

# Summer safety

The Davis Fire Department Public Education Program is offering safety tips and suggestions for the upcoming hot weather season.

With all our outdoor activities and social gatherings, Davisites sometimes forget that if not used properly, barbecues can be dangerous. Combining highly flammable lighter fluid or propane with an open flame or match can have disastrous effects. Safety tips include:

- Check your propane connections for cleanliness and leakage prior to lighting
- Practice extra caution and follow directions when using lighter fluid
- Consider alternate means of lighting coals without using lighter fluid

Never bag and throw away your used coals since they can smolder for days.

Wet your used coals down in a metal container or the barbecue and then keep them away from anything that could possibly burn for several days;

Keep children away from the coals and never leave a barbecue unattended.

For home fire safety, inspect the outside of your house. Make sure all dry grass and flammable debris have been cleared away from your home and remove the dry leaves and pine needles from the rain gutters. By taking the time to look for possible fire hazards, you can handle problems in the best possible way...before they occur.

Another popular summer activity, especially with children, is swimming in the pool. Unfortunately, a drowning or other serious pool accident can occur in the blink of an eye. Please make sure that all pools are fenced and locked so that a small child cannot gain access. Knowing where our children are at all times is an extremely important adult supervision pool safety rule. Other rules such as no running and diving in shallow water can keep swimming both safe and fun for everyone.

With our intense Davis summer heat, we need to adapt our lifestyles and work habits accordingly. Anyone can become vulnerable to the stresses of severe summer heat. Factors such as age, size, weight, duration of work and other physical activities play a critical part in how our bodies deal with the summer heat. Heat stress can rapidly become a medical emergency that can result in death if not dealt with immediately. Follow these guidelines to help prevent heat stress emergencies:

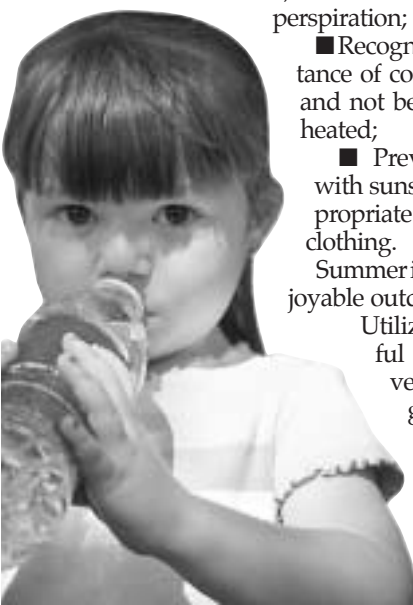
- Drink plenty of water when working outside;
- Work earlier in the morning when it is cooler;
- Never, not even for a minute, leave children in cars unattended;
- Know the early signs of heat stress, such as dizziness, weakness and profuse perspiration;

Recognize the importance of cooling yourself and not becoming overheated;

Prevent sunburn with sunscreen and appropriate cover ups and clothing.

Summer is a time for enjoyable outdoor activities.

Utilize these helpful hints to prevent an emergency. Remember, prevention is the best way to handle any possible emergency.



## City Fair Housing Program creates community through conflict resolution



Even in a community with tolerant values and goodwill, conflicts can arise between neighbors, between businesses and customers and between property owners/managers and tenants. The Parks & Community Services Community Mediation Service is available to help by providing a constructive alternative to the costly legal system.

Since over 50 percent of Davis housing is occupied by renters, it is no surprise that owner/renter disputes top the list of community mediation issues in Davis. In order to be proactive in these conflicts, the Community Mediation

Service offers resources to both owners and renters to know their rights and responsibilities in fair housing.

April was Fair Housing Month in Davis, and the community reaffirmed its commitment to Fair Housing and equal access to housing free from discrimination. Special tenant information has been posted on the city web pages and workshops have been held for property owners and managers to discuss recent changes in fair housing regulations.

Residents in need of fair housing and mediation services can contact the Community Mediation Service at (530) 757-5623.

## Community mediators needed for volunteer positions

Community Mediation Service (CMS) invites Davis residents, or people who work or go to school in Davis to apply for volunteer positions as Community Mediators. Mediation has been successfully used in hundreds of communities throughout the country to prevent and resolve conflicts. CMS is a volunteer-based mediation program administered by the City of Davis.

CMS trains community volunteers to conduct mediations using a facilitative community mediation approach. Using this technique, a panel of 2 or 3 mediators assists disputing parties in clarifying issues, developing options, and working out mutually agreeable resolutions. The CMS training program is 32 hours long. Participants must attend the entire training to be eligible for assignment to CMS mediation panels.

Volunteer information and application packets are available at the CMS offices located in the Hunt Boyer House at the corner of 2nd and E Streets in downtown Davis at 604 Second Street. To be considered for the Fall 2007 training, interested individuals should plan on attending the information meeting on May 31 from 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. at the above location.

For more information call (530) 757-5623.

## National Senior Health & Fitness Day

**Davis Senior Center  
646 A Street, Davis  
Wednesday, May 30, 2007**

Seniors are invited to join us on Wednesday, May 30 as we celebrate the 14th Annual National Senior Health & Fitness Day. The common goal for this day is to promote, encourage, and help keep older Americans healthy and fit.

This year's event, "Step Up To Health: It Starts With You!" will include various exercise demonstrations designed to improve strength, a health expo, fitness walk, health education lectures, demonstrations and videos and a healthy brunch, courtesy of Atria Covell Gardens. Activities will begin at 7:30 a.m. and continue throughout the day until approximately 3:00 p.m. All events are free except for a nominal \$1.00 charge for the Fitness Walk. Advance registration is required for the complimentary brunch.

This event is presented by the Davis Senior Center in partnership with the Mature Market Resource Center and the National Recreation & Park Association. For more information, please call the Davis Senior Center at (530) 757-5696 or visit us online at [www.cityofdavis.org/pcs/seniors](http://www.cityofdavis.org/pcs/seniors)



## Housing element update



What kinds of new housing opportunities should be made available in Davis over the next six to seven years? To address this

question, the Davis City Council has initiated a General Plan / Housing Element update and appointed a 15-member Steering Committee to lead the update process.

The Steering Committee represents many different elements of and viewpoints in the community. The update will focus on creating the City's next housing plan to accommodate California housing requirements through June 2013 and locally projected housing needs for Davis through 2010. The primary focus of the Steering Committee will be to review and prioritize potential sites for residential development using city General Plan policies, city council goals, and regional "smart growth" principles.

Meetings of the Steering Committee are typically held the second and fourth Thursday night of the month at the Police Department at 2500 Fifth Street and are open to the public. Two to three community workshops will be held over the next seven months in order to gain feedback from members of the community throughout this update process. The first Community Workshop is tentatively scheduled for the evening of May 17, 2007 at the Teen Center on the corner of Third and B Streets.

For more information about the Steering Committee and the project meeting schedule (including confirmation of the first community workshop date), please visit the city's webpage for the committee at: <http://www.cityofdavis.org/cdd/GPUpdate/>. For any additional questions or comments, please contact city staff members Bob Wolcott at [rwolcott@cityofdavis.org](mailto:rwolcott@cityofdavis.org) or (530) 757-5610 or Danielle Foster at [dfoster@cityofdavis.org](mailto:dfoster@cityofdavis.org) or (530) 757-5691.

## Celebrate Davis!

SHOP. PLAY. WORK. LIVE.

**Davis Community Park  
Thursday, May 17 • 4:30 to 9 p.m.**

- Admission is free
- Fireworks start at 9 p.m.
- The best Davis businesses and services will be on display
- Visit your favorite restaurant booths and dine in the park
- Visit [www.celebratedavis.com](http://www.celebratedavis.com) or call the Davis Chamber at 756-5160 for information.

