

BAYSIDE ACRES

FIREWISE NEWS

Issue # 2: A Look Inside

Our second issue leads with a humorous story that occurred on Bayview Drive. Other articles focus on **wildfire evacuation to help prepare you for our Wildfire Evacuation Drill on July 23.** We also **feature State Farm insurance discounts** to kickoff our series on the Firewise-related insurance discounts now available.

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Bayside Acres Firewise Team

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BANA Website: [Firewise](#)

This Story Will Get Your Goat

Two wayward "kids" wandered onto Bayview Drive after slipping away from their grazing flock in the nearby Dominican hills in late June. Their first stop was to the Bayside Marin Luxury Drug rehab. They trotted in through the front door, ostensibly to seek help for



their "weed" addiction. They were promptly shepherded out, and the Marin Humane Society and Marin County Sheriff were notified. Three days later they were reunited with their flock where they are being encouraged to eat as much weed as possible.

San Rafael Fire Department's Vegetation Management Division is partnered with the Department of Public Works to bring goats into San Rafael's open space to keep grasses and dead vegetation down to less than 3" to meet the Wildland Urban Interface standard for properties and homes in the WUI.

In Short: A weed whacker might be a better choice for homeowners. There are no User Manuals for goats.



Now Playing

Watch our Zoom recording

of San Rafael Deputy Director of Emergency Management Quinn Gardner's

discussion with Bayside Acres' neighbors as we prepare for our Wildfire Evacuation drill on July 23rd.

- What is our **Evacuation Zone**? [SNR-E552](#)
- How To [Sign Up for Alerts and break through Sleep Mode](#) on your phone?
- What should you do when you hear [Marin County's Hi-Lo siren](#)?
- Tips on **evacuating pets**
- **Who will open the locked county gates** on Bayview and Main drives if the roads are blocked?
- **How can fire officials open your locked driveway gate** to alert you if you are asleep or incapacitated?
- **What should you put in your Go-Bag?**
- **What should you include in your Grab & Go List?**



Bayside Acres First Wildfire Evacuation Drill - July 23rd

Since "Practice Makes Perfect," Bayside Acres Firewise Team (BAFT) has scheduled its first Wildfire Evacuation Drill for 10 am on July 23rd. Sign up [here](#) to debrief at noon on Zoom.

Here is how it will work:

- **10 am:** The drill officially begins. We will not leave our driveways, but this exercise will test our readiness and make us aware of the time it takes to...
 - [Load your Go-Bags and pets into the car.](#)
 - [Go through our Grab & Go checklists of important items](#) such as photos, medications, passports and jewelry, all things that we would like to take if time permits.
 - [Prepare your home:](#) Bring inside flammable cushions on deck furniture, move propane tanks and brooms away from the house.
- **Noon:** Dial in to our Zoom Call to de-brief.
 - **Share:**
 - **Fails:** Did you forget anything? What would you do differently?
 - **Successes:** Tips and revelations.
 - **How much time did it take?** Were you surprised?
 - **Photos/Videos:** Make us think or make us laugh.



Sign Up for Critical Alerts:

[Alert Marin](#) is keyed to your home's address.

[Nixle](#) is a source of information on potentially dangerous events that occur in your ZIP code.

[PG&E](#) will alert you to any planned Public Safety Power Shutoffs. Log into your PG&E account to make sure that your contact information is correct.

[ZoneHaven](#) is a new online resource that includes evacuation information by zones/neighborhoods and provides real-time data on wildfires, emergencies, and fire risks.

[Marin County Public Emergency Portal](#) is the #1 source of local information during an emergency and for emergency preparedness and response.

Learn more about these alerts and how to bypass DO NOT DISTURB/SLEEP MODE on your Smartphone at BAFT's [Early Warning Systems](#) web page.



When You Hear Hi-Lo... It's Time to Go

The devastating fires in Napa and Sonoma counties prompted San Rafael and Marin County to implement Hi-Lo sirens on squad cars. The sirens complement, but do not replace, Nixle and Alert Marin. They are used in the event of extreme emergencies.

When you hear Hi-Lo...It's time to go. The sirens make an "ee-oo-ee-oo" sound. [Click here](#) to hear the siren being demonstrated in a Central Marin Police YouTube video.

MARIN COUNTY EVACUATED SHERIFF

You can pick up an Evacuation Tag (pictured above) from the Sheriff's office at the Marin Civic Center or the local fire and police stations. In the event of an evacuation, place a tag on your door, gate or garage to let the fire officials know you have safely evacuated with your family and pets.

What to Pack in Your Go-Bag



Pack Your "Essential" Items in Your Go-Bag

- Water & snacks
- Cash
- Flashlight & batteries
- Battery-powered crank radio
- N-95 respirator, gloves and hat
- Toiletries and sanitation supplies
- Maps
- Change of clothing, shoes
- Bandana
- Goggles
- Can Opener
- Duct Tape

Don't forget your pets!

They Need Go-Bags Too

(See "Evacuate Your Pets Safely," Page 5)



Grab & Go List

- Most "Need" items should be in Go Bag & Kit
- Establish list of "Want" items
- Organize by priority or location
- Practice loading into car
 - Does it all fit?
 - How long did it take?

You are more important!



List Your "Want" Items In Your Grab & Go List

Make a list of important items in your home that you can't fit—or it's not practical to store—in your Go-Bags. These are items that you may use every day or are valuable. You will have to decide if you have time to gather them, but this Grab & Go list will keep you focused. Assign family members responsibility for each item or for various rooms where they reside.

- Load your family's Go-Bags into the car
- Load pets and their Go-Bags into the car (see Page 5)
- Car Keys
- Wallet/Credit Cards
- Prescriptions and medications
- Important documents (birth certificates, passports, medical cards, insurance policies). Consider uploading copies of these to the cloud.
- Eyeglasses or contact lenses
- Phone chargers & power banks
- Computers, hard-drives
- Family photos, small irreplaceable items
- Jewelry
- Toiletries

EVACUATION TERMINOLOGY

Evacuation Order

- Evacuate immediately. Don't delay to gather belongings or prepare your home.

Evacuation Warning

- Evacuate as soon as possible. A short delay to gather your Go Kit & prepare your home is OK.

Shelter in place

- Stay secured in current location. Evacuation is not needed or would cause greater threat to life.

Evacuation Order: Evacuate Immediately.

Evacuation Warning: Evacuate as soon as possible.

Shelter in Place: Stay in current location.

Engage Your Neighbors



- Who will need help?
- Who has unattended pets at home?
- Who has resources?
- Where is the meeting place?
- Let the right people know about you.



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Evacuate Your Pets Safely

These tips are important not only for your pets' safety, but also for you and your family. How many news stories have we heard of people dashing back into homes to find frightened pets after an evacuation order has been given?

- **Pet Carriers:** Make sure you have one for each pet.
- **Pet Go-Bags:**
 - **Food** for 1 day plus a little extra to mix with new food you will have to buy later. **Water:** 1-2 bottles;
 - **Medications;**
 - **Collapsible water bowls, leashes, litter box. Toy;**
 - **Documentation of your pet's vaccinations** or on your phone so you can show that to a kennel, vet, etc;
 - **Air Filter Mask** (**K9Mask**® (pictured here) sells them for dogs).

- **Know pet-friendly hotels and vets outside your area.**
- **Your pets should wear tags and be microchipped.**
- **Fire officials are required to rescue pets.**



BANA Summer Party on August 7th

- Our annual neighborhood BBQ is coming back to Loch Lomond Yacht Club on August 7th from 4-7pm Sign up [here](#).
- We will have a short Firewise presentation by a fire official.

Questions?



Do you have a "burning" question for your Firewise team?

Contact:

firewise@baysideacres.org

What is Firewise?

Bayside Acres became a Firewise USA Nationally Recognized Site on May 14, 2020.

We were [re-certified in 2021](#) thanks to our neighbors who reported their work clearing defensible space and hardening their homes. Each year we must meet Firewise® USA's minimum dollars/hours spent. Insurance discounts may apply.

BAFT works closely with FIREsafe Marin, San Rafael Fire, County Fire, and the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority to help make our community safer.

Please [report](#) your 2022 expenditures today so we can maintain our Firewise status.

Special Report: Insurance Discounts



State Farm Discounts for Firewise

State Farm implemented wildfire mitigation discounts of up to 7% in April 2022. Our neighbors in Chicken Point were delighted that they qualified for a 2% discount after State Farm verified with Firewise USA that our Bayside Acres community is in good standing.

If homeowners meet **ALL** the following requirements, State Farm offers an additional 5% "property level discount:"

- 1. Roof Material:** All structures must have 100% qualifying roof material:
 - ✦ Asphalt composition shingle; Tile; Metal; Concrete; Slate; Hot mop.
- 2. Defensible Space**
 - ✦ 5 foot non-combustible defensible space around the structure;
 - ✦ Roofs and gutters must be clear of all debris;
 - ✦ Non-combustible defensible space as defined will not burn or transfer fire. The following are examples of unacceptable items within this space:
 - Mulch, dead leaves, grass, weeds, branches, twigs, cones, pine needles and debris from the ground;
 - Combustible furniture and decor;
 - Plants, shrubs, flowers, continuous bed of plantings;
 - Wood piles, scrap lumber or other combustible material.
 - ✦ 5' to 30' defensible space zone around the structure:
 - 1) Clear of dead leaves, grass, weeds, branches, twigs, cones, pine needles and debris from the ground and in-between brush and trees;
 - 2) All shrubs and trees at least 10 feet apart;
 - 3) Shrub islands or patches of flowers must be at least 10' apart;
 - 4) A continuous bed of plantings is not acceptable.
- 3. Siding Material**
 - ✦ All structures have 100% non-combustible or ignition-resistant siding:
 - 1) Stucco
 - 2) Metal
 - 3) Fiber cement
 - 4) Brick
 - 5) Concrete
 - 6) Stone.
- 4. Vertical Non-Combustible Space Required**
 - ✦ Minimum of 6" between the ground and where siding starts.
- 5. Area Under Deck or Porch**
 - ✦ All raised decks and porches are clear of stored combustible material or debris;
 - ✦ Raised deck and porch is defined as any structure with space underneath which allows for the accumulation.

For more information, see [State Farm Insurance](#).