



# City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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

## May 22 - May 28 Special Weekly Edition of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

Please visit the City of Sebastopol website at [www.CityOfSebastopol.org](http://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](#)

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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 MESSAGE FROM MAYOR SLAYTER IN  
SUPPORT OF SONOMA COUNTY HEALTH ORDER**





**Patrick Slayter**  
Mayor

**City of Sebastopol**  
7120 Bodega Avenue  
Sebastopol, CA 95472  
[www.cityofsebastopol.org](http://www.cityofsebastopol.org)

May 29, 2020

Dear Fellow Members of the Sebastopol Community,

In the wake of statements made by Sonoma County Sheriff Mark Essick over the last 24 hours about his department's enforcement of the Public Health Order issued by the Sonoma County Public Health Officer, I am writing to reassure our residents that the City of Sebastopol will continue to follow and enforce the Public Health Order. We have been successful in working with our community members by emphasizing education on protocols set forth in the Health Order and encouraging voluntary compliance.

I would like to echo the sentiments expressed by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors who credit the decisions of our County Health Officer as well as the actions of our community in following the order. These proactive actions have helped us avoid a high rate of COVID-19 infection and the tragic loss of life that has been seen in other areas. I would like to emphasize that it is in the best interest of our collective community health that we all wear face coverings in public. Adherence to this required protocol will help all community members feel safe and confident as we continue to navigate this very serious health crisis.

Sebastopol has long been known for its community spirit and for the way we come together to support not only our City residents, but everyone in the greater Sebastopol area. I thank you for your adherence to the protocols set forth in the Health Order and to ask that we all continue to help ensure the well-being of our wider community by staying the course.

Wishing you all good health,

Patrick Slayter  
Mayor, City of Sebastopol



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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](mailto: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](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.

**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 to accommodate the Building Department.

**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 - May 10 - May 17](#)

**Public Works Department:**

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

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## 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](#)

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## SEBASTOPOL YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

**JUNE**

Maria Pennacchio - Police Reserve - 20 years

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## FIRE SAFETY

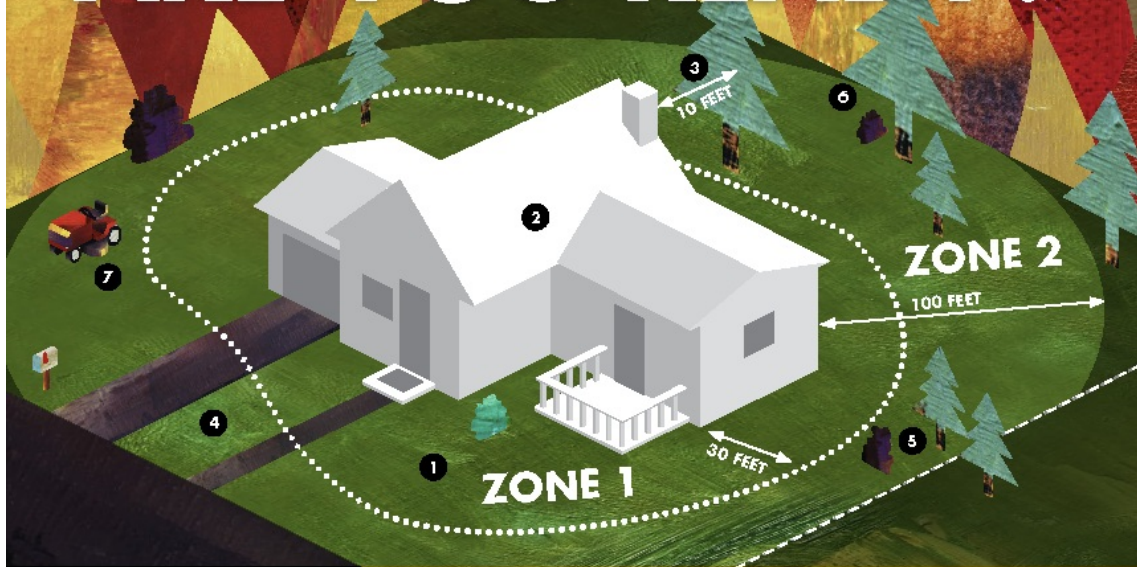


It's a great time to start mowing, weeding, brush removal, pruning, and general yard cleanup. The April rains will bring a new growth of weeds and can/will dry out very quickly this month. Let's all use this time to get a jump on cleaning up our property!

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# 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.\*



**ONE LESS SPARK**  
ONE LESS WILDFIRE

\*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.

## NEXT PHASE OF TREE REPLACEMENT ON MAIN STREET COMPLETED

The next phase of tree replacement on Main Street was completed in May. Trees on the east side of the 100 block of South Main Street were replaced with the new Main Street Crape Myrtle variety.



# THE PLAYGROUND AT WILLARD F. LIBBY PARK IS COMPLETED

The playground at Willard F. Libby Park is now ready with fun new interactive equipment for kids of all ages and abilities to enjoy once the Sonoma County Health Officer allows the reopening of playgrounds.

The new playground was made possible by funding from the two Rotary Clubs of Sebastopol who contributed \$30,000 of the \$144,000 budget. In addition to the financial support, the Rotary Clubs helped out onsite. The bulk of the remaining funding came from a State Proposition 68 Park Grant.

The new inclusive playground was designed with the community and children of Sebastopol in mind. A citizen survey was conducted from August 30 to September 23, 2019 to allow the community, especially the children, to have input in what kind of play structures the playground would include.

The community made their voices heard with over 500 respondents to the survey. The top three vote getters were 'Global Motion,' 'Zipkrooz,' and the 'Oodle Swing' (an ADA accessible swing that is universally accessible and family-friendly). The playground designers incorporated the top voted structures into the overall design scheme.



**Barbara Barney presents check from Sebastopol Rotary Clubs to Public Works Superintendent Dante Del Prete May 20, 2020.**

Photo by Jacqui Harmann



**Rotary volunteers add finishing touches on May 23, 2020  
Photo by Jerry Meshalum**

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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 June 2, 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 [ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Planning Commission Meeting of June 9, 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](mailto:amontes@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of June 3, 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](mailto:amontes@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting: [Public Arts Committee Meeting of June 3, 2020 @ 10:30 AM](#) The Public Arts Committee scheduled for June 3, 2020 has been cancelled. A Special Meeting for the Public Arts Committee has been scheduled for June 10, 2020.**



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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

### MEETING REVIEWS:

At the 5/20/2020 the Tree/Design Review Board Meeting, the Board held a public hearing to consider two tree removal permits at 699 Gravenstein Highway and 8301/8311 Valley View Court. The Board approved both requests.

At the 5/26/2020 the Planning Commission meeting, the Commission held a public hearing to consider an application to eliminate three surplus parking spaces in the Barlow for the creation of a 490 sq. ft. patio for Crooked Goat Brewing at 120 Morris Street. The Commission approved the project as proposed and conditioned by staff.

### MEETING PREVIEWS:

The Design Review Board, is meeting on June 3, 2020 to review an application for a Sign Review and Sign Exception at 6957 Sebastopol Avenue for Jasper's.

The Planning Commission, is meeting on June 9, 2020 to review a use permit application requesting approval to operate a 24/7 fitness facility, and a personal storage use at 742 South Main St.

*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>*

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## CREDIBLE SOURCES FOR COVID-19 UPDATES

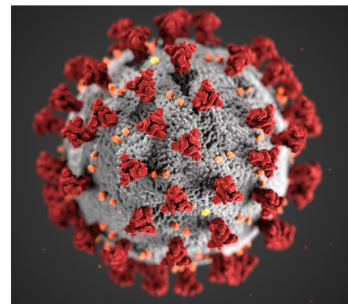
[California Department of Public Health](#)

[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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## WEEKLY COVID-19 VIDEO UPDATES



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

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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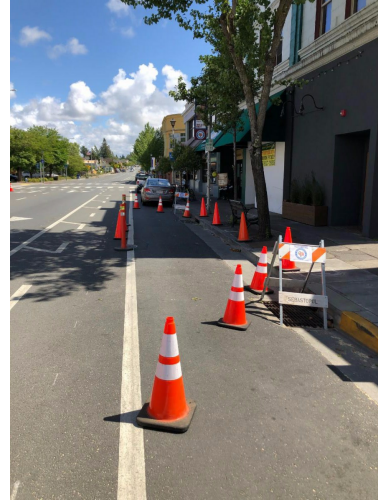
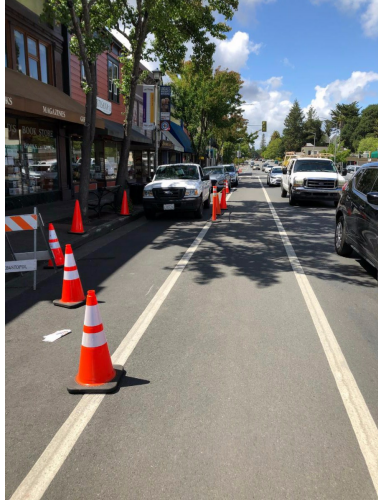
## SEBASTOPOL CURB SIDE DELIVERY LOCATIONS

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

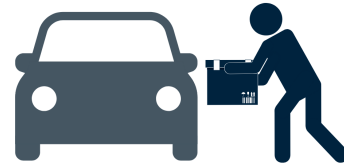
**Locations:**

150 N. Main Street  
124 S. Main Street





The city is in the process of providing additional 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** or email [business@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:business@cityofsebastopol.org) with this information as this information will help guide the City to locations that will be set aside.



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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.

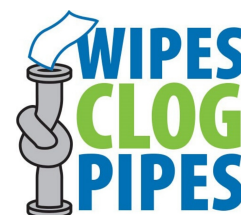
The City of Sebastopol has compiled a [list](#) of open essential businesses. If your business supplies essential services, please email [business@CityOfSebastopol.org](mailto:business@CityOfSebastopol.org) with details such as offerings, days/hours and any special services like online ordering, takeout,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

When visiting local businesses for essential needs, please wear a face covering or mask and maintain social distance.

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## 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.



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## GOING GROCERY SHOPPING?





The CDC offers some helpful tips for shopping for food and other household essentials:

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Go during hours when fewer people will be there
- If you are at higher risk, find out if the store has special hours
- Disinfect the shopping cart
- Use hand sanitizer after leaving the store
- Wash your hands when you get home
- For more tips visit their [website](#)

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

## SEBASTOPOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

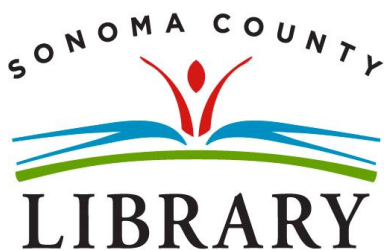
The Sebastopol Center for the Arts has gone virtual with online exhibits, lectures, and classes including a “How to Draw” series that teaches kids to how to draw a different animal each week. Click [here](#) for more information.

### TIPS: VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

Wish you could go to Yellowstone and take in all that natural beauty? Well you don't have to wait! Now you can take virtual tours of Yellowstone National Park and make plans for that future visit. Visit their [website](#) and take a tour of some Yellowstone's iconic spots.



### TIPS: EDUCATION & ENTERTAINMENT RESOURCES



Are you a member of the Sonoma County Library community?

Visit their [online library](#) for thousands of films, TV shows, eBooks, databases, magazines, classes, and more.

Contact Us



7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-823-1153



