

Winter Holiday Resource Guide: Sacramento Area 2025

Brought to you by your Sutterville Student Support Center

Free Family Fun for the Holiday Season

Date	Name	Location	Time	Event
Nov. 27th	Annual Holiday Tree Lighting in Old Sacramento	Old Sacramento, on Front and K Streets **Parking:** Tower Garage 1289 Front Street (Old Sac. by Tower Bridge) and Old Sacramento Garage 274 I Street (btwn 2nd and 3rd Streets)	Live entertainment begins at 5:00 pm. Tree lighting is at 6:00 pm.	The "Macy's Theater of Lights" has become a staple in Sacramento, but the lighting of the tree is what kicks off the holiday season. The tree usually stands at a massive 60-foot height and is usually at the center of the event. The tree lighting reveal is open to the public at 6:00 pm and followed immediately by the Theatre of Lights.
Nov. 27th - Dec 24th	Theatre of Lights in Old Sacramento	K Street between Front and 2nd Street	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Theatre of Lights is a **free** holiday lighting extravaganza at the Old Sacramento Waterfront produced by the Downtown Sacramento Partnership. The nightly performances are Thursday through Sunday from Thanksgiving Eve - Christmas Eve **(no show on Thanksgiving Day)** featuring a live-action retelling of Moore's 1823 poem — "A Visit from St. Nicholas," more popularly known as "'Twas the Night Before Christmas." Nightly performances Thursday's-Sunday
Nov. 30th	Elk Grove Annual Dickens Street Faire & Tree Lighting	Old Town Elk Grove	10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Free entertainment is available all day featuring live music and performers, professional photo opportunities with Santa, Christmas carolers, and much more! Christmas Tree Lighting at 6:00 pm!
Dec. 1st	Rancho Cordova Tree Lighting	3141 Bridgeway Dr. Rancho Cordova, CA 95670	4:00 – 7:30 pm	Tree Lighting Event and Fireworks at Village Green Park. Hay Rides, Live Nativity, Food Trucks, Santa Claus, Train Rides, Snow!
Dec 6th	Annual Holiday Tree Lighting	South Natomas Community Center 2901 Truxel Rd. Sacramento, CA 95833	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Lighting of the community tree, photos with Santa, special invited guests, arts & crafts, carnival games, and access to community resources. Lighting of the Community Tree begins at 6:30pm.
Dec 6th	West Sacramento Holiday Tree Lighting	Civic Center 1110 West Capitol Ave. West Sacramento, CA 95691	5:30 – 8:00 pm	Enjoy coffee, hot cocoa, cookies and snacks, live musical performances, kids' activities, holiday shopping, and pictures with Santa!
Dec. 6th	Folsom Tree Lighting	Folsom Historic District Ice Rink 200 Wool St.	6:00 – 9:00 pm	Santa visits, horse & wagon rides begin on Sutter Street at 5 pm. Singing & dancing begin at 6 pm at the amphitheater on Sutter St. The tree lights up at 7:30 pm in the center of the ice rink in the plaza.

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		Folsom, CA 95630		**Parking at 905 Leidesdorff is $5.** Parking is limited due to road closures and a large number of attendees.

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Dec. 8th	Folsom 56th Annual Christmas Crafts Fair	905 Leidesdorff St. Folsom, CA 95630	9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Over 175 vendors, with live music and food trucks! Occurs annually rain or shine! Limited parking at 905 Leidesdorff is $5
Dec. 14th	Sacramento Santa Parade	Capital Park Downtown Sacramento	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Go watch the festive floats, marching bands, and of course, Santa Claus himself The parade route will be 14th & N, west on N to 10th, east on L to 12th.
Dec. 24th	Free Admission at Fairytale Town	3901 Land Park Dr. Sacramento, CA 95822	TBD	Free admission TBD

Toy Drives & Holiday Baskets

NAME OF PROGRAM	ADDRESS	WEBSITE & DEADLINES	E
Angel Tree Christmas Assistance Program	Salvation Army	Sign-ups are for kids ages 12 and under only. Must sign up **online** at https://saangeltree.org/ ****Applications close end of October.**	(916) 678- 4010 Select option 7 for more information.
Sacramento Sheriff's Toy Project	Sacramento County Sheriff 10117 Mills Station Rd., Suite C Sacramento, CA 95827	****Applications accepted in-person at address listed, now until Nov. 9th,** Tuesday & Wednesday from 9:00AM-1:00PM & on Saturday, November 9th from 9am-1pm www.toyproject.org ***The Sheriff's Toy Project ONLY SERVES RESIDENTS OF THE**	(916) 361-4571

		UNINCORPORATED AREA OF SACRAMENTO COUNTY.* 10117 Mills Station Rd. Suite C, Sacramento, CA 95827 **First come, first served** ***Please DO NOT bring children to the application process, as this location is a correctional facility.***	
Elk Grove Holiday Toy Program	Elk Grove Police Dept. Crime Prevention 8400 Laguna Palms Way Elk Grove, CA 95758	Families must reside within the limits of Elk Grove or the service area of the CSD, Wilton Fire District **2025 application information and dates pending** (as of 10/17/25)	(916) 478-8122
USPS Operation Santa		1) Write Santa's mailing address in the middle of the envelope. Please be sure to use this exact address: **Santa** **123 Elf Road** **North Pole, 88888** 2) Write your full name and address in the upper left corner. 3) Then, apply a first-class stamp in the upper right corner. **Must be postmarked by November 18th.** https://www.uspsoperationsanta.com/	
Union Gospel Mission Food Boxes	400 Bannon St. Sacramento, CA 95814	Thanksgiving Basket: Signups start on **Nov. 1st at 8:00 am** Give away on **Nov. 25th at 12:30 pm** Christmas Basket: Application starts on **Dec. 1st** Give away on **Dec. 23rd** **You must call and sign up for your box for the above dates. Call early, as it is first-come, first-served. If you miss Thanksgiving, you can sign up for Christmas. You can sign up for either holiday, but not both. **Additional, non-holiday services:** ▪ You can receive one food box every 30 days for families w/ children and seniors, ages 62 and above. ▪ Pick-up times are Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:00 – 2:00 pm	(916) 447-3268

		▪ You must call by 11:30 am on the day of pick-up to request a food box. To sign up, call (916) 447-3268 during business hours, Monday – Thursday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (closed 12:00 – 1:00 pm) and Friday, 9:00 – 12:00 pm. ▪ Only one box per household. ▪ You must bring your picture ID along w/proof of residence with your current address, such as a utility bill. 4) https://ugmsac.com/food-box-program/	

Ongoing Food/Meal Resources

NAME OF PROGRAM	ADDRESS	WEBSITE & DEADLINES	PHONE
South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership (SSIP) Food Closet	5625 24th Street, Sacramento, CA 95822	Any person or family coming to the SSIP Food Closet will be served. A form of ID is required. Hours of operation: Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM https://www.ssipfoodcloset.org/	(916) 428-5290
Friendship Park Loaves and Fishes	1200 North C Street, Sacramento, CA 95811	Serve Meals: Monday through Friday 11:30 a.m. - 1:00p.m. Saturday and Sunday: 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. https://sacloaves.org/programs-services/	(916) 446-0874
Mary House	1321 North C Street, Sacramento, CA 95811	Breakfast Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m. https://sacloaves.org/programs-services/	(916) 446-4961
St. Ignatius Loyola Parish	3235 Arden Way, Sacramento, CA 95825	The St. Ignatius Loyola Parish community provides meals for anyone who is hungry on the **last Wednesday of every month** at 6:00 pm in the parish center. Guests also receive toiletry kits and can consult with volunteer nurses. https://www.stignatiussac.org/missionoutreach	(916) 482-9666

River City Food Bank **(Midtown Location)**	1800 – 28th St. Sacramento, CA 95816	Tuesday & Thursday 10:30 am – 1:30 pm https://rivercityfoodbank.org/emergency-food-distribution/	(916) 446-2627

NAME OF PROGRAM	ADDRESS	WEBSITE & DEADLINES	PHONE
River City Food Bank **(Arden-Arcade Location)**	The Center at St. Matthew's 2300 Edison Ave. Sacramento, CA 95821	Wednesday & Friday 10:30 am – 1:30pm https://rivercityfoodbank.org/emergency-food-distribution/	(916) 446-2627
Daughters of Zion Enterpryz (In Partnership with Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services)	6524 – 44th St. Sacramento, CA 95823	Food and Clothes Closet Food distribution: Walk-ins Tuesdays, 1:00 – 2:00 pm & Drive-thru Wednesdays, 4:30 – 6:30 pm *One-way drive-through distribution. Enter distribution via driveway on 47th Street (driveway closest to 47th Avenue).* Clothing and diapers: By appointment only. Call to make an appointment. Frequency: Weekly, until further notice https://www.dozenterpryz.org/foodandclothescloset	(916) 422-3875
St. Vincent de Paul Society	Call or online	Person to person assistance for food, clothing, rent, utilities, furniture, household goods, housing, transportation assistance. Call or email. Messages are checked Monday-Friday; responses usually occur within 24-48 hours. https://www.svdp-sacramento.org/	(916) 572-7553 svdpsachelp@gmail.com