



# City of Sebastopol Community Newsletter

CityofSebastopol.org

March-April, 2018



The City of Sebastopol community newsletter is one way to stay in touch with what's going on in Sebastopol. Our web site, CityofSebastopol.org is another. It is chock-full of information on City services, public meetings, and community resources. Or, stop by City offices any time we are open!

## EXPERIENCE SEBASTOPOL

Have you checked out the Experience Sebastopol website? It is a great resource for visitors, residents and businesses. And, it has stunning photography! The site was created as a project of Cittaslow Sebastopol, a City-sponsored community non-profit.

Cittaslow Sebastopol conducted a survey to find out what area residents are most proud of about our town, and where they take visiting friends and relatives. The result of this crowd-sourced marketing campaign is the web site's focus on our organic food, creative people, the abundance of healers and our proximity to nature.

From this, Cittaslow developed the visitor website at ExperienceSebastopol.com with graphics entirely donated by local artists and businesses.

One particularly noteworthy feature of the Experience Sebastopol web site is the Community Calendar. Multiple community organizations are contributing event listings to the calendar, and you (and visitors) may see many interesting events posted that you wouldn't otherwise know about.

And, if you have out-of-town visitors coming or are helping to organize a wedding, birthday, or other family event, the web site is a great resource to share with your guests.



Check it out! [EXPERIENCE SEBASTOPOL.COM](http://ExperienceSebastopol.com)

## BECOME A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

The City of Sebastopol Fire Department is looking for men and women, 18 years of age or older, who are interested in providing a valuable and necessary service to their community. We provide the training and the equipment and you provide the desire to do something great with your free time.

If this sounds like you, fill out an application, which is on the Volunteer Fire Department page of the City web site.

### The Sebastopol Volunteer Fire Department will:

- Give top priority to firefighter safety and environmental concerns.
- Encourage the professional and personal development of our members.
- Work as teams to take full advantage of our skills, knowledge and creativity.
- Communicate openly and honestly to our members and community to inspire trust and confidence.

## Be part of the team that protects and serves our community!



## WOOD SMOKE: No Burn Days



Sebastopol is within the jurisdiction of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). For ten years, the District has had regulations on the books controlling wood smoke

Wood-burning is significantly more polluting than a number of other forms of heating.

Smoke is made up of a complex mixture of gases and fine particles produced when wood and other organic matter burn.

The biggest health threat from smoke comes from fine particles (also called particulate matter or PM). These microscopic particles get into your eyes and respiratory system, where

they can cause health problems such as burning eyes, runny nose, and illnesses such as bronchitis. Fine particles also can aggravate chronic heart and lung diseases and are linked to premature deaths in people with these chronic conditions.

The Air District regulations make it illegal to burn wood or fire logs in fireplaces, woodstoves, pellet stoves, outdoor fire pits, or any other wood-burning devices when the Air District issues a Winter Spare the Air Alert. Local media including the publish information on 'no-burn days.'

For community health, please check whether it is a 'Spare the Air' day before you light a fire in your fireplace or wood stove.

For more information or to sign up for an email Spare the Air alert, see the BAAQMD web site at [www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)

## Cut Down on Your Paperwork

You can now pay your water and sewer bill online! Sebastopol offers online bill payment for water and sewer services. The system uses a secure, cloud-based, off-site portal where you can log in, check your bills, make a payment or sign up for Auto Pay with your Credit or Debit card. See more information at:

<http://ci.sebastopol.ca.us/Billpay.aspx>

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