

2025 Kern County Winter Recess Departmental Hours of Operation

Available County Services During Winter Recess

The County is taking Winter Recess from **Wednesday, December 24, 2025, through Thursday, January 1, 2026**. During this time, many County offices and facilities will be closed or have reduced hours.

If a department is not listed, please check that department's website or contact them directly. A list of department websites can be found at www.kerncounty.com/government/departments

Fire and Sheriff emergency services will be fully staffed throughout the holidays. In case of an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

Aging and Adult Services

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess
- Meals on Wheels deliveries will continue as normally scheduled.
- Senior centers will be closed for senior nutrition during this period. Previously scheduled reservations at the senior center will be honored.
- Some Adult Protective Services and Conservatorship Program staff will be working for emergency purposes.

Airport

- Administrative offices will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Commercial flights will continue as regularly scheduled.

Agriculture and Measurement Standards

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- On all days which are not holidays (12/25 and 12/31-1/1/2026) or Sundays, minimal field staff will respond to certain service calls.

Animal Services

- Animal Services will be closed to the public during the Winter Recess.
- Animal Control Officers will be available for emergency response.

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Assessor

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Auditor-Controller/County Clerk/Elections

- Offices will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

- All BHRS service clinics will be open and available to the public during Winter Recess.
- Administrative services are available with limited staffing during Winter Recess.
- The Suicide and Crisis lifeline and Mobile Crisis Response is available 24/7 by dialing **988** throughout the holiday.
- Mental Health Services are accessible at (800) 991-5272 and SUD Services are accessible at (866) 266-4898.
- Crisis Services at the Mary K. Shell site at 2151 College Avenue will remain open.
 - For Health Care Providers: Do not divert client crisis needs to Crisis Services unless team has attempted interventions and services, including after-hour services as needed (teams with on-call staff should respond).

Child Support Services

- All services will be closed to the public Wednesday, December 24, 2025 – Thursday, January 1, 2026.
- Offices and phone lines will reopen on Friday, January 2, 2026.
- Customers can access the payment kiosk at the Bakerfield office in the lobby at 3701 N. Sillect Avenue during normal business hours (8 a.m. – 5 p.m.) on Friday, December 26, Monday, December 29, and Tuesday, December 30. No other services will be offered these days.
- Offices in Ridgecrest, 400 N. China Lake Blvd. and Delano, 455 Lexington St. will be closed to the public on Wednesday, December 24, 2025 – Thursday, January 1, 2026.

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Clerk of the Board

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.

County Administrative Office

- Closed to the public during the Winter Recess.

County Counsel

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Risk management will be available by phone.

District Attorney

- Closed 12/24/25 – 12/25/25 and 12/31/25 -1/1/26
- Open 12/22/25, 12/23/25, and 12/26/25 for Christmas week and 12/29/25, 12/30/25, and 1/2/26 for New Years week.
- Kern County Family Justice Center: Same holiday hours apply. If you are in DANGER, please call 911 or the 24-hour Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-273-7713. For non-emergencies, fill out the intake form online by visiting kcfjc.org. A staff member will contact you within 72 hours of receiving your request for service.

Employers' Training Resource

- Closed to the public during the Winter Recess.

Farm and Home

- The Farm and Home Advisors office will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Fire

- The Kern County Fire Department continues to staff all stations and respond to emergencies and requests for service. If you experience an emergency, please call 9-1-1.

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General Services

- Main office at the County Administrative Center will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Human Resources and Health & Wellness

- Offices will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Human Services

- All offices will be closed during the normal holidays of 12/24/2025 – 12/25/2025 and 12/31/2025 – 1/1/2026.
- The Department of Human Services main building in Bakerfield at 100 East California will be open during the three days of Winter Recess 12/26, 12/29, and 12/30, from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
 - All other outlying offices will be closed during the holidays from 12/24/2025 – 1/1/2026.
 - Phone lines, including the CPS hotline (661) 631-6011 (Countywide) and (760) 375-6049 (Ridgecrest) will be available, as well as online application services.

Information Technology Services

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- On call staff available for departments that are open and/ or working during Winter Recess.
- ITS will have Tech support teams at Mt. Vernon and Truxtun Avenue during Winter Recess.

Libraries

- Kern County library branches will be closed to the public during Winter Recess from 12/24/25 – 1/1/26.
- The eLibrary is available for those with a library card at [Access eBooks & eAudiobooks – KernCountyLibrary.org](https://www.kerncountylibrary.org)

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Planning & Natural Resources

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Last day to submit hard copy applications is December 23, 2025, by close of business.
- Last day for Building Permit Compliance is December 23, 2025.
- Emails and phone calls will be returned beginning Friday, January 2, 2026.

Probation

Probation Department locations and status during the winter recess:

- Adult Probation (1415 Truxtun) Closed to the public, available by appointment only (Investigations: 868-4550 & Supervision: 868-4500).
- Youth Court Services (2005 Ridge Road) Closed to the public, available by appointment only (868- 4100).
- Southeast Center (1600 E. Belle Terrace) Closed to the public, available by appointment only (661- 336-6750).
- Youth Supervision - Stockdale Office (5121 Stockdale Hwy) Closed to the public, available by appointment only at 396-4560.
- Youth Programs and Supports Unit (1809 Ridge Road) closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Bridges Academy (301 E. 18th Street) closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Youth Facilities will remain open during Winter Recess, with the following exceptions:

- Youth Detention Center, 1831 Ridge Road, Bakersfield, CA 93305, (661) 868-4300; visitors' lobby will remain open.
- Kern Crossroads Facility, 17824 Quality Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308, (661) 391-2200, visitors' lobby will be closed to the public.
- Camp Erwin Owen, 14401 Sierra Way, Kernville, CA 93238, (760) 376-2844, office will be closed to the public.

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Public Health

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Will be accepting lab specimens only.

Public Works

In observance of the upcoming holidays and Winter Recess, Kern County Public Works would like to inform the public of the following:

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 – Christmas Eve

- **CLOSED:** Kern County Public Works Offices
- **OPEN:** County Disposal Sites and Special Waste Facilities will be operating under normal business hours

Thursday, December 25, 2025 – Christmas Day

- **CLOSED:** Kern County Public Works Offices
- **CLOSED:** County Disposal Sites and Special Waste Facilities

December 26, 29, & 30, 2025 – Winter Recess

- **CLOSED:** Kern County Public Works Offices
- **OPEN:** County Disposal Sites and Special Waste Facilities will be operating under normal business hours

Wednesday, December 31, 2025 – New Year's Eve

- **CLOSED:** Kern County Public Works Offices
- **OPEN:** County Disposal Sites and Special Waste Facilities will be operating under normal business hours

Thursday, January 1, 2026 – New Year's Day

- **CLOSED:** Kern County Public Works Offices
- **CLOSED:** County Disposal Sites and Special Waste Facilities

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Public Works (continued)

Building Inspection (Building Permits, Inspection, and Plan Check)

In observance of the upcoming holidays, Kern County Public Works – Building Inspection Division (BID), wishes to inform the public of the following closure:

December Winter Recess Closure

- Closed from Wednesday, December 24, 2025, through Thursday, January 1, 2026
- During the closure, no new permits will be processed, and no inspections will be conducted.

Permit Submittals During Closure

Online Permit Portal:

- The online portal will remain open throughout the holiday period. Applicants are encouraged to continue submitting permit applications online at any time.

Important:

Complete plans must be uploaded within 30 days of the initial application date. Applications not actively pursued within 30 days will be canceled in accordance with the Building Official's determination.

Important Dates:

Last Day to Apply in Person: Tuesday, December 23, 2025, by 4:00 p.m.

Last Day for Inspections: Tuesday, December 23, 2025

Upcoming Code Change:

The 2025 California Building Standards Code (Title 24) takes effect on Thursday, January 1, 2026. All applications submitted on or after this date must comply with the new code.

Contact Information:

For questions, please contact Building Inspection at 661-862-8650.

Normal business operations will resume on Friday, January 2, 2026.

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Public Works (continued)

Code Compliance will be closed during Winter Recess.

Flood, Drainage, and Grading will be closed during Winter Recess.

County Service Areas (CSA) will be closed during Winter Recess.

Sanitation Districts will be operating with adequate staff to operate the respective wastewater treatment facilities, as well as respond to emergency calls during Winter Recess. **In the case of a sewer emergency, call 661-203-6026.**

Construction Projects will not be operating between December 24, 2025, through January 1, 2026.

Road Maintenance will be on call for emergencies including impacts related to weather during Winter Recess. **To report a road maintenance emergency, contact California Highway Patrol (CHP) or your local law enforcement agency.**

Traffic Signals and Sign Maintenance will be on call for emergencies including impacts related to weather during Winter Recess. **For emergencies related to traffic signals and roadway signs, contact California Highway Patrol (CHP) or your local law enforcement agency.**

Encroachment Permit Inspection will be closed during Winter Recess.

Transportation Permits will be operating with reduced hours and reduced staff during Winter Recess.

Public Services Building Cashier Counter and 1st Floor Kiosk will be closed during Winter Recess.

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Public Works (continued)

Kern Transit will operate its regularly scheduled service, except for the following:

- Kern Transit will be fully closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
 - Kern Transit will operate reduced service hours for Route 100 & 250 only on December 24, 2025, and December 31, 2025.
 - ❖ **Route 100** will not be running the following trips:
 - EB departing Bakersfield at 3:50 p.m. & WB departing Lancaster at 7:30 p.m.
 - EB departing Bakersfield at 5:15 p.m. & WB departing Lancaster at 8:50 p.m.
 - ❖ **Route 250** will not be running the following trip:
 - EB departing California City at 8:35 p.m. to Mojave
 - Kern Transit Dispatch can be reached throughout Winter Recess as normal at 800-323-2396, except during the reduced service hours and on full closure days.

For information on County Disposal Sites and Special Waste Facilities hours of operation visit www.kernpublicworks.com. For updates, follow us on Facebook [@KernCountyPublicWorks](https://www.facebook.com/KernCountyPublicWorks).

Recorder/Hall of Records

- Closed to the public on 12/25/2025 and 1/1/2026.
- Open from 8 a.m. – 12 noon on 12/24/2025 and 12/31/2025.

Sheriff

The Sheriff's Office will be observing the Christmas holidays on December 24 and 25, and the New Year's holidays on December 31, 2025, and January 1, 2025.

The County of Kern will be observing a period of Winter Recess which includes all non-holiday business days between Christmas and New Year's, specifically December 26, 29, and 30. While we will be available to respond to calls for service, many of our lobbies/counters will be closed to the public.

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Sheriff (continued)

The Following will remain open during the holidays and Winter Recess:

- Communications Center is available 24/7. Non-emergency: 661-861-3110
Emergency: 9-1-1
- Coroner will respond as usual; however, public lobby is closed December 24, 2025 – January 1, 2026. Phone: (661)392-6700.
- Courts Unit (Metro and Justice)
- Justice Inmate Receiving Facility Clerks' Office
- The following will be open December 26, 29, and 30:
 - Electronic Monitoring Program

The following will be closed December 24, December 25, December 31, and January 1, 2026:

- Civil Processing Unit

The following will be closed from December 24, 2025, through January 1, 2026:

- Property Room
- Public Administrator's Section
- Building A (HR/Personnel) will be closed. All calls will be forwarded to Crime Reports during the Winter Recess.
- Work Release and Registration Unit
- Licensing Unit (Closed January 2)
- Records Unit
- Arrest Records: (661) 391-7624
- Crime Reports: (661)391-7623 (for vehicle releases only)

The following Substations will be open during Winter Recess:

- Kern Valley Substation
- North Area Substation (Buttonwillow)
- Lamont Substation
- Frazier Park Substation
- Rosamond Substation

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Sheriff (continued)

The following Substation will be Closed December 26, Open on December 29 and Closed December 30:

- Taft Substation

The following Substations will be Closed December 26, but remain Open December 29 and December 30:

- Mojave Substation

The following Substation will be Open December 26, Closed on December 29 and December 30:

- Tehachapi Substation

The following Substations will be closed during the Winter Recess:

- Ridgecrest Substation
- Delano Substation

Treasurer/Tax Collector

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Taxpayers can get property tax information and pay their property taxes online on our website at: www.kcttc.co.kern.ca.us

Veterans Services

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess. Inquiries can still be submitted to kernvets@kerncounty.com