



# City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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

**October 21 - October 27 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](#)

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THIS EMAIL.**

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**25% MANDATORY WATER USE REDUCTION IN SEBASTOPOL**



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## RON NELSON NAMED SEBASTOPOL CHIEF OF POLICE



On October 27th, Sebastopol City Manager Larry McLaughlin announced that Ron Nelson, currently serving as Sebastopol's Interim Police Chief, will be appointed as Sebastopol's Chief of Police as of October 30. Nelson will be officially sworn in at 11:00am on November 7th at the Sebastopol Youth Annex. Nelson has been serving as Interim Chief since August of this year following the departure of Chief Kevin Kilgore and had served as Interim Lieutenant since September 2020. Nelson has almost thirty years of experience in law enforcement including twenty-two years with the Santa Rosa Police Department.

Nelson retired from Santa Rosa Police Department in February 2020 and was recruited and hired by Sebastopol Police Department as Interim Lieutenant in September 2020. Since then, he has overseen the Operations Division and worked in partnership with Interim Chief Mort and past Chief Kilgore in being responsive to the Police Department Audit recommendations in ensuring law enforcement services are delivered in alignment with community values.

Read the full press release [HERE](#).

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## HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Have a safe and happy Halloween by following these safety tips:

### Drivers

- Slow down and watch out for more foot traffic in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- Take extra time looking for trick-or-treaters at intersections and entering/exiting driveways.
- Turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.
- Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Be especially alert for kids during those hours.
- Never drive distracted or impaired.



#### **Parents and trick-or-treaters**

- Make sure costumes fit to prevent trips and falls.
- Decorate costumes and bags/buckets with reflective tape.
- Have kids use flashlights or glow sticks to make it easier for drivers to see them.
- Walk on sidewalks, when available. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Avoid darting into the street or crossing between parked cars.
- Put electronic devices down, keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
- Look both ways before crossing the street. Make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Stick to familiar, well-lit routes.

If you are heading to a local bar, restaurant or house party and plan to drink, bring a designated sober driver with you, use a ride-hailing service, or stay the night.

## **OCTOBER 29TH IS NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY**

**National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is October 29, 2022, 10AM to 2PM.**

The drug overdose epidemic in the United States is a clear and present public health, public safety, and national security threat. DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day reflects DEA's commitment to Americans' safety and health, encouraging the public to remove unneeded medications from their homes as a measure of preventing medication misuse and opioid addiction from ever starting.

**Date:** Saturday, October 29, 2022

**Time:** 10am to 2pm

**Location:** Sebastopol Police Department - 6850 Laguna Parkway, Sebastopol

**\*Medications must be in a secure, sealed container. Remove personal information.**

**Accepted:** prescription and over-the-counter medications, including liquids and creams, vape pens and electronic cigarettes with batteries removed

**Not Accepted:** illicit substances, needles/syringes, devices with embedded batteries, non-pharmaceutical hazardous materials

Visit <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday> for more information.



# DEA NATIONAL <sup>Rx</sup> TAKEBACK

Turn in unwanted  
medication, vape pens  
and e-cigarettes for  
safe disposal. \*



\*Vape pens and e-cigarettes must  
have batteries removed.

**Saturday, October 29**  
**10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

**Cloverdale Police Dept**  
112 Broad St

**Sebastopol Police Dept**  
6850 Laguna Park Way

**Cotati Police Dept**  
216 E School St

**Petaluma Police Dept**  
969 Petaluma Blvd N

**Rohnert Park Dept of Public Safety**  
500 City Center Dr

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## NOTICE OF CENTRAL COUNTING PLACE, VOTE CENTERS, AND OFFICIAL BALLOT DROP BOXES FOR NOV. 8TH ELECTION

Sonoma County has released the [2022 Notice of Central Counting Place, Vote Centers, and Official Ballot Drop Boxes](#) for the November 8, 2022, election.

**Sebastopol In-Person Voting Location:**  
Sebastopol Center for the Arts, 282 S High St,  
Sebastopol  
Open daily October 29 - November 7, 9 a.m. -

5 p.m., including weekends.  
November 8 (Election Day) 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

### Sebastopol Official Ballot Drop Box

#### Location:

Sebastopol Veterans Memorial Bldg, 282 S High St, Sebastopol  
Official Ballot Drop Boxes will be available 24 hours a day, beginning October 11 - November 8 and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day.



Visit [sonomacounty.ca.gov/where-to-vote](https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/where-to-vote) for a map of voting locations and more information.

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## CITY OF SEBASTOPOL RECRUITING MAYORS & COUNCIL MEMBERS ASSOCIATION OF SONOMA COUNTY CLERK



The City of Sebastopol has been tasked with searching/recruitment for a Mayors & Council Members Association of Sonoma County Clerk.

The focus of the Sonoma County Mayors and Councilmembers Association (MCA) has been the exchange of ideas among fellow elected officials - both by educational presentations and by providing an opportunity to network with peers. The MCA Board of Directors (Board) also makes appointments to select regional bodies, as well as serving as the City Selection Committee for Sonoma

County, as required under Government Code §50270. The MCA Board and General Membership meetings are held quarterly, per the current by-laws. The MCA also has a Legislative Committee.

- [Sonoma County Mayors and Councilmembers Association Clerk Position](#)
- [Agreement for Professional Services - City of Sebastopol MCA Clerk](#)

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## FAQ: THE FUTURE OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES IN SEBASTOPOL

# FIRE SERVICES DELIVERY STUDY



The Sebastopol City Council's Ad Hoc Fire Committee has been presented with many questions regarding the process being undertaken and the plans being developed for the future of fire and emergency services in Sebastopol. An [FAQ](#) was compiled with all those questions, with complete and factual answers that we hope will help inform our community on this very important issue.

Visit the City's website [HERE](#) for more information.

The Fire Services Delivery Study is a Project of the City Council.

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**SONOMA COUNTY CLIMATE ACTION & RESILIENCY  
DIVISION ANNOUNCES FALL WORKSHOP SERIES**





COUNTY OF SONOMA  
ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY



## FALL WORKSHOP SERIES SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

**Learn more about the benefits of making improvements that will help make your home or business more resilient.**

*The workshops cover a range of topics including evaluating energy use, making a project plan, funding your projects, solar photovoltaics and battery storage, electrification, wildfire safety, indoor air quality and understanding heat pumps for heating and cooling.*

The County of Sonoma, Climate Action and Resiliency Division is pleased to announce the latest homeowner workshops in an on-going series for those interested in learning more about the benefits of making improvements that will help make your home more resilient.

The workshops cover a range of topics including evaluating energy use, making a project plan, funding your projects, solar photovoltaics and battery storage, electrification, wildfire safety, indoor air quality, and understanding heat pumps for heating and cooling.

Visit the County of Sonoma website [HERE](#) for more information, a list of of workshops, and to register.

**Workshops are held on Wednesdays, September 28th through November 2nd from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

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## WATER SAVINGS THAT WILL MAKE YOU ENJOY WASHING THE DISHES

**Join City of Sebastopol's Water Upgrades Save program to save water and money right away!**

Our qualified contractor installs water and energy efficient upgrades like high-efficiency toilets, showerheads, and aerators. You start saving right away!

City of Sebastopol customers are saving an average of 20 percent on annual utility costs when they upgrade! <sup>1</sup>



**Follow the steps below:**

1. Visit [www.waterupgradessave.org](http://www.waterupgradessave.org) to enroll.
2. Schedule a free home assessment to learn about your potential water savings.
3. Choose your upgrades including high-efficiency toilets, showerheads, and aerators.
4. Schedule your installation with a qualified program contractor.
5. Begin saving water and money right away.

**Enroll now at [www.waterupgradessave.org](http://www.waterupgradessave.org)**

<sup>1</sup>Actual savings will vary based on measures installed and customer water use.

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## WATER CONSERVATION TIP OF THE WEEK

Water savings are urgently needed. See the City's [Water Conservation page](#) for actions you can take to reduce water usage and check out these indoor and outdoor water conservation tips from the [Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership](#).

Here's this week's tip to help you reduce your water consumption:

- **Don't use hot water when cold water will do. It's critical that we all do our part to save water.**



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## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Police Department

[Police Officer](#)

**Deadline to Apply: Open 10/18/21 (Open and Continuous)**

See the city [website](#) for additional





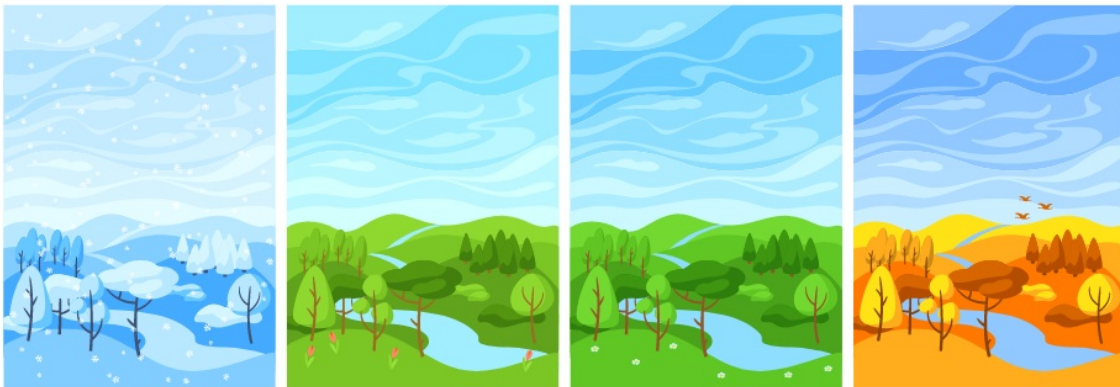
**WE'RE HIRING!**

information and requirements on these current opportunities to participate in the management and growth in our community.

## EMERGENCY SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS



### WHAT PROPERTY OWNERS NEED TO KNOW TO REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK EACH SEASON



Here's what you can do seasonally to reduce your risk of wildfire and promote tree health:

#### Winter

- Check property for dead or bark beetle-infested trees.
- Weather permitting, now is the best time to remove those trees and dense undergrowth.
- Trim up trees for vertical clearance as part of your home's defensible space. If not feasible in winter then plan now to do so when weather permits.
- If you're planting trees this spring, plan ahead now and plant locally native trees.

#### Spring

- Prepare defensible space.
- Remove dead and bark beetle-infested trees.
- Bark beetles are most active now and in summer—be careful not to damage remaining trees as fresh wood attracts beetles.

- If possible, remove freshly cut wood. Otherwise, cover, lop or chip infested wood—and do not place near healthy trees.
- Following an extended period of little to no rain, sparingly water high-value trees. Use best watering practices.
- Now is the time to plant new trees, as long as irrigation is available.

### Summer

- Remove dead and dying trees.
- Follow spring guidelines as beetles are very active in summer as well.
- Be especially careful with power tools—one spark can start a wildfire. If planting trees in fall, plan ahead now and plant locally native trees.

### Fall

- If planting trees, wait until the weather cools and fall rains have increased soil moisture.
- Now is one of the best times to remove dead and dying trees, and dense undergrowth.
- Water high-value trees only if significantly less than average rainfall this season; otherwise, do not water.

Visit <https://www.readyforwildfire.org> for more wildfire preparedness information.

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## COVID-19 INFO & RESOURCES

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# COUNTY OF SONOMA

## COVID-19 TESTING LOCATIONS

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

See the [SoCoEmergency Testing](#) page for testing information.

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## CITY NEWS

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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 November 1, 2022 @ 6:00 PM](#)

#### **Planning Commission Meetings:**

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **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 November 8, 2022 @ 6:00 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 [kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of November 2, 2022 @ 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 [kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Public Arts Committee Meeting of November 2, 2022 @ 10:30AM](#)

#### **Climate Action Committee Meetings:**

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 3:30pm
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email



to [kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org)

- Next Meeting: [Climate Action Committee Meeting of November 9, 2022 @ 3:30 PM](#)



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

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### SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY BRANCHES OPEN ON SUNDAYS STARTING NOV. 6

**OPEN**  
**abierto**  
**SUNDAY domingo**  
**11.6.22 1-5pm**  
**Excluding/Excluyendo: Occidental, Forestville, History & Genealogy**  
Brought to you by the Measure Y sales tax | Traído a usted por los impuestos de la Medida Y

Starting November 6, all regional Sonoma County Library branches will be open on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. To find the library location nearest to where you live, work or shop, visit [sonomalibrary.org/locations](https://sonomalibrary.org/locations). At this time, the Forestville, Occidental, and the History & Genealogy Libraries will not be open on Sundays.

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### SEBASTOPOL COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER'S UPCOMING CONCERT SERIES

# NOVEMBER 12

## 20TH ANNIVERSARY SONOMA COUNTY BLUEGRASS & FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL



FEATURING: Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Waddie Mitchell, California Bluegrass Reunion, Rita Hosking, & Cowboy Scott Gerber!

# DECEMBER 10

## A SOLSTICE CELEBRATION WITH MAMUSE



Check out the Sebastopol Community Cultural Center's (SCCC) upcoming concert series. All concerts are held at the SCCC and ticket prices vary.

- **November 12** - 20th Anniversary Sonoma County Bluegrass & Folk Music Festival
- **December 10** - A Solstice Celebration with Mamuse

Visit the SCCC website [HERE](#) for more info and to buy tickets.

Contact Us



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707-823-1153

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

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