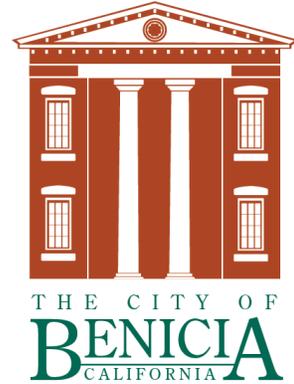


## PRESS RELEASE

CITY OF BENICIA  
Benicia City Hall  
250 East L Street  
Benicia, California 94510



Contact: Erik Upson  
Interim City Manager  
(707) 746-4200  
eupson@ci.benicia.ca.us

### City Opens Cooling Center for Coming Heat

**Benicia, CA (September 24, 2020)** — City of Benicia staff are preparing for high temperatures predicted for Sunday into Tuesday of next week. The Benicia Senior Center at 187 East L Street has been designated as a cooling center and will be open Sunday, September 27 through Tuesday, September 29, from noon to 7 p.m. each day. The cooling center will offer a cool space for residents who don't have air conditioning.

“Although the National Weather Service has not issued an Excessive or Extreme Heat Warning for our area, the cooling center is being opened so that our senior population and those most vulnerable can get out of the heat,” said Interim City Manager Erik Upson. “There is an increased risk of heat-related illnesses for people exposed to hot weather.”

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, people entering the Benicia Senior Center will have their temperature taken, be required to wear a face covering at all times and must maintain social distance from those they do not live with. To accommodate State social distancing guidelines, space is limited. People are encouraged to save the available space for seniors and others in need. Questions on the cooling center may be directed to the Parks & Community Services Department at 707.746.4285 or [pcs@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:pcs@ci.benicia.ca.us).

The National Weather Service has issued a [Fire Weather Watch](#) for September 26 at 11 a.m. until September 28 at 8 a.m. due to gusty winds, low humidity and high temperatures. As we head into our typical fire season, this is a good time to be reminded that extreme caution should be taken to prevent new fire starts. National Weather Service information for Benicia may be found at [weather.gov](http://weather.gov).

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