

FireWise Bulletin #1-2020

from your Dominican Black Canyon Neighborhood Association

What are Red Flag Warnings?

The National Weather Service issues Red Flag Warnings when humidity is low, and temperatures and wind velocity are high. News media, **Nixle**, and **Alert Marin** also publicize these warnings. Red Flag Conditions are typically related to wind events lasting at least 8 hours and when vegetation is already dry; annual grasses are cured; no rain has occurred in the last 24 hours; and fuels 1/4 to 1/2 inch in diameter have less than 6% moisture.

What public land owners do

When a Red Flag warning is issued, the Marin County Fire Department notifies public land owners who determine if land use restrictions will go into effect. These restrictions may include temporary road closures or suspension of special use permits.

What homeowners should do

- Be aware of the potential for an **evacuation order** from law enforcement
- Make sure **cell phones** are charged and ready for alerts and by your bed at night
- Have all your **evacuation supplies** such as flashlights and a good portable radio ready to go
- Put your **Go Bag** in the car before leaving for work
- Consider **working from home** if possible
- **Close exterior doors and windows** tightly before leaving for work
- Make sure your **cars have plenty of gas** and are either parked outside, or the garage door is capable of manual operation and all capable family members know how to open it
- **Move cars off streets** so they don't block evacuations or get hit by a distracted driver
- **Remove any temporary hazards** around the yard that might threaten the house in the event of a fire
- **Avoid using weed whackers, lawn mowers, or brush clearing devices that might cause a spark and ignite a fire.**
- Sign up for Marin Alert and Nixle.