Heat Resources

Planning
- **Heat Safety App Tool** - A useful resource for planning outdoor work activities based on how hot it feels throughout the day.
- **NWS Heat Index**
- **Building Alliances for Climate Change**
- **EPA Heat Islands**
- New! [Biden Administration launches heat.gov with tools for communities facing extreme heat](https://bidenheat.gov/)
- **Medical Examiner-Coroner Dashboard**
- **Santa Clara County OEM Excessive Heat Plan (not a countywide response plan)**
- **Heat.gov** Climate Change and heat preparedness/planning
- **NOAA Story Map** – Building a climate-ready nation
- **Community Resilience Centers** - California Strategic Growth COuncil

Work Related
- **CDC/NIOSH National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health**
- **OSHA Heat Illness Prevention**
- **OSHA Prevent Illness at Work**
- **Heat Safety App Tool** - A useful resource for planning outdoor work activities based on how hot it feels throughout the day.

Public Education Information
- **Santa Clara County Cooling Centers & Safety Information English, Vietnamese, Chinese, Spanish**
- **Santa Clara County Public Health. English, Spanish, Vietnamese**
- **Office of Supportive Housing** 408-278-6400
  - Crisis Response Team
  - Michelle Covert [michelle.covert@hhs.sccgov.org](mailto:michelle.covert@hhs.sccgov.org)
  - Linda Jones [linda.jones@hhs.sccgov.org](mailto:linda.jones@hhs.sccgov.org)
  - Kathleen Conley [kathleen.conley@hhs.sccgov.org](mailto:kathleen.conley@hhs.sccgov.org)
- **Ready.gov**
- **Mysourcewise.com**
  - Resources for seniors
  - News/safety information
  - Newsletter
- **Animals** - [ASPCA](https://www.aspca.org/)
- **Seniors** - [National Institute on Aging](https://www.nia.nih.gov/)
- **CDC Beat the Heat Infographics. English, Chinese, Vietnamese**

Protecting Disproportionately Affected Populations from Extreme Heat
Collaborating Agencies’ Disaster Relief Effort
2731 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95134
Office admin phone: 408-577-2175
Email: admin@cadresv.org
CADRE Duty Officer: CADREeoc@gmail.com
CADRE Duty Officer (available 24/7): 408-622-0822
www.cadresv.org

Athletes / Individuals with Chronic Medical Conditions / Infants and Children / Low Income Households / Older Adults 65+ / Outdoor Workers
Keep Your Pets Safe / Share Our Tips – Podcasts, Infographics, Tweetable tips, PSAs, videos and more
- USDOT / TSM infographics
- Weather Safety Campaigns
- CDC Extreme Heat. Hot Weather Tips / Signs of Heat-Related Illness / FAQs
- Protecting Yourself from Heat Stress English/Haitian Creole/Vietnamese
- Climate Resilience in Your Community – Activity book for grades 3-8

Weather
- Current temperatures
- Weather Ready Nation landing page to access Safety Campaigns
- NWS Heat Safety Information
- NWS Western Region Heat Risk and Bay Area Heat Risk
- NWS Western Region Heat Risk Historical and Social Vulnerability Index map
- NWS Heat Risk 1 slide primer from NWS San Diego
- PG&E Weather Monitoring and Awareness – Interactive weather map, fire detection map, 7-day PSPS forecast

Joint Information System (JIS)
- County OEM Emergency Communication Annex
- Office of Supportive Housing
- Countywide Trusted Information Sources
- County Social Media
  - Facebook: www.facebook.com/sccoem
  - Instagram: www.instagram.com/santaclaracountyemergencies
  - Twitter: www.twitter.com/SCCOEM
  - Nextdoor: https://nextdoor.com/city/feed/ (Must join neighborhood to view page)

Power Outages
- If you have medical support devices that need electricity (electric wheelchair, lift, CPAP machine, etc.) register for the PG&E Medical Baseline program.
- Backup Battery Options for DDAR Consumers: A tip sheet explaining backup battery options provided by the Disability Disaster Access and Resources (DDAR) PSPS Backup Battery Program. Accessible PDF for online viewing or professional printing. English | Spanish
- If you are at risk of being adversely affected by Public Safety Power Shutoffs, use this form to apply for resources through the CFILC (including battery chargers, hotels and transportation).
- Emergency Power Planning for People Who Use Electricity and Battery-Dependent Assistive Technology and Medical Devices

Serving as the local Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) affiliate for Santa Clara County
Three Summer Energy Saving Myths

1. Myth: Setting the thermostat lower will cool a home faster
   Fact: The cooling system provides cooler air at its maximum power when it is first turned on. So, setting the temperature lower will have little or no effect on how quickly a home cools down.
   - Set thermostat at 78 degrees or higher, health permitting, when home. Three to five percent more energy is used for each degree the air conditioner is set below 78 degrees.
   - Take advantage of smart thermostats and programable features when available. Enroll in PG&E’s Smart AC Program and receive $120 off a new smart thermostat.

2. Myth: Leaving fans on when away will keep the home cool
   Fact: Fans move air, they don’t cool it. Leaving fans on when away from the house won’t keep the house cool.
   - Ceiling fans help cool down people by evaporating sweat from the body. Individuals stay cooler when a ceiling fan is in operation, not the room.

3. Myth: Closing vents will save energy
   Fact: Though it seems closing vents (registers) in unused rooms could save energy, it requires the system to work harder, use more energy and wear out faster. Closing vents puts backpressure on the ducts being closed which can increase duct leakage.
   - Additionally, closing registers causes a pressure imbalance inside your home which draws in unwanted outside air through holes and cracks causing the system to run longer to cool the home.

To improve energy efficiency in your home here are steps to avoid bill surprises as the mercury rises.
   - **Pre-cool the home**: Use the air conditioner at the start of the morning or overnight.
   - **Unplug small appliances and electronics**, like coffee makers and printers when not in use
   - **Change air filters regularly**: A dirty air filter makes the AC system work harder, which uses more energy.
- **Close window coverings:** Keep blinds, drapes, and curtains closed to help prevent the sun’s rays from heating the home.
- **Avoid using the oven on hot days:** Instead, cook on the stove, use a microwave or grill outside.

Customers can also enroll in [Bill Forecast Alerts](#) allowing PG&E to send notifications by email, text or phone if the energy bill is expected to exceed an amount set by you. This free and easy tool helps customers better manage their monthly energy bill and gives them time to reduce their home’s energy use before the next statement arrives.

Other programs include [Medical Baseline](#) offering a lower monthly rate for customers with certain medical conditions and [Budget Billing](#) averaging out energy costs for more predictable monthly payments.

Additionally, eligible customers may be able to sign up for income-qualified programs offering a monthly discount including the [California Alternative Rates for Energy](#) (CARE) and the [Family Electric Rate Assistance](#) (FERA) Programs. Some customers may also qualify for the [Energy Saving Assistance](#) Program offering free improvements to make the home more efficient, safe and comfortable.

**Unhoused Challenges - Heat impact on unhoused population**

Population is uniquely vulnerable because:
- Minimal protection from elements
- Limited cell phone access
- No running water
- No refrigeration
- Little electricity

Barriers to use of cooling centers:
- Distance/transportation
- Limited hours
- Pets
- Fear of belongings being stolen if unguarded
- Disabilities- anxiety, PTSD, mobility

Outreach challenges:
- Distrust of institutions
- Can be hard to find if not at shelter
- May not be at same place every day
- Phones not available or not working

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- Limited internet access
- Language barriers