



SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT THE MONTHLY REPORT

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026



2026 RE-ACCREDITATION

We are proud to announce that the Commission of Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) has granted approval of the department's 5th accreditation since committing to the Center of Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) self-improvement process in 2005. Accreditation is the international gold standard for fire and emergency services. It serves as a comprehensive "health check" for our agency, ensuring we meet high-level benchmarks in safety, fiscal responsibility, and operational data. Maintaining accreditation is a rigorous, multi-year journey rooted in a commitment to self-assessment and transparency including external evaluation by a team of peer assessors from across the country. By voluntarily participating in this assessment, we demonstrate our dedication to a culture of continual improvement, constantly evolving to better protect the communities we serve.

HIGHLIGHTS



TEAM APPROACH TO FIRE INVESTIGATION

March 3, 2026

Assistant Fire Marshal Jeremy Davis teaches basic arson investigation techniques to our regional partners. County Fire strives to consistently raise the bar in the area of continuing education for our staff, peers, and the community.



CAMPBELL CERT GRADUATION

March 14, 2026

We celebrate 28 dedicated community members who graduated from our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Academy! Each volunteer demonstrated their ability to manage small fires, safely shut down utilities, perform light search and rescue, and assist the injured in a simulated disaster scenario. We are incredibly proud of the teamwork and commitment displayed by participants. Their readiness today means a safer tomorrow for the entire community.

CITY OF LOS ALTOS ANNEXATION

Since 1996, SCCFD has proudly served the City of Los Altos with high-quality fire and emergency services through a contract. The Los Altos City Council and Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors have formally approved annexation proceedings, overseen by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). Annexation would transition Los Altos from a contract partner to a permanent member of the Fire District and support the long-term financial sustainability of the City. Learn more: losaltosca.gov/sccfd



MARCH EVENTS



TUESDAY, MARCH 2

2 Alarm Structure Fire - 400 block of Kuehnis Dr., Campbell

Firefighters responded to an apartment complex on the 400 block of Kuehnis Drive at approximately 1 p.m. and located a vehicle fire in a carport, adjacent to an apartment building. The fire was knocked down close to 1:50 p.m. Three vehicles and the carport were destroyed and 60 individuals were temporarily displaced. Ten apartment units sustained significant heat damage due to the fire.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Special Operations Training at Gilroy Gardens

Led by Fire Captain Chuck Anderson and supported by Gilroy Gardens Maintenance director Bentley Hidalgo, special operations teams simulated a rescue response to a critical injury at Gilroy Gardens. Firefighters used extraction tools to lift heavy machinery while paramedics provided advanced life support to the mock patient in a confined space. Our Type 1 Rescue and Hazmat teams are a vital resource for the community when it comes to rigorous specialized technical rescues.



SUNDAY, MARCH 22

2 Alarm Fire - 300 Block of Bachman Ave., Los Gatos

Firefighters arrived on scene of a two-story residential structure fire in Los Gatos. The home had a significant fire upon firefighter's arrival, and a second alarm was called at approximately 1:15 pm. No injuries were reported and the cause is under investigation.

EMAP ACCREDITATION

The Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is undergoing a rigorous multi-year assessment to achieve the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) designation. These standards go beyond benchmarks, they are strategic tools that improve preparedness, coordination, and the ability to respond to disasters such as fires, floods, earthquakes, and acts of violence. A strong emergency management program reduces damage, speeds recovery, and ensures essential services continue during crises. It also supports unified planning across fire, law enforcement, public works, health, and other partners. Accreditation strengthens the entire operational area by streamlining access to vital disaster recovery funding and ensuring vulnerable populations are integrated into every phase of planning. As one of only four California counties pursuing this distinction, Santa Clara County is demonstrating a sophisticated commitment to transparency and continuous improvement.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION ANCHOR AWARD

We would like to congratulate Emergency Manager Louay Toma on being selected by the Santa Clara County Emergency Managers Association for their Anchor Award. This award recognizes someone who provides steady leadership, consistency, and strength, especially through times of challenge or change. Louay has served County Fire for over 10 years, and during that time, he has become a cornerstone of the Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) working to facilitate the organization to move forward seamlessly. Beyond his leadership in the office, Louay has supported countless emergencies supporting OEM activations locally, and deployments to neighboring counties. Louay currently leads the Planning and Training & Exercise teams for County OEM.





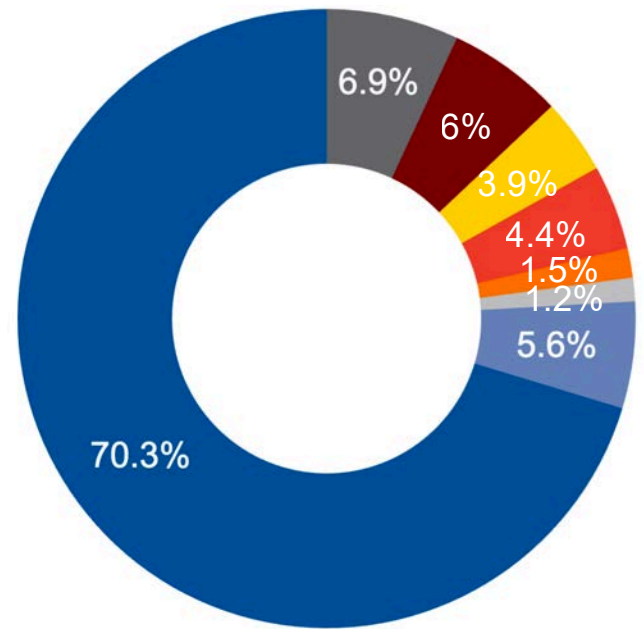
COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Public Safety Reports • March 2026

ALL STATIONS 2/1/26 - 3/31/26

CERRS Classes/Events/Presentations - All Stations

Preschool	264
Elementary School	230
Middle/High School	150
Adult	169
CERT	58
CPR/First Aid/Hands Only CPR/Heart Saver	47
Station Tours	212
Community Events	2,677
Total Attendees	3807



- Preschool
- Station Tours
- Elementary School
- Community Events
- Middle/High School
- CPR/First Aid/Hands Only CPR/Heart Saver
- Adult
- CERT



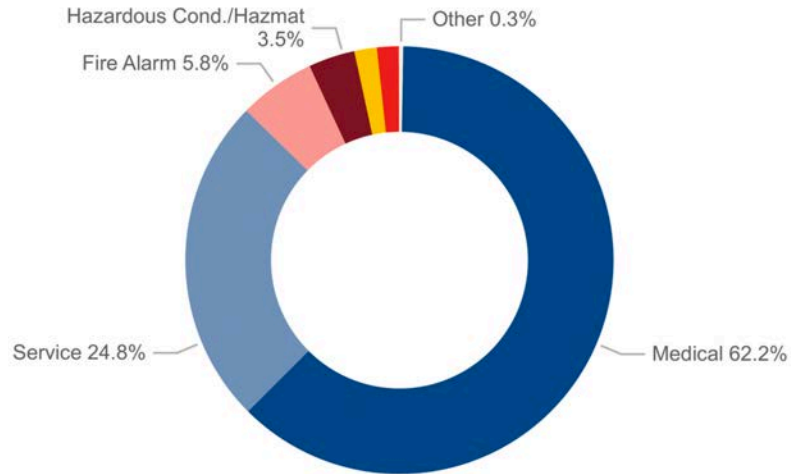
Saratoga CERT Academy- For more information about our upcoming 2026 CERT programs, contact our CERRS Division:
www.sccfd.org/request-a-program
 (408) 378-4010 • communityoutreach@sccfd.org



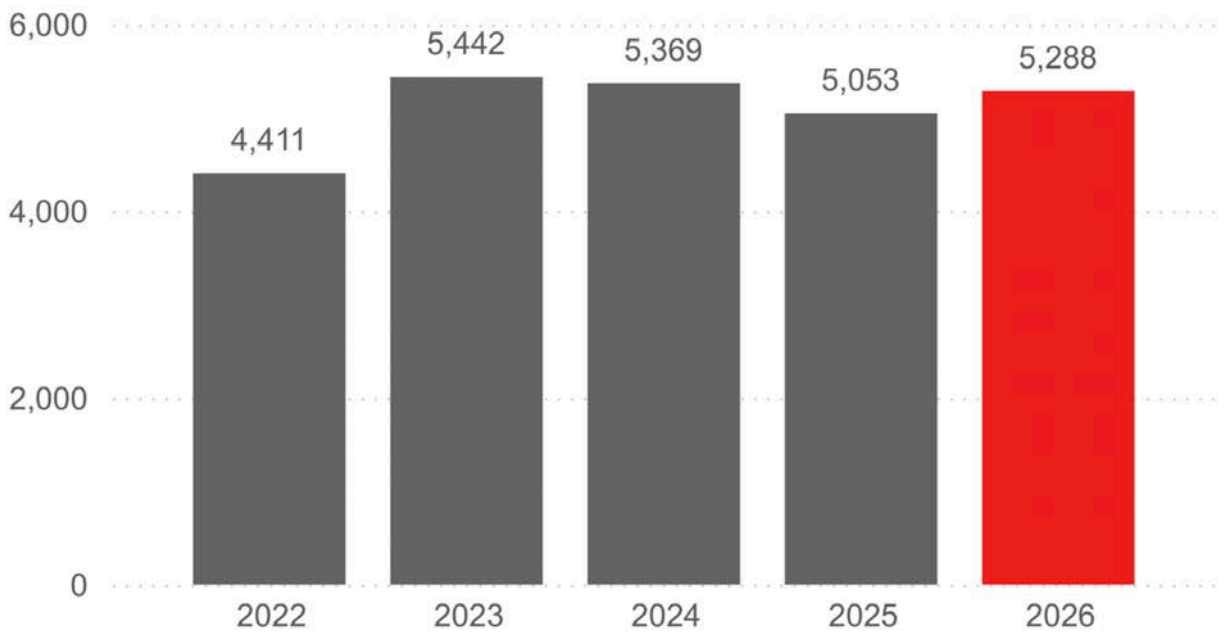
DEPARTMENT TOTAL RESPONSE STATISTICS MARCH 2026

Number of Incidents by Type March 2026

Dispatched Incident Type	Incidents	Percentage (%)
Fire - Structure, Veg., Other	31	1.6%
Fire Alarm	109	5.8%
Hazardous Cond./Hazmat	66	3.5%
Medical	1,171	62.2%
Other	6	0.3%
Rescue	32	1.7%
Service	467	24.8%
Total	1,882	100.0%



Number of Incidents Year to Date Year Over Year - January to March





WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS



WILDFIRE READINESS PRESENTATION

Be READY

- Reduce Wildfire Risks: Home Hardening & Defensible Space
- Community Readiness - Firewise
- Emergency Notification Systems & Red Flag Warnings

Get SET

- Create a Wildfire Action Plan
- Assemble Emergency Go Kits
- Understand Evacuation Terminology

GO!

- Be Evacuation Ready
- Learn How to Stay Informed

COMMUNITY RESOURCE TABLES

CONNECT WITH LOCAL AGENCIES

- American Red Cross
- California Department of Insurance (CDI)
- CAL FIRE
- Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA)
- Firewise Community Leaders
- Halter Project - Animal Disaster Preparedness & Response
- Local Law Enforcement
- Los Altos Hills County Fire District
- Midpeninsula Regional Open Space
- Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)
- Santa Clara County FireSafe Council
- Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
- Valley Water

* Subject to change without notice

DATE	WORKSHOP LOCATION	FORMAT	TIME
APRIL 23 THURSDAY	PAVILION @ REDWOOD ESTATES 21450 Madrone Drive, Los Gatos	IN PERSON	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
MAY 2 SATURDAY	SAN MARTIN LIONS CLUB 12415 Murphy Ave, San Martin	IN PERSON	10:00 AM TO 12:00PM
JUNE 2 TUESDAY	JOAN PISANI COMMUNITY CENTER 19655 Allendale Ave, Saratoga	IN PERSON	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
JULY 15 WEDNESDAY	CUPERTINO COMMUNITY HALL 10300 Torre Ave, Cupertino	IN PERSON	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
AUGUST 27 THURSDAY	LOS ALTOS COMMUNITY CENTER 97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos	IN PERSON	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM



REGISTER TODAY!

SCCFD.EVENTBRITE.COM
OR
408-378-4010



SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT | 408.378.4010 | WWW.SCCFD.ORG

Rev02-11-26

READY, SET, GO

READY

Being **READY** for wildfire starts with maintaining an adequate defensible space and by hardening your home. Defensible space is the buffer you create by removing dead plants, grass and weeds. Hardening your home means using construction materials that can help your home withstand flying embers finding weak spots in the construction, which can result in your house catching fire.

SET

Being **SET** means staying informed, alert, and ready to act quickly if conditions change. During this phase, residents should monitor local alerts, prepare to implement their evacuation plan, and ensure homes and properties are defensible.

GO

The **GO** phase of the Ready, Set, Go wildfire preparedness program signals that it's time to act immediately. When ordered to evacuate, leave without delay and follow directions from local authorities to ensure your safety. Going early and calmly can save lives and help emergency responders do their jobs safely.

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING A WILDFIRE WORKSHOP?



For information on wildfire preparedness, visit:
www.sccfd.org/RSG

To register for an upcoming
Wildfire Preparedness Workshop, visit:
<http://sccfd.eventbrite.com/>

or contact Community Education Services at
(408) 378-4010 • communityoutreach@sccfd.org