

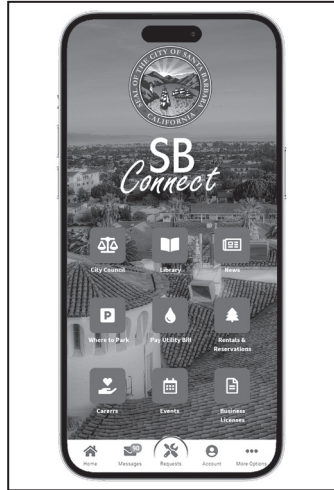
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ENGAGE WITH THE CITY VIA THE "SB CONNECT" APP



Engage with City staff quickly and easily with the SB Connect mobile app.

SB Connect helps you connect with the City to build a stronger community. The bilingual mobile app is an easy way to report things that need repair or attention around town like potholes, sidewalk cracks, graffiti and code enforcement issues. Just point your phone, snap a picture or short video, write a description in English or Spanish, and submit. You can submit service requests anonymously or create a free account to track progress and see how and why other members are engaging with the city.

SB Connect is a free, simple, and intuitive online and smartphone application that enables the residents of the City of Santa Barbara to identify quality of life and environmental issues and report them to the appropriate department for quick resolution. The application uses your smart phone's global positioning system to automatically provide the issue's location, simplifying the reporting process for

both you and City staff. Once you have submitted an issue, you track resolution efforts within SB Connect or via the web. The SB Connect app is free to download and use.

- Snap a picture or short video of the needed repair or issue.
- Type a brief description of your claim.
- Submit and your request will be streamlined to the appropriate party.

You can visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SBConnect to download the app.

2023 WATERWISE GARDEN CONTEST WINNER

The WaterWise Garden Recognition Contest celebrates and recognizes beautiful, water efficient residential gardens throughout Santa Barbara County. The 2023 winner for the City of Santa Barbara and the Countywide grand prize is Sharyn Alexander.

Inspired by her "crazy plant lady mom" Dottie Milici, Sharyn and her husband, Clifton Weir, began their landscape transformation seven years ago. The three took on the challenge of design and maintenance head-on as a family. Together, they overcame obstacles ranging from sandy soil and creative gophers to learning about irrigation systems and planting zones. Finding that they were enjoying themselves immensely, the metamorphosis of a once "one-dimensional" garden into an eye-catching explosion of colors and textures became a therapeutic familial pass time.

Verdant and practical, the garden uses drip irrigation, hand watering, and infrequent supplemental watering to keep the landscape water-wise and the water bill low. Beyond a lovely collection of native plants that has inspired neighbors to start their own water-wise journey, the garden means much more to the family. The therapeutic process created a space for Sharyn to focus on herself and her happiness in a challenging chapter of life. Sharyn's newfound passion for plants and design helped her find a new purpose and a new, thrilling career as a landscape designer and start her business: Alexander Landscape & Design. That passion certainly shows through in this beautiful water-wise garden that gives joy to the owners each time they come home.



Sharyn Alexander and Clifton Weir in their award-winning water wise garden.

In Santa Barbara, an average of 50 percent of the water used at homes goes toward landscape irrigation. Water wise gardens not only save money on water bills, but are also colorful and lush, attract wildlife, and are easily maintained. For garden inspiration and to see the 2023 garden contest entries from all over Santa Barbara County, visit WaterWiseSB.org/GardenContest.



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



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September 2023

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 began disconnections of utilities (water/wastewater and trash) on accounts that are 60 days past due and do not have a payment plan.

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 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, dial 2-1-1 or call (800) 400-1572 or download the "Water Assistance Application" at CommunitifySB.org/enrollment-application.

Sign up for Autopay at SantaBarbaraCA.gov/utility-billing.

CELEBRATE SANTA BARBARA'S 24TH ANNUAL CREEK WEEK

Celebrate our local watersheds, creeks, and ocean with a week full of fun and educational events in Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Carpinteria. The 24th Annual Creek Week runs from September 23 through September 30. Join in California Cleanup Day and help clean your favorite beach, join in a creek walk, attend a restoration project tour, and much more.



There is a full schedule of activities in store for this year's Creek Week.

Visit SBCreekWeek.com or Facebook.com/SBCreekWeek for full event details.

VENUE RENTAL DISCOUNTS OFFERED TO RESIDENTS AND NONPROFITS

Now is the time to book a venue for your holiday parties and year-end meetings, and the Parks and Recreation Department has plenty of options, including beachfront properties, historic landmarks, community centers, and group picnic sites. Discounts are available to all City residents and nonprofits, and rental fees help fund community programs offered by the Department



Santa Barbara is not only the perfect vacation destination but also the perfect location to host a wedding, corporate event, festival, concert, or party.

WHAT TO FLUSH

ONLY FLUSH THE 3 PS

- ✓ PEE
- ✓ POOP
- ✓ PAPER

✗ Medication (RX)

✗ Oil

✗ Antacids

✗ Glass

✗ Diapers

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