

Reminder! Annual Fire Hazard Reduction Work Required

Dear Homeowner(s),

The Association wants to remind you that the grasses and other plant materials found on your property may pose a significant fire hazard to your immediate neighbors and potentially the Community as a whole. In addition to applicable fire codes and laws, the Association CC&Rs, Article V, Responsibilities for Maintenance, Repair and Replacement, Section 5.2(a) states, “***Members are to maintain the Lot and Improvements, if any, in good appearance and repair, and in such a way as to not create a fire, safety, erosion or drainage hazard.***”

As such, the Association requires that you take appropriate steps to mitigate these issues on an annual basis by reducing the (fire) fuel materials found on your property consistent with the guidelines contained on the enclosed Marin County Fire Department’s *Defensible Space* flyer, which includes providing a defensible space of at least 100' from the structure OR to the property line, whichever is closer [California Public Resources Code Sec. 4291]. We recommend that you calendar this work for completion on an annual basis and prior to the start of the fire season, which typically occurs after the seasonal rains (i.e. early-to-mid May).

Please direct all inquiry on this matter to the Association (via Sharp Property Services) or to the Marin County Fire Department, Tomales Fire Station at 707-878-2464. More information about creating a defensible space and protecting your home can be found at www.marincounty.org/depts/fr and www.firesafemarin.org.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors
Oceana Marin Association

Enclosure: MCFD Defensible Space Flyer

WILDFIRE IS COMING. ARE YOU... READY?

KNOW THE LAW BE FIRE SMART

100 FEET OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE IS REQUIRED UNDER THE PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE (PRC) 4291. CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE CHAPTER 7A REQUIRES CERTAIN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS FOR HOMES IN WILDLAND AREAS. BE SURE TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS TO ENSURE YOUR HOME IS COMPLIANT WITH THE LAW. WWW.FIRESAFEMARIN.ORG/THELAW



Wildfire Preparedness Checklist 2018

Evacuation Routes

- Do you know all possible routes out?
- Owners are responsible to maintain vegetation on their property to keep roads, driveways, and routes clear!
- Emergency vehicles need 12' width & 15' vertical clearance.
- Coordinate & help your neighbors.
- Have a plan for animals & know what to take. Go EARLY!

Defensible Space

- 100' required by law to keep fire away from your home.
- Create a buffer zone around your home by removing grass, weeds, brush and all dead vegetation.
- Create space between plants and limb trees 6' above ground.

Hardening your home

- Make your home fire resistant with design and materials.
- Keep balconies & decks clean. Embers can collect in or on combustible surfaces or undersides of decks.
- Roofs are the most vulnerable surface where embers can land. Use gutter guards or screens and keep clean.
- Embers can ignite your home under open eaves.
- Embers can enter the attic or other spaces. Screen vents with 1/8" mesh.
- Embers can enter gaps in doors. Remove plants or combustible items near windows.

Alert Marin: Emergency Notification System!

- Emergency officials use Alert Marin to send rapid alerts.
- Register at www.AlertMarin.org to receive voice, text & email notifications for evacuations and emergencies.



Marin County Fire Department
P.O. Box 518
Woodacre, CA 94973

DEFENSIBLE SPACE SELF-INSPECTION – COMPLETE ANNUALLY BY JULY 1

Defensible Space is your property's front-line defense against wildfire. Creating and maintaining defensible space around your home dramatically increases your home's chance of surviving a wildfire and improves the safety of firefighters defending your property. 100 feet of defensible space is required by law (PRC 4291).

TWO ZONES MAKE UP THE REQUIRED 100 FEET OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE:

ZONE 1: 0- 30 Feet. "Lean, Clean & Green"

1. Remove all dry or dead plants, grass, and weeds.
2. Remove all dead vegetation and fallen leaves, needles and limbs from your yard, roof and rain gutters.
1. Keep tree branches limbed up 6' from ground and 10' away from your chimney and roof (minimum).

Vertical Plant & Tree Spacing

Large trees don't need to be removed as long as the plants beneath them are removed. Remove limbs to at least 6' off the ground to eliminate a vertical "fire ladder."



ZONE 2: 30–100 Feet. *Reduced Fuel*"

4. Cut or mow annual grasses down to a maximum height of 4 inches. Rake and remove cut grass.
5. Create horizontal spacing between shrubs and trees*.
6. Create vertical spacing between grass, shrubs and trees. Use additional spacing on slopes*.

Horizontal Plant & Tree Spacing

Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants and trees. The amount of spacing required increases on steeper slopes and with larger plants.



*Learn more about fire safe plant selection, spacing, and landscaping at www.FireSafeMarin.org/plants

Use Power Equipment Properly to Keep from Sparking a Wildfire

7. Mow before 10 a.m., and never on a hot or windy day. String trimmers are safer than metal blade mowers for clearing vegetation. Never use power tools outdoors when a Red Flag Warning is in effect.

VACANT LOTS AND LAND

4907.20 of 2013 CA Fire Code – Marin County Ordinance 3550 states in part that owners of land adjacent to structures are required to maintain a fuel break 30-150 feet from structures, depending on topographic and condition of vegetation.

- Remove all shrubs with branches less than 4 inches in diameter within 10 feet of grade, 30 feet from the property line shared with the adjacent structure.
- Mow seasonal grasses to a height of less than 3 inches within 30 feet from the property line shared with the adjacent structure
- Remove all dead branches and vegetation, as well as the grass and branches resulting from the above activities, within 50 feet of the property line shared with an adjacent structure.

WANT TO LEARN MORE?



Visit FIRESafe MARIN at www.FireSafeMarin.org
or CAL FIRE at www.ReadyForWildfire.org

FREE GREEN WASTE DAYS (WEST MARIN)

June 9-10 & July 14-15: Drop-off cut vegetation for free at West Marin Compost in Nicasio.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions, or need assistance developing a defensible space plan for your property, please contact your local fire agency or the MCFD Defensible Space Program at 415-473-2207 or defensiblespace@marincounty.org