

SONJA DOSTI | PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

PHONE: 559 | 600-1224 EMAIL: sdosti@fresnocountyca.gov

JULY 14, 2023

Forecasted Extreme Heat: Fresno County Extends Hours of Several Library Branch Locations

FRESNO, **CA** - During extended periods of extreme heat Fresno County public libraries act as cooling centers for the public. In response to the prolonged heat wave expected throughout the valley the County of Fresno has extended the operating hours of several branch locations.

- The Betty Rodriguez, Clovis, Fig Garden, Sunnyside and Woodward Park Regional libraries will all close later, at 8 PM, every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in the month of July.
- The Central Branch Library will have extended hours until 8 PM, Friday through Monday every week until the end of July with regular hours the rest of the weekday.
- The Auberry, Bear Mountain, Caruthers, and San Joaquin Branch libraries will have extended hours until 8 PM, from July 14th to July 17th with additional hours and service days the remainder of the month.
- During the extended hours, Wi-Fi, restrooms, and A/C will remain active, but some branch services such as public PC's will not be available. Staff assisted check outs and returns will be processed normally.

Extreme heat significantly increases the potential for heat related illnesses, particularly for those working or participating in outdoor activities. Individuals with chronic health conditions can be especially sensitive to extreme temperatures and should take extra safety precautions to prevent heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and possible death. The body's normal response to heat can be adversely affected by strenuous activity, age, obesity, and other chronic health conditions. Extreme temperatures are especially hazardous for young children, older adults, and those with health conditions. Check on your friends, family, and neighbors especially if they don't have air conditioning. Also, check on your pets to ensure they're staying cool and hydrated as well.

Residents are encouraged to utilize public cooling locations during periods of extreme heat. For information on cooling center locations visit: <u>www.FresnoCountyCA.gov/ExtremeHeat</u>. For a complete list including a map of Fresno County Library locations, please visit <u>https://www.fresnolibrary.org/branch/county.html</u>.