



### Why is Pinto Lake Sick?

Pinto Lake has been experiencing an increase in harmful blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) blooms due to years of fertilizer runoff and leaky septic systems. These nutrients feed this algae that release dangerous toxins into the water, making the lake unsafe.

In 2014, the City of Watsonville secured \$750,000 in grant funding to treat the lake and address Amesti and CCC creeks that carry pollutants into Pinto Lake. The City is working with Santa Cruz County and the Resource Conservation District to restore the lake.

Alum treatment will begin in 2017 to trap the nutrients embedded in the bottom of the lake that are feeding the algae. Alum is a substance



that will be applied to the water where it will remain at the bottom of the lake and provide additional treatment for nutrients. These treatments will not end the problem, but reduce it significantly. Ongoing monitoring will continue to measure changes over time. For more information, please contact

Environmental Projects Manager, Jackie McCloud (831) 768-3172.

The City and County have posted signs to prohibit contact with the water to prevent any health risks. Currently a PhD student at the University of California Davis is conducting an independent research study to evaluate health risks to humans and their pets associated with exposure to Pinto Lake. For information about this study, contact the One Health Institute at UC Davis (530) 752-7526.

### Shop Local and Don't Miss the Watsonville Holiday Factory Sales



As we set out to find the perfect gift for a family member or a special holiday treat, let's remember to shop locally. Watsonville offers a wide array of products and services and shopping locally translates into a direct investment in our community. The Watsonville Holiday Factory Sale is a perfect opportunity to shop local and will take place on Saturday, December 3rd from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. A few of the vendors include:

- Smith & Vandiver
- La Selva Designs
- Roche Leather
- Annieglass
- Head'N Home Hats
- Hidden Fortress Coffee
- S. Martinelli & Co
- Wargin Wines
- El Pajaro CDC Commercial Kitchen

Sales tax makes up to 19.4% of the General Fund Revenue in Watsonville. The General Fund is used to pay for services such as police, fire, library, park maintenance, and recreation programs. Sales tax also supports public transportation and road repair.

The success of local businesses not only helps the community directly in the form of sales tax, but also provides jobs to local residents. Their success is an integral part of the success of our local economy. Let's support our local merchants and invest in our community, our safety and our children's future. Every time you shop locally you help us all get one step closer to this goal.

There are a lot of great local merchants and thousands of great bargains that can be found in Watsonville. For a complete listing of the Holiday Factory Sales and map visit: [www.watsonvillefactorysale.com](http://www.watsonvillefactorysale.com).

Call Elizabeth Padilla, Editor at 768-3018 with questions or comments.



### Keeping Up with Watsonville

#### Multicultural Celebration & Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

The Multicultural Celebration will begin at 1 p.m. and the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony will begin at 5 p.m. on Sunday, December 4th at the City Plaza.



**Adaptive Traffic Signal Grant** – The City was recently awarded \$364,000 from Monterey Bay Air Resources District for an adaptive traffic signal system on Green Valley Road from Harkins Slough Road to Carnation Dr. This project design could begin as early as summer 2017. For more information call 768-3100.

**211 Real People, Real Answers, Real Help** – 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember telephone number that provides callers with information on local health and human services and disaster response information. It's available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at no charge. The information is also available online at [www.211santacruzcounty.org](http://www.211santacruzcounty.org).

### Your City Directory

Police (Records)	768-3370
Mayor Felipe Hernandez	768-3001
City Council	768-3008
City Manager	768-3010
Library (Main Branch)	768-3400
Parks & Community Services	768-3240
Permits	768-3050
Utility Bill Payments	768-3455
Water/Garbage	768-3133