



FIRE CHIEF ISSUES A CALL TO ACTION!

Chief George Krakauer, the Bolinas Fire Protection District staff, and our 20 volunteer firefighters urge individual residents to act now to help make our town better prepared for wildfire.

What we need YOU to do:

EVACUATION

Nothing is more important than preparing yourself, your family, and animals for possible evacuation in case of an emergency. The following steps can go a long way toward making you ready for evacuation:



- Know your **Community Refuge Areas (CRAs)**, and plan multiple routes and modes of transportation to them if evacuation routes are impassable. A CRA is a designated location considered to provide a greater level of survivability than sheltering-in-place. In Bolinas, the BFPD has identified **Mesa Park**, the **Bolinas School** and the **beaches** as designated Community Refuge Areas.
- Prepare your **evacuation plan** and **go bag**, including contact information for your neighbors. Visit **Ready Marin** (<https://www.readymarin.org/>) for tips.
- Register with **Alert Marin** (<https://www.marinsheriff.org/services/emergency-services/alert-marin>) for evacuation alerts & **NIXLE** (<https://local.nixle.com/marin-county-sheriffs-office>) for non-emergent notifications such as road closures and controlled burns.
- Purchase an **Emergency Alert NOAA weather radio** (available for the discounted price of just \$20 at the Bolinas Fire Station) (<https://www.bolinasfire.org/noaa-weather-radios>)
- Pick up a Sheriff's Office **evacuation tag** to assist with evacuation and search & rescue operations. [now available at the Bolinas Fire Station, Bolinas Library, & Post Office].
- Call the Bolinas Fire Protection District at 868-1566 to learn about your local **Disaster Council Area Coordinator**, and get involved with Disaster Council yourself.
- If you or someone you know has challenges that would require special assistance in the case of an evacuation, please consider adding that person to the Bolinas Fire Protection District's **At-risk List** by calling the station at 868-1566.

HOME HARDENING

- Begin hardening your home by taking steps that require little time and expense. (**Examples:** cover existing vent openings with 1/8" or 1/16" wire mesh; clean debris from gutters; remove combustible items from under decks or porches.)
- Protect your home from **embers** by removing or replacing combustible materials, such as those made from wood or fibers. Did you know that airborne embers are the *most common cause* of homes igniting in a wildfire? Wind can carry embers from miles away, and a single burning ember can ignite any combustible material on, in, or around your home.
- Research home hardening recommendations available through **FIRESafe Marin** (<https://www.firesafemarin.org/home-hardening>).

DEFENSIBLE SPACE

- When creating defensible space, it is useful to start closest to your home and work outward. The area within 0 to 5 feet of your home is called **Zone Zero**. In a wildfire, Zone Zero poses the greatest potential risk to your home, so it is imperative to remove all combustible materials from this perimeter.
- Understand that maintaining **100 feet** of defensible space around your home is the law (CA Public Resources Code 4291). This means clearing combustible material, including brush or vegetation, up to 100 feet from your home or to your property line, whichever comes first.
- Research defensible space zones and recommended measures detailed at <https://www.firesafemarin.org/fire-smart-yard/defensible-space>.

- We encourage neighbors to **communicate openly and constructively** to address **common hazards** in your neighborhood. Well-organized neighborhoods who feel “ahead of the curve” may wish to go a step further and become Bolinas’ first **Firewise USA®** site. Interested residents can start this process by visiting <https://www.firewise.org>.

What YOUR fire department is doing:

EVACUATION

The District is taking several actions to plan for evacuations and protect our evacuation routes.

- We are working with County traffic engineers and Marin County Sheriff’s Office parking enforcement to implement new restrictions and signage along roads like Wharf and Terrace Avenue.
- We are conducting **roadside mowing** to keep routes clear and reduce the chance of roadside ignitions.
- We are offering **matching grant funds** to neighborhood groups who want to complete roadside clearing closer to their homes (call 868-1566 for details).
- We continue to work with UC Davis researchers to develop an educational, interactive evacuation simulation for Bolinas.

DEFENSIBLE SPACE

- Bolinas Fire Protection District and Marin County Fire will be conducting residential **defensible space evaluations** (Public Resource Code 4291) later this fire season.
- The Bolinas Fire Protection District will be following up with owners of vacant and developed parcels that are **incompliant** with previous defensible space evaluations.
- To facilitate defensible space clearing, the Bolinas Fire Protection District and FIRESafe Marin are offering a total of *seven* **Chipper Days** in Bolinas this season. Visit www.bolinasfire.org for details and requirements, and call the station at 868-1566 to add your address to an upcoming date.
- To ensure local capacity for processing defensible space green waste, the Bolinas and Stinson Beach Fire Protection Districts, with help from the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority, are investing in new equipment for our local **Resource Recovery Site**.



CALL TO ACTION:

Community preparedness depends on individual preparedness. Please join the Bolinas Fire Protection District volunteers and staff in our efforts to make Bolinas a Fire-Adapted Community.

Bolinas has a history of fighting to save itself. Together, we can make this happen!