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COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM CELEBRATES 15 ADVANCED ACADEMY GRADUATES



Graduates join City staff on the steps of City Hall after City Council recognized their accomplishment in graduating the Advanced Spanish language CERT program.

Language CERT Advanced Academy. Immigrant Hope SB provides English and Civics classes as well as legal assistance to immigrants. The City Fire Department's Bilingual Public Outreach Coordinator taught and translated the curriculum specifically for this Academy.

The advanced academy curriculum covered a range of topics, including leadership skills, psychological first aid, overcoming language and cultural barriers, assisting people with special needs, animal response, and evacuation center operations. Participants also had to complete the 24-hour CERT basic curriculum and online FEMA courses.

These 15 community members, who had previously completed the 24-hour basic CERT class in 2022, dedicated their Thursday evenings to further enhancing their skills as CERT members. They formed a trained team ready to assist our community in disaster response.

The City Council recently honored 15 community members who successfully completed the advanced Spanish Language Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Academy. The CERT program aims to educate people about disaster preparedness and equip them with essential skills for responding to emergencies.

The Santa Barbara City Fire Department runs a comprehensive CERT program that offers courses in both English and Spanish. Each year, they conduct two courses per language, with an average of 20 people graduating from each course.

Over the past 10 weeks, the Fire Department collaborated with Immigrant Hope Santa Barbara to organize the Spanish

IMPORTANT UPDATE REGARDING DELINQUENT UTILITY ACCOUNTS

Effective July 1, 2023:

The City of Santa Barbara will reinstate applying late fees each month on delinquent utility bill accounts (water/wastewater and trash) that are not paid on time.

Effective September 1, 2023:

The City of Santa Barbara will begin disconnections of utilities (water/wastewater and trash) on accounts that are 60 days past due and do not have a payment plan.

Your Options to Avoid Paying Late Fees or Service Disconnection:

- Pay your utility bill balance in full by June 30
- Set up a payment plan with Utility Billing
- Apply for the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP), which helps low-income customers pay past due and current water/sewer bills.

To set up a payment plan, contact the Utility Billing Office at UtilityBilling@SantaBarbaraCA.gov, or call (805) 564-5345.

To apply for the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP), dial 2-1-1

or call (800) 400-1572 or download the "Water Assistance Application" at CommunitySB.org/enrollment-application. Sign up for Autopay at SantaBarbaraCA.gov/utility-billing.

FREE TEEN PROGRAM 'SUMMER NIGHTS' RETURNS

The City Parks and Recreation Department has announced the return of Summer Nights, a 6-week series of community events designed to bring local partners together to provide free activities for Santa Barbara's teens. Youth ages 12-17 can enjoy music, food, arts, sports and games each week.



Summer Nights provides teens free fun food and entertainment each week.

The series will be held every Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the following locations:

- June 23-July 7 at the Westside Boys and Girls Club, 602 W. Anapamu St.
- July 14-July 28 at Downtown Boys and Girls Club, 632 E. Canon Perdido St.

Local groups and businesses interested in hosting an activity at one or more Summer Nights events are encouraged to contact the City's Parks and Recreation Department while planning is underway.

For more information or to get involved visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SummerNights.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK SERIES RETURNS IN JULY

The City Parks and Recreation Department has announced the return of Concerts in the Park. These free, family-friendly events bring musical acts to the Great Meadow in Chase Palm Park every Thursday in July from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A cherished summer tradition, large crowds have been enjoying a range of musical entertainment at Chase Palm Park since its inception in 2000.



Family-friendly concerts are a summer tradition at Chase Palm Park.

The community is invited to bring blankets, chairs, and picnics to enjoy an evening of free music along Cabrillo Boulevard.

For a full concert lineup and more information, check out:

SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Concerts

SPRUCE UP YOUR SPRINKLERS

With the summer months approaching, you may be turning your irrigation system on after the wet spring we experienced. While doing so, it is important to inspect the valves, sprinkler heads, water lines, and to properly schedule your timer. Following these simple steps now will go a long way towards saving you water and money.



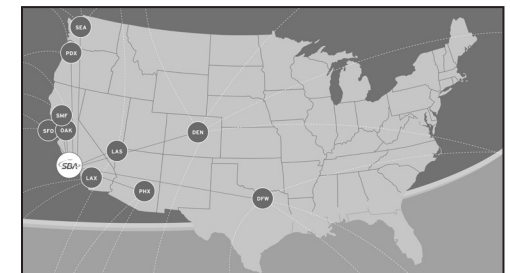
Use the Irrigation Startup Checklist to prepare your irrigation system for summer.

- **Ease into Water Flow:** When restoring water to your system, be sure to do so slowly. Opening the main water valve quickly can cause a high-pressure surge that could result in damaged valves and burst fittings. Instead, open the main water valve to the irrigation in a slow and controlled fashion to gradually ease water flow and prevent a costly repair.
- **Inspect Above Ground Components:** It is important to run a thorough visual inspection of the entire ground-level portion of your system to ensure sprinkler heads and drip emitters are not obstructed in any way. Spray heads that are damaged, buried, and blocked with plants, dirt, rocks or any other type of debris could result in an uneven flow of water. Also, be sure to check that valves are not leaking and are turned off completely.
- **Review and Schedule Your Irrigation Timer:** Use the Landscape Watering Calculator found on our website to create a custom watering schedule for your landscape. Then adjust it to the local weather conditions in one easy step with our Weekly Watering % Adjust value found on our website.
- **Replace and Upgrade Old Parts:** There may be components of your irrigation system that need replacement or upgrades to increase efficiency.

The City has a variety of resources to assist you at SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Irrigation. For free one-on-one assistance, City water customers can schedule a Phone Consultation by calling the Water Conservation Program at (805) 564-5460.

SBA SUMMER TRAVEL TIPS

Is your summer travel taking you through the Santa Barbara Airport? Remember: arrive early and be prepared! The busy summer months can bring an influx of travelers. Arrive at least two hours before your flight to park in one of SBA's three parking lots and ensure your travels are smooth sailing. Learn more helpful tips at FlySBA.com/SummerTravel.



Use the following tips and tricks to ensure you travel through SBA with ease.