



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PRESS RELEASE

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COVID-19 UPDATES ON COUNTY WEBSITE

To provide the most current information on essential services available to the community, the County of Santa Cruz has updated its website at www.santacruzcounty.us.

The County is modifying services to help slow the spread of novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, which is present within the Santa Cruz County community. Many in-person services have been suspended, and customers are asked to conduct business online and by phone, email or appointment. The County website will continue to be updated as new information becomes available.

Essential services are defined as those necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the community. All Santa Cruz County hospitals and health clinics continue to remain open. Services provided by law enforcement and first responders will continue, and many departments will operate with modified services to minimize in-person contacts. County departments are encouraging residents to conduct business and access services with the County either online or by phone and email whenever possible.

While property tax payment deadlines are set in state law and cannot be altered locally, the Santa Cruz County Treasurer-Tax Collector has the legal right to waive penalties and interest charges for late payments when due to "circumstances beyond the taxpayer's control." Each case is considered individually. For frequently asked questions (FAQs) on April property tax payments, go to the Santa Cruz County Treasurer-Tax Collector's website at <http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/Departments/TaxCollector.aspx>.

The latest guidance and information on COVID-19 can be found at www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus, including English and Spanish FAQs on the shelter-in-place order, guidance for businesses and community organizations, and information on how to protect you and your family. Residents are encouraged to call 211 or text "COVID19" to 211211 for state and local public health information.