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January 2023

## CONTROL YOUR CONTROLLER

### Turn Irrigation Down this Winter



*Adjust your timer by taking a day off or entering the % found online*

The Watering % Adjust is a percentage value of how much water plants need that accounts for changes in weather. The Watering % Adjust value can be found at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterWise](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterWise) and it is updated weekly. With this percentage value, you can adjust your sprinkler timer with one simple step. Turn the dial on your controller to the "seasonal adjust," "water budget" or "%" setting and press the up or down arrows to adjust the percentage to match the current Watering % Adjust on our website. This will automatically shorten the run times of your sprinklers or drip so that they are not over-watering your garden. When it begins to warm up and dry out in the spring, the percent value will increase, thus increasing the irrigation run times. We recommend changing your % setting on your controller at least monthly. Always monitor your garden for signs of stress or saturated soil and adjust as needed.

To save water when it rains, simply turn off your timer until your soil has dried out near the roots. For one inch of rain, you can generally leave your timer off for 7-10 days for your thirstiest plants. For more irrigation information visit [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterWise](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterWise) or call (805) 564-5460.

Feel that chill in the air? So do your plants. During fall and winter, our landscapes don't need as much water due to rain, cooler temperatures, shorter days, and plant dormancy. You can simply take a day off your controller schedule, or plug in the Watering % Adjust value found on our website.

## GET SANDBAGS DURING THE NEXT RAIN EVENT



*Be prepared for rain events, and get free sandbags when they become available.*

Be prepared for rain and don't wait until it's too late! When a "Flash Flood Watch" is issued by the National Weather Service and confirmed by the City of Santa Barbara, residents are allowed to receive 20 free sandbags at the Sandbag Station located at 401 East Yanonali Street, which is operated by the City of Santa Barbara's Streets Operations Division.

## Sandbag Reuse & Disposal Options:

### Reuse (recommended):

Durable sandbags can be saved and reused on your property during the next rain event.

### Disposal:

Full sandbags can be dropped off locally at either the MarBorg Construction & Demolition Facility as well as the County Transfer Station for a fee. You can also empty and use the sand on your property and then dispose of the emptied plastic sandbag in the trash bin. \*Sand, dirt, & rocks cannot go in the trash bin and will result in the bin not getting picked up. Drop-off locations can be found here: [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Trash](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Trash)

Receive details about the City's Sandbag Station, including how to fill sandbags at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Sandbags](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Sandbags)

## ANNUAL ROSE PRUNING EVENT RETURNS JANUARY 14



*Volunteers are vital to helping maintain the rose bushes year to year.*

The City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Department will host their annual Rose Pruning Day on Saturday, January 14, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A January tradition for almost 40 years, volunteers are invited to spend the morning at the A.C. Postel Memorial Rose Garden, within Mission Historical Park, to prune the approximately 1-acre

garden in preparation for spring growth. The annual event was canceled in both 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic and returned in 2022 with a record-breaking turnout of over 100 volunteers. The Department is seeking up to 150 volunteers for the 2023 event.

“Volunteers are vital to maintaining over 1,500 rose bushes,” said Ramiro Arroyo, Parks Supervisor. “Being able to do all this work in one day means we’re ready to mulch and feed the roses as soon as new growth starts in February. This promotes better growth, and we end up with an even better-looking garden than the year before.”

No special experience is required to volunteer, as pruning demonstrations will be provided by Santa Barbara Rose Society member and resident rosarian Dan Bifano. Volunteers are asked to bring their own gloves and tools, including hand pruners, loppers, and small handsaws. Parks and Recreation staff will be onsite to help sharpen and sanitize tools as needed. Sturdy clothes, including long sleeves and pants, and sun protection are recommended.

In case of rain, the event will be moved to the following Saturday, January 21.

Questions regarding the event or additional volunteer opportunities may be directed to the Parks Division at (805) 564-5433.

## SIGN UP FOR THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS NEWSLETTER – BUSINESS NEWS IN BRIEF



*Get business-related news and resources quarterly by signing up for Business News in Brief.*

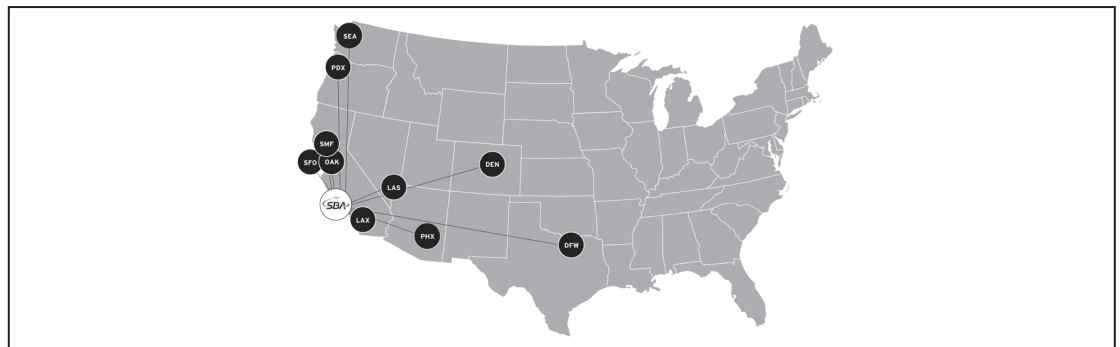
The City of Santa Barbara will be issuing a quarterly business newsletter, Business News in Brief, beginning in January 2023. To sign up for the digital newsletter that will be distributed via email, interested members of the public are encouraged to register at: [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Subscribe](https://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Subscribe) and click on Business News in Brief.

The newsletter is an effort to ensure businesses, commercial property owners and nonprofits are informed about the available technical and financial assistance resources available to support their operations and investment and changes in business processes and policy matters.

“The business community needs support and information more than ever as they navigate, retool and pivot from the effects of the pandemic and ongoing changes to the economy. The City wants to help keep business owners aware of available programs and services that can assist their operations as well as inform them about opportunities to become engaged and provide input into local issues,” said Economic Development Manager Jason Harris.

The Business News in Brief newsletter is an additional resource for the business community and another customer service improvement being implemented by the City. The Finance department recently streamlined the business license process to allow for online payment, renewal and application. The City is continuing to streamline the land development process to support business investment and economic prosperity in the community.

## NEW YEAR, NEW TRAVEL PLANS!



**Santa Barbara can get you to your 2023 bucket list destinations every day easily and quickly. Visit *FlySBA* to learn more!**