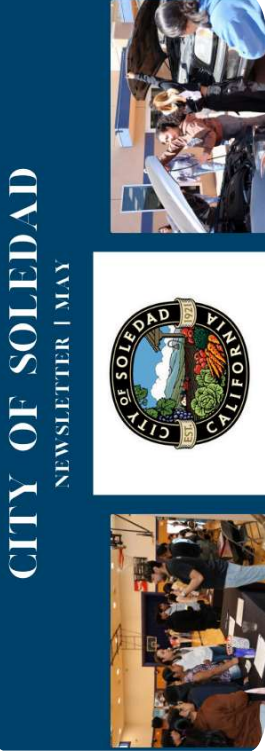


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City of Soledad Newsletter

Welcome to the City of Soledad's monthly newsletter. Here, you will get the latest scoop on our news, upcoming events, and important updates. Brought to you by City Manager Megan Hunter and the Community Engagement Office.

Community Comes Together to Prepare Soledad Youth for Life Beyond School



On Saturday, April 12, 2025, the Soledad Community Center hosted its first-ever *Real World Survival Guide* event, helping local teens prepare for life

beyond school. Seventy-eight youth attended hands-on sessions on job readiness, personal finance, cooking, and auto maintenance, followed by a job and career resource fair that welcomed 99 participants.

The event was full of positive energy and excitement, with survey results showing that 86% of attendees felt better prepared to get a job and manage real-world responsibilities. Auto maintenance and cooking classes were among the day's most popular sessions. Special thanks to Monterey County Works for organizing the job and career resource fair, and to our youth staff, instructors, and community partners for making this a memorable day!

Community Survey: Share Your Ideas for Soledad's Upcoming Mural



A new mural will be added to the side of the Fire Apparatus Bay (garage). Could you help us share your thoughts and feedback on the proposed designs? Complete the survey today! [Click Here](#)
Survey closes end of day May 18th, 2025.

Soledad PD Celebrates Officer of the Year Honor at MCPOA Annual Awards



On April 4th, 2025, the Monterey County Peace Officers Association (MCPOA) Annual Awards Banquet was held at the Embassy Suites in Seaside. The Soledad Police Department was fortunate to have two of our own honored at the event.

Detective Sergeant Brain Solis was named Soledad Police Department Officer of the Year. Throughout the year, Detective Sergeant Solis consistently went above and beyond, demonstrating exemplary leadership, integrity, and professionalism in his work.

Whether responding to emergencies, building trust with community members, or providing mentorship to fellow officers, his actions have had a lasting, positive impact on the department and the people he serves. His ability to remain calm under pressure, his unwavering ethical standards, and his commitment to making a difference are just a few of the qualities that set him apart.

This award is a testament not only to Detective Sergeant Solis's hard work but also to the selfless spirit that defines authentic leadership in law enforcement.

Vehicle Abatement Program



SOLEDAD POLICE DEPARTMENT

VEHICLE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

OUR SERVICE

Do you have an inoperable vehicle you need help getting rid of? Call our Community Service Officers, and they will get it towed for free! Please provide the Officer with the proof of ownership, and a valid Driver's License.

VEHICLE REMOVAL

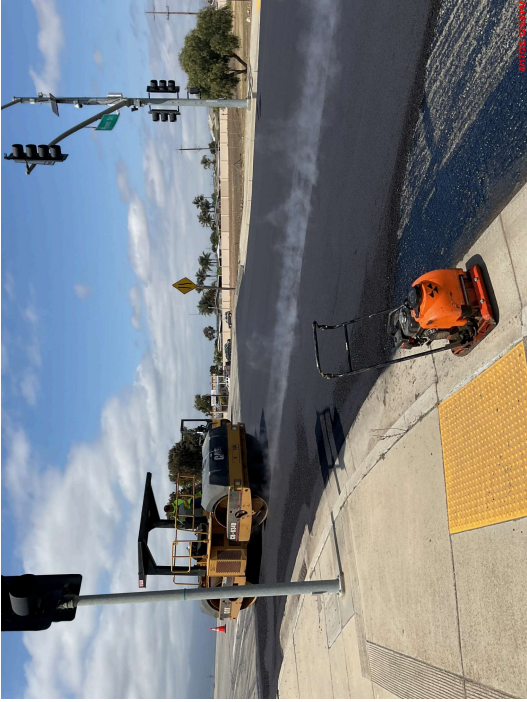


CONTACT US NOW

 soledadpoliceCSO@cityofsoledad.gov

 <https://soledadca.comcate.com/en>

Front Street Maintenance Project Update



The City of Soledad is advancing with street improvements along Front Street. What started as a basic maintenance project has evolved into a comprehensive initiative aimed at enhancing safety, accessibility, and the overall appearance of our downtown area.

This project will address the following issues:

- Damaged sidewalks and gutters caused by the tree roots, which uplifted sidewalks and curbs, resulting in drainage problems and making it difficult for some businesses to open their front doors
- Accessibility Concerns due to the current conditions that do not comply with ADA standards and create challenges for pedestrians
- Pedestrian lighting bollards that are damaged, ineffective, and produce glare for drivers
- Necessary traffic improvements at key intersections, including San Vicente Road, East Street, Oak Street, and Nestles Road

Don't Flush Wipes - Protect Our Pipes

Wipes may seem convenient, but flushing them can cause serious damage to sewer systems, even if the package says they're "flushable."

At the Soledad Water Reclamation Facility, our Public Works Wastewater crew must take apart a major pump to remove tangled wipes. Each cleanup takes 6 to 8 hours, wasting time and money that could be better spent on other essential maintenance work.

Why Wipes Don't Belong in the Toilet:

- They don't break down like toilet paper.
- They mix with grease and form massive clogs called "fatbergs."
- They contribute to costly sewer backups and damage.
- They pollute our oceans with microplastics and synthetic fibers.
- They increase landfill waste and carbon emissions.



Soledad Fire Department Prepares for New Ladder Truck with Specialized Training



This month, the Soledad Fire Department and Cal Fire BEU sent ten Fire Captains and Fire Apparatus Engineers to Fresno, California, to participate in a Driver Operator 1C: Aerial Operator course. This training covers topics like apparatus positioning, stabilization, aerial device operation, and tactical deployment during fireground operations. Students also gained knowledge of hydraulic systems, load capacities, and rescue techniques involving aerial equipment. Emphasis is placed on both practical hands-on skills and the

theoretical understanding necessary for safe, efficient aerial operations. This training is all in preparation for the Soledad Fire Department to place their new ladder truck in service this summer.

Help Keep Soledad Fire-Safe: 2025 Weed Abatement Inspections Underway.



The Soledad Fire Department is beginning its 2025 weed abatement inspections across the city to help reduce fire risks and keep our community safe. Overgrown weeds and dry vegetation—especially on vacant lots, sidewalks, and around buildings—can become serious fire hazards during the hotter months. Clearing these areas helps protect homes, improve public safety, and maintain a cleaner environment. If you receive a notice in the mail, you'll have three weeks to take care of your property before a follow-up visit. If you're concerned about a nearby lot, feel free to call or email the fire station to request an inspection. 831-223-5100

SBDC Business Expo: Bringing Local Businesses Together



April 5th marked the date for the first-ever Soledad Business Expo, which Central Coast SBDC and the City of Soledad organized. The Event was filled with local vendors, opportunities to discover local businesses, and learning about organizations that help our community grow. More than 15 local businesses participated in the Expo, which was open to the public free of charge.

Get Ready for the Annual FREE Cleanup Day!

FREE! Soledad
Reuse, Recycle & Cleanup DAY



Saturday
May 31, 2025
Soledad High School
8:00 AM — 1:00 PM
or until boxes full

Items Accepted:
General Garbage, Electronics, TVs & Computers, Metal Appliances, Metal & Steel items Including Refrigerators and Freezers!

NO FURNITURE OR YARD WASTE

City of Soledad
Residents ONLY

SPECIAL COLLECTION


Receive up to two free oil filters when you bring in your used oil filters for recycling!






SalinasValley
Recycles.org
Salinas Valley Community Foundation



Tri-Cities Disposal & Recycling
(866) 675-6798



CITY OF SOLEDAD
NEWSLETTER | MAY

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Salinas Valley Recycles and Tri-Cities Disposal & Recycling are teaming up once again to bring you the much-anticipated **FREE Annual Cleanup Day!** Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 31st**, and head over to **Soledad High School between 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM** — or until the collection boxes are full!

This is your chance to clear out the clutter and help keep our community clean and green. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make a difference for your home and our environment!

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