

Response to Q&A  
Wildfire Watch Sept 26, 2022

1 - Why isn't foam fire retardant used for extinguishing fires on Vehicles and warehouse fires etc? Sewdens jet fire fighters used for fire fighting, jets fly at 1,200 miles ph and take off and land very short fields, will responfd in minutes and extengish fires out in minutes single missele extinguish fire size of 3 foot ball fields. Jets access any location no matter where land fire fights can't access.

All of Marin's fire engines carry and use Class A foam for fires, including buildings, vehicle and wildland fires. Our fixed wing aircraft use retardant and our rotor wing aircraft inject foam into the water that they drop. The State of California utilizes state of the art aircraft ranging from turbo jet prop planes, jet powered planes and advanced rotor wing aircraft capable of operating at night. The average response time to Marin is 20 minutes. 90% of our fires two fixed wing tankers and one helicopter are dispatched at the same time as our fire engines. Utilizing missiles would not be advisable in Marin as the majority of our fires have firefighters on the ground before the aircraft arrive. Additionally, many of our fires are near homes. The use of missiles, which is unproven technology, would endanger the lives of those on the ground.

2 - I live in Fairfax and am really concerned being dependent on SFD Blvd to get out of town - either east or west. Are there evacuation routes specific to each neighborhood? For example, if I live toward the western boundary of Fairfax and SFD Blvd east is open, will our neighborhood be directed that way by police? Also, I wear hearing aids and don't sleep with them. I worry about not knowing about a fire overnight. I can't hear my phone without my aids either.

Sir Francis Drake is the primary evacuation artery for Fairfax. Depending on the location and direction of spread of a fire, law enforcement will direct traffic in the appropriate direction – and sometimes may direct traffic in both directions. We suggest you buy a phone that rings loud enough to wake you without hearing aids while you are sleeping. Purchasing a NOAA radio and setting the alarm at the highest level is also advisable. But most importantly, please make sure your neighbors know of this situation and have a plan with them to provide for the ability for them to wake you up.

3 - Please clarify what's involved with agencies for Shelter-in-place, vs. Evac. Warning, vs. Evac Order.

Also, the residents should be doing for each notification type.

When the Unified Command partners (law enforcement and fire department officials) issue the following, here is what is expected from the residents receiving those notifications:

Shelter in Place - Go indoors. Shut and lock doors and windows. Prepare to self-sustain until further notice and/or contacted by emergency personnel for additional direction.

Evacuation Warning - Potential threat to life and/or property. Those who require additional time to evacuate, and those with pets and livestock should leave now. Others should prepare to evacuate by loading their go bags into their cars, ensuring their cars are pointed away from their house and ready to evacuate should an evacuation order be issued.

Evacuation Order - – Immediate threat to life. This is a lawful order to leave now. The area is lawfully closed to public access. Evacuate now.

4 - Your aircraft hindered by weather conditions, Jet Fire fighter aren't, and fire retardants in missiles don't damage environments.

Jet fighters have the same weather parameters in the wildfire environment and missiles are dangerous to those on the ground.

5. Conditions for Disabled, has all agencies shared exact locations

It is important for members of the access and functional needs (AFN) community to plan for emergencies. It should not be expected that public safety officers will be available to support people during evacuations. The number of people requiring support far outnumber the amount of on-duty public safety officers. Residents should have plans with friends, neighbors and family for their evacuation.

We strongly encourage members of this community to contact the Marin Center for Independent Living for assistance in developing emergency plans

<https://www.marincil.org>

6. Can you share a sound clip to hi lo siren

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdzCzJ5BBek>

7 - During your tests, you asked people to carpool. During the Santa Rosa fire, everyone took as many of their cars as they had drivers. Have you planned for multiple cars per family on the Marin roads?

The short answer is yes, we anticipate more vehicles than one per residence. Our Evacuation/Ingress/Egress risk assessment is modeling evacuation traffic that would be expected in many different scenarios and is inclusive of more than one vehicle per residence.

8. of disabled people and you provide satellite connections for West Marin people and regions that cell signals aren't strong.

In areas where there is poor cell reception, we recommend purchase of a NOAA weather radio which will broadcast alerts during major emergencies.

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/get-alerts-safety-updates/>

[https://www.weather.gov/nwr&ln\\_desc=NOAA+Weather+Radio/](https://www.weather.gov/nwr&ln_desc=NOAA+Weather+Radio/)

9. Are Alert Marin and Nixle functionally identical or complimentary?

Alert Marin and Nixle are different. Basically, Alert Marin is used for major emergencies and is Marin's most important warning system. , Nixle is more commonly used for day to day announcements about road closures, etc. although evacuation warnings will also be broadcast over Nixle.

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/get-alerts-safety-updates/>

10. We live in the hills of San Anselmo on Woodside Drive, with the only out being Butterfield. Is there a Evacuation Plan for this area?

Yes, there are evacuation plans for all of Marin. More information about Sleepy Hollow can be found here

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-maps/>

11 - More info about wildfire cameras, please.

History: <https://firesafemarin.org/programs/fire-detection-cameras/>

The wildfire cameras can be found at [www.alertca.live](http://www.alertca.live). It is a simple website to manipulate in order to find the camera you would like to see. The website location has just change the address given and we are all updating our links on our websites and we encourage you to update your bookmarks if you have the previous link bookmarked.

12 Are there plans for Tam Valley evacuation?

Yes, there are evacuation plans for all of Marin. More information about Tam Valley can be found here

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-maps/>

13 - If we leave our home, how will it be protected? Also, we're older and may need assistance. What kind of assistance can we expect?

Incoming fire resources will assess the situation and protect homes based on current conditions and resources available. Law enforcement is required by law to provide security within evacuation zones. Older residents should have plans with friends, neighbors and family for their evacuation. It should not be expected that public safety officers will be available to support people during evacuations. The number of people requiring support far outnumber the amount of on-duty public safety officers.

14 Hi lo siren

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdzCzJ5BBek>

15 - Where will Inverness residents go? Why not camp out at the ocean beaches? At least we'd be out of your way.

Inverness residents will likely be asked to shelter in Point Reyes or perhaps along the 101 corridor. The beaches can serve as temporary refuge areas under certain circumstances. However, depending on the location of the fire, the direction of travel to the beaches may actually put residents in more danger while traveling to the beaches. And it needs to be emphasized, beaches are a short term answer and relocation will be necessary for longer term evacuations.

16, Nixle = "News" / info (N=N)

Alert Marin = "Action" (A=A)

17. [Can you also mention to people the county's Emergency Portal](https://emergency.marincounty.org/)

[\(https://emergency.marincounty.org/\)](https://emergency.marincounty.org/) where we continuously post updates during an emergency. It is not a substitute for AlertMarin - but will provide ongoing updates during an emergency. (from Woody Baker-Cohn at County OES).

18. what is the evacuation plan for those neighborhoods up against china camp...Glenwood, LochLomond, etc.?

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-map>

19. I live above Tamalpais High School. Should I go to the Tam field? Or will it be in the gym?

If there is a wildfire, evacuation directions will depend on the size of the fire, wind and weather, etc. For more information on Tam Valley:

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-maps/>

20. Please update us on the current state of Zonehaven. Is it active/functional for all of Marin?

Zonehaven is active and in use. <https://emergency.marincounty.org/pages/evacuation>

21. <https://www.bing.com/search?q=swedens+jet+firefighters&cvid=089771148c544123b036b33db26412c3&aqs=edge..69i57.25955j0j1&pglt=43&FORM=ANNTA1&PC=W046>

22. I would like to see the evacuation map for where I live: Where can I access it. And on this theme, is there a way to send us email with all the links needed? Those referenced today went by too fast to note. Thank you.

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-maps/>

23. Is there general guidance/recommendations at the County-level for schools to develop evacuation plans based on best practices or is each school/school district developing their own plans?

California Education Code Section 35295 requires public and private schools to develop school disaster plans so that students and staff will act instinctively and correctly when a disaster strikes. The Marin County Office of Education developed this Model School Emergency Management Plan designed to provide administrators with a resource for protecting students, staff and school facilities, as well as to describe the responsibilities of staff members for a wide range of emergency and disaster situations that may occur.

<https://www.smcsd.org/documents/Resources/Emergency-Preparedness/Manuals-and-Lists/SMCSD%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20Plan%202020-2021.pdf>

24 - It seems like some of the important recommendations or possibilities from the Mill Valley Google study and other sources have not been mentioned tonight.

The MWPA has initiated an Evacuation/Ingress/Egress Risk Assessment. This risk assessment includes fire modeling to determine the expected fire conditions threatening evacuation routes under several different fire scenarios; evaluation of the road and traffic infrastructure to identify vulnerabilities; traffic modeling to identify locations that will require active support to ensure traffic flow; and the communications infrastructure to identify holes in our emergency notification system so we can create mechanisms to fill those gaps. This risk assessment is covering all roads in the MWPA's member agencies jurisdictions. This risk assessment will help to inform the work conducted to make our evacuation routes safer and help to inform our public safety officials during emergencies so they can execute the most effective plan. Some of the options include taking control of intersections with law enforcement officers to move vehicles through the intersections quickly; provide for ingress of emergency equipment while providing for egress of residents; use of temporary refuge areas to get residents out of harm's way quickly and decrease traffic, etc.

In looking at the Marinwood mutual threat zone map., which I think is what you are referencing. Where is the map "key" that identifies red lines, purple lines, etc? It only seems to color code the defense zones.

25. In looking at the Marinwood mutual threat zone map., which I think is what you are referencing. Where is the map "key" that identifies red lines, purple lines, etc? It only seems to color code the defense zones.

Those features come from Marin Map and are used to designate cities, communities, etc. <https://www.marinmap.org/Html5Viewer/Index.html?viewer=smmdataviewer>

26 - How can our neighborhood improve our narrow dead-end road to accommodate both vehicle evacuation and fire equipment accessibility? (Novato Heights)

Work with your local fire department and public works officials to create a specific plan for your community.

Any chance you can have the lower limbs of the redwood and pine trees removed along Magnolia Avenue (between Dartmouth Drive and Doherty Drive in Larkspur)? Magnolia Avenue is a major evacuation route. Limb (and possibly entire tree removal) would improve the safety of this route.

27, Any chance you can have the lower limbs of the redwood and pine trees removed along Magnolia Avenue (between Dartmouth Drive and Doherty Drive in Larkspur)?

Magnolia Avenue is a major evacuation route. Limb (and possibly entire tree removal) would improve the safety of this route.

This is not related to the topic. Please contact your local fire department for assistance.

28 - Couldn't find anything on Zonehaven for Inverness

Go to this website, <https://emergency.marincounty.org/pages/evacuation>, or <https://community.zonehaven.com/?latlon=38.468295122363536,-122.6367548031828&z=10>, enter your address and you will learn what evacuation zone you are in and it will show the status of the evacuation zone. We just double checked, Inverness is included.

You said that evacuation routes are available on Firewise website, but I cant find that info.
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Where would I find Fairfax's evacuation plan?
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Sorry didnt finish my comment above. My understanding is that if each household exit in one car - not all of them- that can be a huge help. Are you recommending that? if not ahy not?
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Yes, we recommend families and neighbors car pool whenever possible to reduce traffic congestion.

32 - How do you corulate with state EOS?

The State of California arguably has the best mutual aid system in the nation, if not the world. The Marin County Fire Department (MCFD) is designated as the County's Operational Area Coordinator. The MCFD's Emergency Command Center is connected to the nationwide resource ordering system. All local, state and federal resources are ordered through this system. California OES, CAL FIRE and the Federal Government receive requests from the County of Marin through this efficient and streamlined resource ordering system. As an example, 90% of wildfires in Marin County receive up to 22 pieces of equipment rolling or flying to a fire on INITIAL DISPATCH. This includes 1 Air Attack (the air traffic controller for fires), 2 fixed wing tankers and 1 helicopter from CAL FIRE. For fires near the county line, resources from Sonoma County are automatically dispatched as well. For fires that exceed the capabilities of the initial attack resources, additional resources are ordered through this system.

33. Like other Marin County residents, we live in an Internet "dead zone." If the power is off, and we lose our WiFi, what is the best way to receive emergency information?

In areas where there is poor cell reception, we recommend purchase of a NOAA weather radio which will broadcast alerts during major emergencies.

<https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/get-alerts-safety-updates/>

[https://www.weather.gov/nwr&In\\_desc=NOAA+Weather+Radio/](https://www.weather.gov/nwr&In_desc=NOAA+Weather+Radio/)

34. Does alert marin work in middle of night if your phone is on do not disturb?

Use either the voicemail or the txt msg to create a Contact entry for AlertMarin. Both will have the phone number that AlertMarin uses. This step prevents Alerts from being labeled SPAM. Then make AlertMarin a Favorite so that it will ring at night when all other calls are silent.

35. No mention of ReadyMarin.org?

[readymarin.org](http://readymarin.org)

36. 30 minutes???? What happened to Q&A ???

The last 5-10 minutes was Q&A and this document, as promised, addresses questions we did not have time to answer.

37. [I just looked at the map at emergency.marincounty.org](http://emergency.marincounty.org). I live on Paradise Dr., which appears to have no Evacuation designation. What does this mean in terms of this area getting evacuation information?

All areas of Marin are mapped for evacuation. I assume you live in Tiburon. Please contact your local fire department to request evacuation information.

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Go to this website, <https://emergency.marincounty.org/pages/evacuation>, or <https://community.zonehaven.com/?latlon=38.468295122363536,-122.6367548031828&z=10>, enter your address and you will learn what evacuation zone you are in and it will show the status of the evacuation zone. We just double checked, Paradise Drive is included.