



## City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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December 22 Edition of  
Sebastopol Community Newsletter

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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

City offices are closed Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th for the Christmas holiday and Monday, January 1st and Tuesday, January 2nd for the New Year's holiday.

## DON'T FORGET TO SHOP LOCAL!



The holiday season is always a critical time for shops and restaurants.

Between the long-established local businesses that you love and notable newcomers, there's no need to venture far afield to enjoy holiday outings or discover the perfect gifts for holiday giving.

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## CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING



Sebastopol residents can dispose of Christmas trees to be recycled in a bin located in the city parking area to the rear of the Sebastopol Youth Annex at 425 Morris Street. Trees must be natural, unflocked and undecorated. Artificial trees are not accepted.

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## COOKING SAFETY TIPS



# Cooking Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

## “COOK WITH CAUTION”

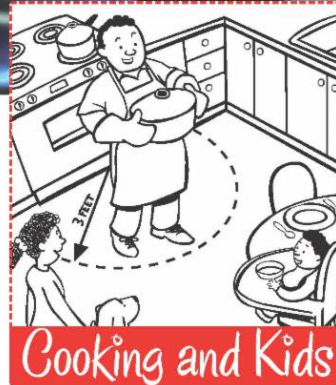
- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

## If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire...

- On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

## If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire...

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.



Have a “kid-free zone” of at least 3 feet (1 metre) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

## FACTS

- ❗ The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- ❗ Most cooking fires in the home involve the kitchen stove.



**NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo

[nfpa.org/education](http://nfpa.org/education) ©NFPA 2018

## WATER BILL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Funding is now available for water bill assistance in Sebastopol through North Coast Energy Services. This local service provider offers residential water and sewer bill assistance to low-income households in Sebastopol through the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP).



Click [HERE](#) to apply for a one-time water/sewer financial assistance.

# CALL FOR ARTISTS: SOUTH ENTRY SCULPTURE



The City of Sebastopol and its Public Arts Committee (PAC) is seeking proposals from professional artists & artist teams living in the State of California for the design, fabrication, and installation of a permanent, original public art suitable for placement at the trailhead of the Joe Rodota Trail on Petaluma Avenue, which also marks the entry to Sebastopol's downtown. The commissioned art will have a budget of \$25,000 from the City's Art in-lieu fund.

**Submission Deadline:** January 29, 2024

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

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## PROTECT BACKYARD FLOCKS FROM AVIAN FLU

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors has declared an emergency following detection of avian influenza at two local poultry farms.



Poultry producers and backyard flock and pet bird owners are urged to increase their biosecurity practices, including wearing clean or dedicated shoes and clothing, washing hands and preventing or limiting visitors to poultry and bird areas in order to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to the virus.

Get more information and read the full press release [HERE](#).

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## CITY NEWS

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# 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.gov](mailto:mgourley@cityofsebastopol.gov)
  - **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.gov](mailto:mgourley@cityofsebastopol.gov)

**Next Regular City Council Meeting:** [City Council Meeting of January 2, 2024 @ 6:00 PM has been CANCELLED.](#)

## 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.gov](mailto:kvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.gov)

**Next Meeting:** [Planning Commission Meeting of December 26, 2023 @ 6:00 PM has been CANCELLED.](#)

## 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.gov](mailto:jjay@cityofsebastopol.gov)
- Next Meeting: [Design Review Board Meeting of December 26, 2023 @ 3:30 PM has been CANCELLED.](#)

**Public Arts Committee Meetings:**

- **Meeting Days:** Second Tuesday of each month
- **Meeting Time:** 1pm
- **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.gov](mailto:ksvanstrom@cityofsebastopol.gov)
- **Next Meeting:** [Public Arts Committee Meeting of January 9, 2024 @ 1:00 PM has been CANCELLED.](#)

**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.gov](mailto:jjay@cityofsebastopol.gov)
- **Next Meeting:** [Climate Action Committee Meeting of January 9, 2024 @ 3:00 PM has been CANCELLED.](#)



Contact Us



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