

SUPERVISOR RICH DESMOND
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KEEP SAFE THIS 4TH OF JULY

With Independence Day just around the corner, COVID restrictions rolled back, and anticipated summer gatherings, please keep in mind the risks of fireworks. **Only use legal “safe and sane” fireworks and stay safe. If you see or suspect illegal firework usage, please report it!**

The County has teamed up with our cities and fire and law enforcement agencies to educate our community members on how to celebrate safely, how to spot a safe and sane firework, and how to report illegal fireworks. In addition, many jurisdictions are enforcing civil penalties this year for illegal fireworks usage.

Know the Risks

- The unsafe use of fireworks can cause severe burns, amputations, blinding and even death.
- Damaging fires occur when children use fireworks unsupervised by adults.
- Parents are responsible for any property damage or injuries caused by all fireworks.

Keep it Legal

- All legal fireworks in California are called Safe and Sane Fireworks and must bear the State Fire Marshal's seal.
- Safe and Sane Fireworks may only be used and sold from noon June 28 through midnight on July 4.
- Any firework that goes up in the air or explodes is illegal and dangerous.

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Keep It Safe

- Always have a bucket of water to dispose of fireworks and leave in the water overnight before disposing.
- Always have a hose connected to water available in case of fire.
- Do not use fireworks near dry grass or other flammable materials.
- Do not use fireworks while under a canopy, covered balcony, covered patio or under a tree or bushes.

How to report illegal sale and usage

- **Unincorporated:** 916-874-5115 or reportfireworks@saccounty.net
- **Sacramento:** 916-808-3473(FIRE) or “Nail ‘Em” App
- **Folsom:** 916-355-7231
- **Elk Grove:** fireworks@elkgrovepd.org or “Nail ‘Em” App
- **Rancho Cordova:** 916-362-5115
- **Citrus Heights:** 916-727-5500
- **Galt:** 209-366-7000

Aren't sure how to report? Call 3-1-1 to be connected to the right place.



KIDS DON'T FLOAT—BUT LIFE VESTS DO!

Summer is here and the heat is on! Cooling off in Sacramento means heading out to the river and having fun. We know it's easy to forget how dangerous the river can be, especially for children. Kids Don't Float but life vests do. Wearing a life vest is the simplest way to stay safe while enjoying the water for many hot days to come.

Sacramento County ordinances require any child under the age of 13 to wear a life vest before accessing any public waters, and violation of the ordinance by a parent or guardian is punishable with a fine of \$500 and/or six months in jail. It is your responsibility to make sure your child is wearing a life vest.

Sacramento has several life vest borrowing stations along public waterways. Below is a list of places where you can borrow and return them.

- Discovery Park (2 sites) (kids and adults)
- Ancil Hoffman Park (kids only)
- Howe Avenue river access (kids only)
- Paradise Beach (kids only)

- Watt Avenue river access (kids only)
- River Bend Park (kids only)
- Sunrise river access (kids only)
- Life vest borrowing station in the City of Sacramento Sand Cove (kids only)

Life vests are also available at [Sacramento area](#) fire stations. Each Fire station offers 8 to 12 life vests in kid sizes.

For more information, please visit the [Regional Park's website](#).



TEMPORARY ALCOHOL BAN ON THE AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY

During the 4th of July, alcohol is temporarily banned along the shoreline of the American River between **Hazel and Watt Avenue** to help keep river users safe. Alcohol and water sports don't mix: The use of alcohol can impair your judgment and increase the likelihood of poor and unsafe decisions. [Read more about staying safe on the water.](#)

Remember, alcohol is also **permanently** banned at the following American River Parkway locations:

- The bluffs located near Old Fair Oaks Bridge
- The El Manto river access point
- Sarah Court river access

- Paradise Beach recreation area
- Certain locations within Discovery Park

We want to make sure everyone enjoys the holiday and does so in a safe environment. If you have any questions about alcohol use on the Parkway, contact the Ranger Dispatch Office at 916-875-7275.



REDUCING FIRE RISK IN COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS

The Sacramento County Department of Regional Parks has started its 2021 Fire Fuel Reduction Action Plan to help protect wildlife habitat, natural resources, and neighborhoods next to the parks. The department has integrated sheep and goats for grazing and is issuing fuel break maintenance permits to properties that border park lands.

In order to decrease the number and size of potential wildfires, the Department of Regional Parks has implemented the following techniques:

- **Firebreaks:** A combination of mowing, soil disking targeted herbicides will be used where appropriate to create perimeters around open fields, along fence lines and behind neighborhoods.
- **Ladder Fuel Hand-Crew:** In limited, hard to reach areas, hand-crews will remove vegetation that allows

the potential for a fire to climb up or move into urban areas.

- **Grazing:** A method of animal husbandry where livestock consume wild outdoor vegetation. There are hundreds of acres of undeveloped or protected land in our Regional Parks which can be a costly and deadly fire hazard. Goats and sheep are ideal for vegetation management and are great at eating down weeds, bushes and grass that manned crews cannot get to.
- **Annual Encroachment Permits:** Residents who live adjacent to Regional Parks properties are able to apply for free annual encroachment permits to maintain a fire break behind their property line. These allow residents to string-trim grass and weeds for up to 50 feet beyond their private property line. To request a permit, provide your name, address and contact information to Regional Parks at parksinfo@SacCounty.net.

Visit the [Regional Parks website](#) to learn more the [2021 Fire Fuel Reduction Action Plan](#) for Sacramento County Parks. If you see a fire burning in our Regional Parks, please call 9-1-1.



HIGH-SPEED CHARGERS AT LIGHT RAIL STATION

The Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT), the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD) and GiddyUp EV have teamed up to provide one of the largest high-speed electric vehicle charging hubs in the state at the Power Inn light rail station.

This project features a network integrated charging solutions for Sacramento's emerging electric vehicle market, including the fastest level 3 direct current (DC) chargers in the industry from Siemens with the ability to recharge light and medium vehicles simultaneously in minutes compared to hours with a standard plug-in charger. The new charging station mobility hub will use 20 to 30 underutilized parking spots at the Power Inn light rail station.

Projects such as this demonstrate how fast we can move to electrify transportation when everyone works together. The new charging hub is expected to go live in October 2021 and will feature partnerships with local zero-emission vehicle fleets. Learn more at the [SacRT's website](#).



ANIMALS AND HOT WEATHER

Animals suffer as much as we do in the hot weather. Here are some ways you can help make sure your pets stay safe during the summer.

- **Never leave your dog in a parked car:** Even cracking a window won't protect your pets. It is against the law in California and could be punishable by a fine. A car can reach 120 degrees in just minutes; even if the windows are slightly open the car can still reach 102 degrees. A dog's normal temperature is 101.5 degrees; at 120 degrees your pet can suffer from heat exhaustion and die and at 107 degrees brain damage occurs.
- **Bring pets inside and avoid extreme heat:** When temperatures get above the 90s, bring your pet(s)

inside. Even outdoor pets need access to plenty of water and a cool, inside space during hot weather.

- **Don't forget about outdoor and barn animals:** Livestock and other barn animals are just as susceptible to heatstroke as indoor pets. Keep them cool with large amounts of clean fresh water, well-ventilated shelters, and access to shade at all times. Consider installing misters, mud holes, and spraying down hot surfaces like concrete, asphalt, sand, and even wood. Electrolytes and salt blocks are also a great option to keep barn animals hydrated. Chickens can be especially susceptible to dehydration and heat stress during extremely hot weather.
- **Don't exercise with your pets when it is too hot:** Older and certain long-haired dogs can be particularly susceptible to heat, and hot asphalt can burn their paws. Exercise in the early morning or evenings and make sure both of you have plenty of water. It will be easier for both of you.
- **Use sunscreen:** Pets get sunburned just like people, and if your pet has light skin, they can be particularly susceptible to a painful burn. Use sunscreen on sensitive areas, such as ears or nose to make sure your pets are protected. Pets with white and light fur and those with light or pink-colored ears and noses are at risk for skin cancer.
- **Secure your dog during transport:** Make sure your dog is secured safely in your vehicle. Do not transport your dog in the bed of a truck. Truck beds get extremely hot and burn footpads, and coupled with the full-sun exposure, can cause heatstroke.
- **Be your pet's lifeguard:** While swimming can help some of your pets get exercise without overheating, always supervise your pets when swimming either in a pool or in area waterways. A dog could get tired swimming, particularly if it is in the river and must fight against currents. Make sure they wear life jackets and keep them out of the water when flows are high.
- **Don't take your pets to crowded summer events:** The heat, noise, and crowds can be overwhelming to your pet. It is best to leave them at home in a quiet, cool environment.

It is important to look for signs that your pet has been exposed to excessively high temperatures. Look for symptoms such as

vomiting, unsteadiness, heavy panting, or red eyes and move them to a cool place immediately. Provide them with cool water and take them to a veterinary hospital.

For more information on how to take care your pet, contact your local vet or visit [Sacramento County's Animal Care and Regulation's website](#)



FAA AWARDS \$48.6M TO SAC COUNTY AIRPORTS

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will award \$8 billion in grants to U.S. airports to keep workers employed, enable construction projects to proceed, and help airports continue to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding for the grants comes from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021.

The Sacramento County Department of Airports will receive a total of \$48.6 million, with more than \$43.1 million going to airport recovery efforts, and \$5.5 million for eligible in-terminal concessionaires.

Passenger traffic at Sacramento International Airport has been recovering steadily since April 2020 when passenger traffic was down 95 percent. However, the recovery is far from complete; May 2021 was down 23 percent from May 2019, and the Airport is projected to finish the fiscal year 2020-2021 down 49.8 percent from FY2018-2019.

The ARPA funding provides economic relief to eligible commercial services, reliever and general aviation airports. The money will help keep people safe and employed by reimbursing operational expenses, debt service payments and

costs related to combating the spread of pathogens at the airports. Airport operators can also use the money to provide rent relief to in-terminal retail and concession companies. Among other provisions, the legislation requires that airport operators continue to employ at least 90 percent of their pre-pandemic employees.

The Sacramento County Department of Airports is responsible for planning, developing, operating and maintaining the county's four airports: [Sacramento International Airport](#), [Executive Airport](#), [Mather Airport](#) and [Franklin Field](#). Sacramento International Airport offers more than 155 daily nonstop flights on 12 domestic and international carriers to 36 destinations. The regional economic impact of the Sacramento County airport system is more than \$4 billion annually. For more information, visit sacramento.aero.



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