentOne Card



Lynda.com



OverDrive



Libby



sonomalibrary.org

This is a challenging time for our community, and Sonoma County Library is here to help with your back-to-school needs. Are you a parent of a school-age child or children? A student yourself? Maybe you want to enrich your self-learning. We've put together a list of resources that you may find useful during the school year...and beyond!

- Access educational [eBooks, and eAudiobooks, stream movies and more](#). This includes always-available eBooks and eAudiobooks such as [Diverse Reads for Teens](#) and [Diverse Reads for Kids](#) on OverDrive.
- Students of any age can connect with free tutors and more at [Tutor.com](#).
- Our Student OneCard partnership provides students access to library resources using their student ID number. [See the list of participating schools and learn more about Student OneCards](#).
- Earn your high school diploma online with [Career Online High School](#).
- Learn at home with our [Great Courses collection](#) on OverDrive. Explore 200 expertly-produced audio and video courses by professors such as Neil DeGrasse Tyson!
- Your library card gives you access to [Lynda.com](#), an online learning service that teaches business, technology, and creative skills through video tutorials.
- [LearningExpress Library](#) features nearly 1,000 online tutorials, practice tests, and eBooks for all ages.
- Why not use this time to learn a new language or brush up on one you're already familiar with? [Mango Languages](#) is fun and easy to use.

Still hungry for more? Your online library never closes. [View More eResources](#)

## 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.

Contact  
Us



7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-823-1153

[www.CityofSebastopol.org](http://www.CityofSebastopol.org)