



City of Santa Barbara



Get Ready Santa Barbara! Send a Message in 2010, Be Prepared

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- Back to School
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- 1978 Santa Barbara Earthquake

Home Fire Safety

Every year, more than 4,000 Americans die in house fires and 25,000 are injured. Over \$8.6 billion is lost in property damage due to fires. Check to make sure your house is fire safe.

Smoke Alarms

- Have a smoke detector/alarm in each bedroom, in the hallway outside of bedrooms, and on each floor of your home
- Test detectors monthly by pushing the test button
- Change batteries when your alarm “chirps” or every 6 months

Kitchen Safety

- 40% of reported home fires and 36% of home fire injuries are caused by cooking equipment fires
- Do not leave burners and cooking equipment unattended



- Keep towels, potholders, papers, and matches away from heat sources
- Use baking soda, not water, to put out a small grease fire

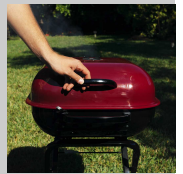
Escape Routes

- Know two ways out of each room
- Have a safe family meeting place and practice this escape with your entire family

Fire Extinguishers

- Safely evacuate occupants and call 911 first! Small fires become big fires.
- Make sure extinguishers have not expired. The needle on the gauge should be in the green area.

Have a Fire Safe BBQ Season



- Check that your barbeque is in working order
- Barbeque should be away from all sheds, fences, and overhanging branches
- Keep grill away from roof eaves, deck railings, or siding
- Do not overfill propane tank
- Wear loose clothing
- “Stop, Drop & Roll” if clothing catches on fire
- Light barbeque with long match or mechanical lighter
- Allow the barbeque to cool before moving
- Dispose hot coals properly, douse them in water and make sure fire is out

Local Wildfire History in July

Sycamore Canyon Fire

• July 26, 1977 •

- Burned 805 acres, but 42.9% was in urban areas
- Destroyed more than 234 homes in Santa Barbara and Montecito
- Caused by kite on a power line

Zaca Fire

• July 4, 2007 •

- Burned 240,208 acres northeast of Buellton
- Caused 43 injuries; One outbuilding destroyed
- 988 fire personnel participated
- Lasted approximately 3 months

Gap Fire

• July 1, 2008 •

- Burned 9,443 acres
- Destroyed four outbuildings but no homes
- Threatened 2,800 homes in the Goleta area

2010 Upcoming Topics

April

Is Your Place Safe?

May

Lend a Hand—Volunteerism

June

Have an Evacuation Plan

July

Fire Safety

August

Back to School

September

Test Your Plan

Disaster Focus: Drought

From 2007-2009, the City of Santa Barbara had three consecutive years of below average precipitation, 18.11 inches for the rain year. In February 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency due to the statewide drought. Droughts not only increase the risk of wildfires and threaten local wildlife populations, they strain local economies. The 2009 drought in the Central Valley created a revenue loss of between \$325 to \$477 million for local farms. While California has a history of droughts, the State's population has grown by an estimated 9% since 2000, increasing the demand for residential and agricultural water needs.

This year's wet and snowy winter and spring have significantly improved the drought outlook for this year. Santa Barbara's precipitation total is currently at 20.42 inches and the County-wide normal-to-date rainfall percentage is at 116%. While this precipitation has been beneficial, water reserve levels continue to be low. Santa Barbara residents have made great strides in water conservation, decreasing use of potable water by 15% compared to the 1980s. This work must be all California



What Can You Do?

California aims to reduce its water use by 20% by 2020. Here are tips on how you can help our State reach its goal.

Conserve Water

- Shorten shower by one or two minutes
- Only wash full loads of laundry
- Fix leaky faucets and toilets
- Water your lawn only if it needs it
- Clean your driveway and sidewalks with a broom, not a hose

Plant a Drought Resistant Garden

- California Poppy
- Chalk Dudleya
- Black Sage
- Island Morning Glory
- California Redbud



Great Resources

- [City's Water Conservation Website](#)
- California Friendly Garden Guide at <http://www.bewaterwise.com/gardensoft/index.aspx>
- Water Saver Home Website <http://www.h2ouse.org/>
- Visit Santa Barbara Botanic Garden!

Local Disaster History in July

1990 Drought

- Severe drought developed in 1987-1992
- Emergency drought was declared in 1990 and ended in 1992
- Due to the critical water situation, the City of Santa Barbara, Goleta Water District and Montecito Water District implemented water use restrictions and public education programs to decrease water usage
- Because of city ordinances, in 1990 and 1991, water demand in Santa Barbara and Goleta was 40% below average
- 23 of California's 58 counties declared local state of emergencies
- The Santa Barbara County Water Agency established the Regional Water Efficiency Program to promote efficient use of water

Source: [Santa Barbara County Regional Water Shortage/Drought Management Plan](#)

Disaster Update

Deepwater BP Oil Spill

- 37,000 personnel are currently responding to protect the coastline and wildlife
- As of 6/23/10, 69,872 financial loss claims have been opened with over \$118 million disbursed to Gulf coast residents and businesses
- Rescue and recovery teams responded to a total of 60 wildlife calls reporting oiled or injured wildlife along the Gulf Coast

City of Santa Barbara Office of Emergency Services



We're on the web!

<http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/OES>

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Traveling this Summer? Check the National Drought Outlook

