



# City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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

July 14 - July 20 Edition of  
Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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THIS EMAIL.**

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**SEBASTOPOL WALKS: JULY 29 - SOLAR SEBASTOPOL**



***See what you've been missing from the driver's seat . . .***

It's the best time of year to enjoy walking in Sebastopol! Be a tourist in your own small town and walk where you've never walked before. Most Walks are the last Saturday of the month starting at 9am (Meet at the Downtown Plaza).

**July 29** – Saturday, 9am (Meet at the downtown plaza)

**Solar Sebastopol**

**Leader:** Tor Allen - solar energy educator @ Rachus Institute/Solar Schoolhouse

Solar Cells\* magically convert sunlight into electricity with no moving parts - providing clean power to a wide variety of applications. One of the first solar electric panels installed in Sebastopol was in the Town Plaza - a single panel on a pole designed to charge electric scooters. It's still there! In the early 2000s the Solar Sebastopol group emerged to facilitate installations on many city buildings including the Fire & Police Stations. Over the years since, a variety of solar systems have been installed on schools, homes, and public places around town. They each have a story behind it. Tor will lead this walk visiting a diverse mix of 'solar' locations and share stories of how they came to be, related policies, and how they are working today.

The walk will include Analy High School to the North and the Sun Dragon array in the south and sites in between, approximately 2-3 miles.

\*Solar Cells aka Photovoltaics, PV, Solar Panels, Solar Modules.

Check the City's website [HERE](#) for more information and the full schedule.

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## **FIX-IT CLINIC & REUSE FAIR - JULY 29TH**

Zero Waste Sonoma will host a Fix-It Clinic & Reuse Fair on **Saturday, July 29th from 10AM to 2PM** at the Rohnert Park-Cotati Library at 6250 Lynne Condé Way, Rohnert Park, CA 94928.

This is a free community event for participants to receive help with simple repairs on clothing and textiles, lamps, small appliances, and bicycles. Knife sharpening will also be available from Cutting Edge Sharpening Service (5 knife maximum per household). This collaborative event emphasizes the repair and reuse of existing items and materials while easing the burden on our local landfill and saving participants money.

For more information, and to register for fixing, please visit <https://zerowastenorthbay.org/event/fix-it-clinic-reuse-fair/>.

Read the [Press Release](#) for more information.

# FIX-IT CLINIC & REUSE FAIR

**ROHNERT PARK**

ROHNERT PARK/  
COTATI LIBRARY

6250 LYNNE  
CONDÉ WAY

**7/29/23**  
**10A-2P**



[zerowastesonoma.gov](https://zerowastesonoma.gov)

## **NORTH BAY ZERO WASTE WEEK - JULY 23-30**

Zero Waste North Bay presents the 2023 Zero Waste Week July 23-30th, 2023. This exciting week will feature 30 no-cost events throughout Sonoma County and online. Zero Waste Week is a grass-roots approach to raise awareness about the environmental impacts of waste and ways to live a more zero waste lifestyle. Throughout the week, California North Bay communities demonstrate how they are part of the solution through public awareness and activities that focus on reducing, reusing, recycling, repurposing and composting. Anyone can be part of the solution!

Visit <https://zerowastenorthbay.org> for more information.

# ZERO WASTE Week

Learn new skills, build community, and create low waste habits at different events throughout Sonoma County!

## JULY 23-30, 2023

*Events include:*

- Produce Exchanges
- Compost Giveaway
- Cardboard Fort Fest
- Fix-it Clinic & Reuse Fair
- Classes and Workshops

*...and more!*

See the full schedule of events at:

**ZEROWASTENORTHBAY.ORG**

SCAN ME



## OPENING ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION



### City of Sebastopol Planning Commission

The City of Sebastopol invites interested citizens to volunteer and apply for one (1) opening on the Planning Commission (PC). The open position is to fill a vacancy for either a resident or business owner living within City Limits or living in one of the three school districts listed in 2.24.B., in the [Job Notice](#). This is to fill the remainder of a term ending on December 31, 2023 (at which time reapplication would be required).

## **Job Notice**

**DEADLINE:** Monday, July 31, 2023, by 4pm

Applications and further information are available at the City of Sebastopol Planning Department, 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472; email: [planningtemp@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:planningtemp@cityofsebastopol.org) or [jjay@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:jjay@cityofsebastopol.org); by phone 707-823-6167 for an application.

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## **INTERESTED IN JOINING THE MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS (MYN) PROGRAM?**

Our Sebastopol area experience has shown there are not enough first responders in SoCo to take care of everyone in a disaster. The priority of initially focusing on the most severely impacted locations of any disaster means many areas will not see first responder help right away. Our neighbors who have collaboratively prepared through implementing the [Meet Your Neighbors \(MYN\)](#) program represents our strongest opportunity to minimize and overcome those impacts while others in greater danger are being helped.



Sebastopol area residents and neighborhoods have been adopting and implementing MYN for several years now.

The idea of filling in a map of your neighborhood with location of gas and water shut-off and electrical panel breakers is a core element of the MYN program. Another key element of MYN are the Steps outlined to help ground us during the first few minutes or hours of chaos in an emergency.

Although these and the other details of MYN are very important when considering preparedness and response, we have come to understand what really matters to us is connecting with our neighbors about these details. All aspects of what the MYN details can provide during an emergency can be more easily recalled and more adequately implemented with those connections in place. Neighbors helping neighbors can protect and save lives.

Contact SebastopolReady [HERE](#) to learn how to get started.

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## **UPCOMING MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS (MYN) CLASSES**

### **MYN Classes**

Being prepared together

Classes are on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm.

### **Upcoming Classes**

- August 16, 2023
- September 20, 2023

Sign up for an upcoming MYN class [HERE](#).

See the [SebastopolReady Calendar](#) for a complete list of classes.

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## WATER BILL LATE?



Don't worry if your water bill is late. Administrative Services staff is working on the billing transition with the newly installed meters. Water customers may receive their bills 2-3 weeks later than normal for the next 2 to 3 billing cycles. Contact Administrative Services if you have any questions at **(707) 823-7863**.

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## ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) OPT-OUT PROGRAM INFORMATION

At the City of Sebastopol, we support offering our customers a choice in metering infrastructure. The AMI Opt-Out Program is for residential customers who prefer not to have the data collector/transmitter installed with their water meter. The program allows customers to have their meter read manually at the end of every month at no additional cost to the customer.



Most customers look forward to having an automated meter installed at their home and taking advantage of the many benefits that this technology offers, such as fewer visits from field service representatives and immediate access to consumption information. However, if you are a City of Sebastopol residential customer and would prefer not to have an automated meter read at your home, Please call us at: **707-823-5331** or Email: [citypw@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:citypw@cityofsebastopol.org).

Let one of our customer service representatives know that you would like to opt out of our automated meter program. The Opt-Out program allows customers who prefer not to have the data collector / transmitter with their water meter read manually at the end of every month at no additional cost to the customer.

[AMI Opt-out Application](#)  
[AMI Opt-out FAQ](#)

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## EMERGENCY SAFETY & PREPAREDNESS

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## PRACTICE VEHICLE SAFETY TO PREVENT WILDFIRES

Click [HERE](#) for more information on Proper Vehicle Use to Prevent Wildfire.

**ONE LESS SPARK**  
**ONE LESS WILDFIRE**

**CAUSED BY: VEHICLES**

**Safe Towing**  
Dragging chains will throw sparks. Never substitute parts when towing. Only use appropriate safety pins & hitch ball.

**Nothing Dragging**  
Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained, with nothing dragging on the ground.

**Be Wheel Safe**  
Check tire pressure. Driving on an exposed wheel rim throws sparks.

**Only You Can Prevent Wildfires.**

**CARRY A FIRE EXTINGUISHER IN YOUR VEHICLE AND LEARN HOW TO USE IT.**

Scan this QR code with your mobile device to visit [PreventWildfireCA.org](http://PreventWildfireCA.org)

**ONE LESS SPARK**  
**ONE LESS WILDFIRE**

**CAUSED BY: VEHICLES**

**Maintain Vehicle Brakes**  
Never let your brake pads wear too thin. Metal on metal makes sparks.

**Careless Park Causes Spark**  
Vehicles parked too closely to vegetation start fires.

**Report All Fires CALL 9-1-1**  
Report location, what is burning, how fast is it moving, how tall are the flames, what is in danger, stay on the phone.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FIRE PREPAREDNESS, VISIT [www.PreventWildfireCA.org](http://www.PreventWildfireCA.org)

California Wildfire Coordinating Group

Produced in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, which is an equal opportunity service provider and employer. Photos by Forest Service: Mark Thibideau, Ron Hodgson, and Mario Chocooi. R5-PR-031 June 2013

## CITY NEWS

### CITY MEETINGS

All meetings will be held both in-person and virtually and are open to the public to attend.

Meetings will be held at the Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris Street, Sebastopol, CA 95472, and are open for in-person attendance.

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 both in-person and virtually in real time when this feature is available.

#### City Council Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First and Third Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **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 August 1, 2023 @ 6:00 PM](#)

#### Planning Commission Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 6pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **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 July 25, 2023 @ 6:00 PM](#)

#### Design Review Board Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Fourth Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 3:30pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to [jjay@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:jjay@cityofsebastopol.org)



- **Next Meeting:** [Design Review Board Meeting of July 25, 2023 @ 3:30 PM](#)

#### Public Arts Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** First Wednesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 1:30pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to [ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** There are currently no meetings scheduled.

#### Climate Action Committee Meetings:

- **Meeting Days:** Second Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 3pm
- **Meeting Location:** Sebastopol Youth Annex, 425 Morris St., Sebastopol, CA
- **Livestream Link:** <http://bit.ly/sebcctv>
- To submit comments before meeting, send an email to [jjay@cityofsebastopol.org](mailto:jjay@cityofsebastopol.org)
- **Next Meeting:** [Climate Action Committee Meeting of August 8, 2023 @ 3:00 PM](#)



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## COMMUNITY NEWS

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### SONOMA COUNTY LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Join the Sonoma County Library's Summer Reading Challenge to read, learn and win prizes! The program runs through August 5 and all ages are encouraged to read 20 minutes each day and track their reading. Visit [sonomalibrary.org/summer](http://sonomalibrary.org/summer) to learn more!

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## PEACETOWN SUMMER CONCERT SERIES



Head to the Barlow to take in the sweet sounds of summer at the Peacetown Summer Concert series every Wednesday, through August 16th, the Barlow will be filled with music and dancing alongside a variety of local wines and food to enjoy from 5pm-8:30pm.

To view this summer's music lineup, visit [www.peacetown.org/summer-2023](http://www.peacetown.org/summer-2023).

Contact Us



7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

707-823-1153

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

City of Sebastopol | 7120 Bodega Avenue, Sebastopol, CA 95472

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