



City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

www.CityofSebastopol.org

May 1 - May 7 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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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.

City Manager's Office:

- City Hall 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:

- Caltrans has started the ADA Project in Downtown Sebastopol. Flyers were mailed out on Monday, May 4th and prep work plus "potholing" to verify utility locations began this week. Next week saw cutting at curbs and corners starts.

Fire Department:

- The Fire Department is open and continuing to provide first response and emergency services as usual.
- Please note that the Fire Department lobby and business office are closed.

Planning Department:

- The Planning Department is (virtually) open 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 - April 27 - May 3](#)

Public Works Department:

- Water and sewer utility systems continue to be monitored and maintained.

SEBASTOPOL YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

JUNE

Maria Pennacchio - Police Reserve - 20 years

FIRE SAFETY

It's a great time to start mowing, weeding, brush removal, pruning, and general yard cleanup. The April rains will bring a new growth of weeds and can/will dry out very quickly this month. Let's all use this time to get a jump on cleaning up our property!



VIDEO UPDATE FROM FIRE CHIEF BILL BRAGA

UPDATE FROM
SEBASTOPOL
FIRE CHIEF
BILL BRAGA



You've probably been seeing weekly [video updates](#) from Mayor Patrick Slayter, but this week we've also got another update from Sebastopol Fire Chief Bill Braga.

Fire Chief Bill Braga shares more information about the personal protective equipment being used by the fire department. Click [here](#) to watch.

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.

THE LAGUNA PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE IS IN PLACE!

When the seasonal floating bridge goes up, summer can't be far behind. Public Works has just finished installing the bridge, and has also re-opened the Laguna Meadowlark Field trail system. The Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetlands Preserve is ready and waiting for pedestrians and bicyclists to enjoy the outdoors.

Social distancing rules will apply, so be sure to bring a face covering and put it on if you cannot maintain a distance of at least 6 feet between you and anyone who isn't a member of your household.

The bridge is accessed behind the Little League field at the Community Center. Under the current order of the County Health Officer, parking lots at the Youth Annex and Community Center

remain closed. Parking is also not allowed at other access points, so visitors must approach on foot or bike. Dogs are allowed if kept on leash at all times. [Trail Map](#)



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:** Send via email of no more than 350 words (which corresponds to approximately 3 minutes of speaking time) to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org so that the comments may be submitted to the mayor for reading into the record. Comments should be received by 5:00 pm of Council Meeting date. You may also leave a voice mail that will be written into the record by calling 707-823-1153 to leave a recorded message of no more than 3 minutes. It is requested that you include your name, address, and phone number in your recorded message.
 - **For Items Listed on the Agenda:** Send via email of no more than 350 words (which corresponds to approximately 3 minutes of speaking time) to mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org so that the comments may be submitted to the mayor for reading into the record. Such email comments must identify the Agenda Item Number in the subject line of the email. Comments should be received by 5:00 pm of Council Meeting date. You may also leave a voice mail that will be written into the record by calling 707-823-1153 to leave a recorded message of no more than 3 minutes. It is requested that you include your name, address, and phone number in your recorded message.
- **Next Meeting:** [City Council Meeting of May 19, 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 May 12, 2020 @ 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

- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of May 20, 2020 @ 4:00 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>)

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 June 3, 2020 @ 10:30 AM](#)



PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

MEETING REVIEWS:

The Design Review Board held its regular meeting on May 6, 2020, provided feedback, and continued a Design Review application for a major remodel and facade changes to 6950 Burnett Street in downtown Sebastopol.

MEETING PREVIEWS:

The Planning Commission will hold a hearing at its regular meeting on May 12, 2020 meeting to consider a Use Permit for a smoke shop at 207 North Main St to continue the non-conforming use.

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>

RECENT SHELTER-IN-PLACE ORDER AMENDMENTS

On May 1, 2020 the Sonoma County Health Officer issued a new Shelter-in-Place Order, which among



other changes, reduced restrictions in a number of important employment areas including construction, landscaping services, nurseries, and car and bicycle sales.

On May 7, 2020 the Sonoma County Health Officer amended that Shelter-in-Place Order to reopen retail stores for curbside pickup and delivery, effective 12:01 a.m. on May 8, 2020.

This expansion was made possible by the Governor moving to the initial phase of Stage Two of his Pandemic Resilience Roadmap and the success of the Shelter-In-Place order in Sonoma County in interrupting community transmission of the Coronavirus.

The Health Officer Amendment allows additional lesser-risk businesses to open based on a risk-assessment approach and implements Governor Newsom's plan in Sonoma County.

Please read the [full press release](#) for a description of the new, loosened restrictions and for information on which additional businesses are allowed to reopen..

CREDIBLE SOURCES FOR COVID-19 UPDATES

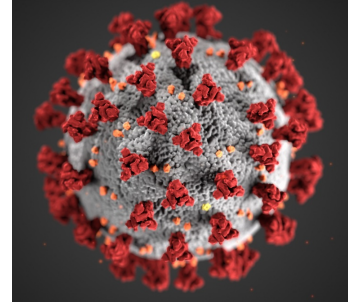
[California Department of Public Health](#)

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

[SoCo Emergency Page](#)

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

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



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.

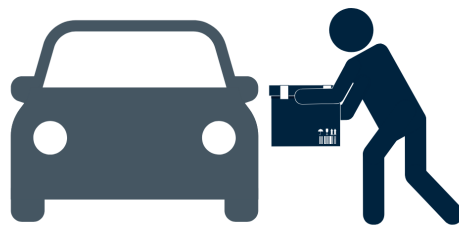
NEED HELP WITH ESSENTIAL RESOURCES?

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 COMING SOON

The city will be providing curb side delivery locations within the next couple weeks in an additional 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. More details to follow.



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

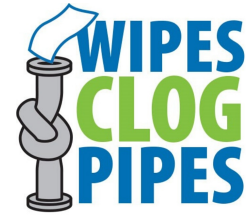
Designated as an essential business, the Sunday Farmer's Market on the Plaza is currently open and taking safety precautions and practicing social distancing. Check their [website](#) for more information.

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.



GOING GROCERY SHOPPING?

BUY SMART 
Don't Overfill Your Cart

There's #Enough4All

Grocery stores are taking extra precautions to keep their stores clean and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Before you go shopping review these [tips](#) to keep yourself safe. And remember please Buy Smart and Don't Overfill Your Cart, there's #Enough4All

REMINDER: Face coverings are now required for everyone. 6-ft social distancing rule still applies.

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: FUN THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR KIDS

Make crafts together:

- Do painting, drawing, jewelry-making, models, or other crafts.
- Learn to sew using materials you have on hand.
- Draw or paint self-portraits or pictures of each other.
- Have your kids make greeting cards for birthdays or holidays.
- Do scrapbooking projects together.
- Learn how to play a new song on your instrument.



TIPS: WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

Relax, grab a snack, and watch those movies and TV shows on your "save" list. Some online streaming services even offer interactive shows to get the family engaged.



These tips are based on recommendations from our insurer Aetna.

Contact
Us



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707-823-1153

www.CityofSebastopol.org