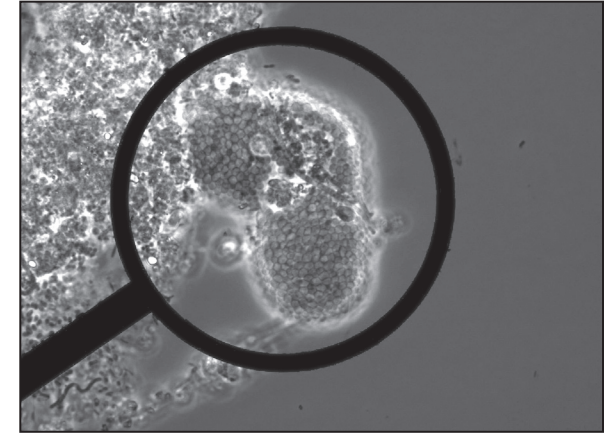


WASTEWATER BUG SPOTLIGHT: NITRIFYING BACTERIA

At the El Estero Water Resource Center, a multi-step biological process of nitrification is used to clean wastewater before safely sending it out to the ocean. This incredibly important role in wastewater treatment is performed by maintaining two types of bacteria: Nitrosomonas and Nitrobacter. Incoming wastewater, rich with ammonia, is fed into basins where Nitrosomonas converts the ammonia into nitrite. This nitrite is then converted into nitrate by the aptly named Nitrobacter. The nitrate is then converted to nitrogen gas by other bacteria known as denitrifiers and released back into the atmosphere. There are many factors at play that lead to our nitrifying friends happily doing their job, but why is nitrification important in the first place?

While nitrate is generally considered harmless to fish in natural waters, ammonia is a toxic compound that, in excess, can adversely affect fish health. A process known as eutrophication can also take place if too much nitrogen quickly enters a body of water. In eutrophication, nitrogen enriches water, causing excessive growth of plants and algae called phytoplankton. When these phytoplankton decompose, it consumes a sizable amount of dissolved oxygen in the water, which fish and other organisms rely on to survive. If the dissolved oxygen concentration in a body of water is too low, it turns into an aptly named



Nitrosomonas found under the microscope at the City's El Estero Water Resource Center, magnified x1000

“dead zone” in which aquatic life is scarce or altogether gone. Nitrification is one of many natural processes that El Estero Water Resource Center utilizes in order to treat, recycle, and ultimately recirculate water throughout our local ecosystems. For more information on wastewater treatment visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/EIEstero

Noticias en Español

SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Noticias

In This Issue

1	Wastewater Bug Spotlight: Nitrifying Bacteria
2	What to Flush
3	Book Your Summer Travel Now!
4	Spring Cleaning? Remember to Schedule your Bulky Item Pickup
5	Recommended City Budget for Fiscal Year 2023
6	Only Rain Down the Drain!



We are also online. Scan QR Code to read all issues.



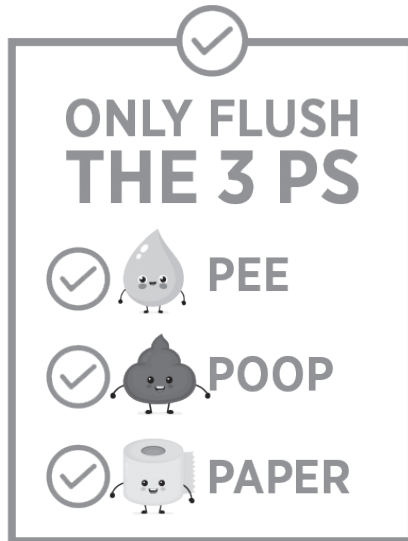
City of Santa Barbara
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA
93102-1990

SantaBarbaraCA.gov

May 2022

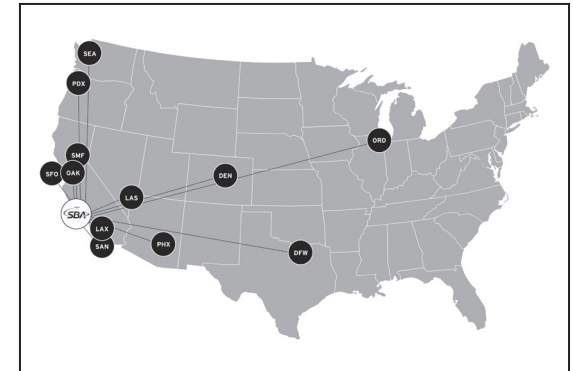
WHAT TO FLUSH

Every day thousands of wet wipes, sanitary products, and other unsuitable items are flushed down toilets instead of being put in the trash. This causes costly blockages in the City's private and public sewer lines, which potentially leads to sewer overflows that could harm our creeks, beaches and ocean. Remember that your toilet is an “only-human-waste-and toilet-paper-zone.” Help us keep wastewater treatment costs down, keep our sewer lines clear, and protect the environment by only flushing the three Ps. Learn more about “What to Flush” at SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WTF



Think before you flush. Only flush the 3 Ps.

BOOK YOUR SUMMER TRAVEL NOW!



FlySBA.com

SPRING CLEANING? REMEMBER TO SCHEDULE YOUR BULKY ITEM PICKUP!

Single-family homes and multi-unit buildings with an active trash and recycling account can schedule two “large item” pickups (also known as bulky item pickups) per year; for multi-unit buildings, only the landlord or property manager may schedule. Each scheduled pickup can include multiple large items and even multiple bags of items. “Large items” may include things like furniture, mattresses, electronics, branches, clothing, or tires. In addition to large item pickups, Santa Barbara residents are entitled to unlimited collection of major appliances, also known as “white goods.” These include items such as stove top ranges, refrigerators, washers and dryers, small air conditioning units, and water heater tanks. Construction and demolition debris is not included in any of these pickups. Demolition debris includes brick, concrete, and dimensional lumber from a remodel, repair, demolition, or new construction.

To schedule “Large Item” or “White Good” Pickups, please call MarBorg at (805) 963-1852. You will be assigned a specific pickup day to place your item(s) curbside. Any items placed curbside on days other than on your scheduled pickup day can be considered illegal dumping and residents may risk incurring fines. For more information or to report illegal dumping on our City streets, please call MarBorg at (805) 963-1852.



Only place extra items curbside on your scheduled large item pickup day; doing so any other day is illegal dumping.

RECOMMENDED CITY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

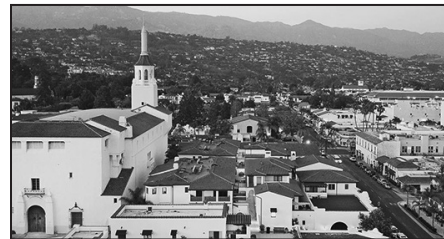
Last month, the City issued its operating and capital budget for Fiscal Years (FY) 2023, as required by the City Charter. The recommended budget includes an introductory budget message from the City Administrator, revenue and expenditure details by fund and department, capital priorities and performance indicators.

The Santa Barbara City Council will review and receive presentations from staff regarding the recommended budget throughout May and June during the following, scheduled meetings:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| – May 2, 2022 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. | – May 9, 2022 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. | – May 25, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. |
| – May 5, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | – May 18, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | – June 8, 2022 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. |
| – May 6, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | – May 20, 2022 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. | |

The City Council is scheduled to take an action on the recommended budget during the regularly scheduled meeting on June 21, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The City’s recommended budget for FY2023 can be found by accessing the new, online budget tool at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Budget



The Adopted Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Two-Year Financial Plan for 2022 and 2023 is comprised of all City funds, including the General Fund, special revenue funds and enterprise funds.

Only Rain Down the Drain!

Storm drains on our streets flow into our creeks and ocean untreated.

Remember these simple tips to prevent pollution and help protect creek and ocean water quality:

- **Keep litter out of our streets, gutters, storm drains, and creeks.**
- Sweep driveways and sidewalks rather than hosing or blowing debris into the street.
- **Always pick up after your pet!**
- Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly and always read directions. Find tips and less toxic products at OurWaterOurWorld.org
- **Practice good car care, and fix leaks right away.**
- Store, use, and dispose of household chemicals properly. Learn more at LessIsMore.org.
- **Keep rain (storm water) on your property by using rain barrels, directing downspouts toward landscaping, or creating a rain garden.**
- Report pollution online at SBCreeks.com or call our Enforcement Hotline at (805) 897-2688.

Learn more about the City of Santa Barbara Creeks Division at SBCreeks.com or find us on your favorite social media platform @SBCreeks.