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WATERSMART – GET WATER LEAK ALERTS AND PROTECT YOUR HOME

Surprises can be fun, but not when it comes to water leaks and property damage. WaterSmart is the City's new customer portal that gives you 24/7 access to online tools to manage water use and pay bills.

In March, the City launched WaterSmart to support our community's commitment to water efficiency. This innovative program notifies customers of potential water leaks and alerts can be received as early as 24 hours after a leak begins. Register for WaterSmart to ensure you are notified as quickly as possible.



Register your account to receive email or text leak alerts whether you're at home or away.

WaterSmart also allows you to:

- Track hourly, daily, and monthly water use
- Diagnose a high bill
- Get automated leak alerts
- Set custom alerts for unusual water use

Signing up is easy and fast—you just need your City utility account number and zip code: SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterSmart. Join the growing community of Santa Barbara homes and businesses that are benefitting from WaterSmart. We look forward to helping more customers avoid property damage and high bills due to leaks.

CELEBRATE CREEK WEEK SEPTEMBER 21-28!



Join in Santa Barbara's 25th Annual Creek Week September 21 - 28! Creek Week raises awareness and promotes stewardship of our precious creeks, watersheds, and ocean by offering a variety of fun and educational events and activities for all ages throughout Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, and Goleta. Visit SBCreekWeek.com and follow the event at Facebook.com/SBCreekWeek to stay up to date. Let's celebrate and protect the beautiful creeks, watersheds, and ocean that make our community special!

COMMUNITY NEEDS SURVEY

Available through September 16, 2024

The City of Santa Barbara seeks your input as we work to identify community development priorities, fair and affordable housing needs, and factors that shape equal access to housing for incorporation into the City's 2025-2029 5-Year Consolidated Plan and 2025 Annual Action Plan.



Please take a few minutes to complete this community needs survey which can be accessed by scanning the QR code.

ENCUESTA DE NECESIDADES DE LA COMUNIDAD

Disponible hasta el 16 de septiembre de 2024

La Ciudad de Santa Bárbara busca su opinión mientras trabajamos para identificar las prioridades de desarrollo comunitario, las necesidades de vivienda justa y asequible y los factores que dan forma a la igualdad de acceso a la vivienda para incorporarla en el Plan Consolidado de 5 Años 2025-2029 y el Plan de Acción Anual 2025 de la Ciudad.



Tómese unos minutos para completar esta encuesta de necesidades de la comunidad, a la que se puede acceder escaneando el código QR.



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



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BACKFLOW PREVENTION ASSEMBLIES PROTECT YOUR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS

August 16 was National Backflow Prevention Day, a day to celebrate the unsung heroes of backflow prevention assemblies (BPA) and Cross Connection Control Programs that protect water quality in public and private drinking water systems. Backflow is the undesirable reversal of flow of water in a water system. Common residential backflow hazards include irrigation systems, pools, decorative fountains, water softeners, hot water recirculation pumps, and fire lines. Unintentional backflow conditions can be created through cross-connecting drinking water with contaminated water, like submerging a hose into a pool, or connecting a booster or chemical injection pump to the drinking water system. A properly functioning BPA prevents clean drinking water from being mixed with contaminated water.



A properly functioning backflow prevention assembly on private property prevents clean drinking water from being mixed with contaminated water.

One of the first reported backflow incidents occurred on August 16, 1933 at the Chicago World's Fair. Due to poor plumbing codes and enforcement, two of the main hotels housing the fair guests had cross-connections that severely contaminated the water supply with amoebic dysentery. There were nearly 100 deaths and 700 documented cases that spread over 206 cities in the US as visitors traveled home and more than 1,000 additional cases in Chicago related to the two hotels. As a result of this incident, drinking water standards have been improved to protect water quality and public health.

Today, our water quality is protected through federal, state, and local drinking water regulation, plumbing codes, and best practices. Passed in 1974, the US Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Act is the principal federal law regulating safe drinking water for the public. Cross-Connection Control Programs (CCCP) are part of those requirements.

The City's CCCP monitors development projects and changes of use in properties for potential hazards to the drinking water system and requires the installation of BPAs. CCCP staff requires regular testing of BPAs and monitors to see if they are installed and functioning correctly. Staff also oversee the certification of backflow assembly testers to make sure they are qualified to test private plumbing.

To learn more about the City's Cross Connection Control Program, or if a BPA is required for your property, visit SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Backflow or call (805) 564-5575.

DROP, COVER, HOLD ON

Remember to protect yourself when an earthquake hits! DROP to the floor. COVER your head and neck. HOLD ON until the shaking stops. If you are outside, move away from anything that could fall and hurt you. Get life-saving seconds to stay safe before shaking starts by downloading and setting up alerts from California's Earthquake Early Warning system.



<https://www.readysbc.org/2728/Earthquake>

AGÁCHATE, CÚBRETE, AGÁRRATE



¡Protégete cuando ocurra un terremoto! AGÁCHATE al suelo. CÚBRETE la cabeza y el cuello. AGÁRRATE hasta que deje de temblar. Si estás afuera, aléjate de cualquier cosa que pueda caerse y lastimarte. Gana segundos vitales para mantenerte a salvo antes de que comience el temblor descargando y configurando las alertas del sistema de Alerta Temprana de Terremotos de California.

<https://www.readysbc.org/2933/Terremotos>