



**FIRE
SAFE
MARIN**

**MARIN WILDFIRE
PREVENTION AUTHORITY**

INVESTING IN A FIRE ADAPTED MARIN COUNTY



Junk the Juniper!

Juniper is a hazardous plant in areas where wildfire are likely to happen. While junipers are one of the hardiest and drought-tolerant shrubs, they are also one of the most fire prone species, sometimes referred to as a “gasoline bush” by firefighters. The structure of juniper allows for embers to become trapped, igniting the dead and dry vegetation within the plant.



Learn about the FREE Marin [chipper day program](#) funded by Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority that can help get rid of removed juniper!

Let's talk about hazardous plants!

While all plants can burn, there are some that have characteristics making them more flammable. Plants that are highly flammable generally have fine, dry or dead leaves or needles within the plant. Their leaves, twigs and stems contain volatile waxes or oils and the leaves have a strong odor when crushed. Their sap is gummy, resinous and also has a strong smell. Some have loose or papery bark.

Fire-Smart Recommendations

- **Prioritize removing juniper that is within 5ft of your home.**
- **Remove junipers within 100' of structures or 10' of roads and driveways (as required by fire code adopted by Marin fire agencies).**
- **Maintain the juniper so it is completely free of dead needles and twiggy material. Thin and separate into individual bushes.**
- **Assess your situation. Some situations might require removal of juniper overtime, especially on a steep slope that is vulnerable to landslides.**
- **Here is a [guide](#) to help you choose new plants for the cleared area.**