

Evacuation in the event of a wildfire remains a concern for residents of Sleepy Hollow. Marin public safety agency utilize the Mutual Threat Zone (MTZ) Plan to manage evacuation during wildfires. The plan defines roles, responsibilities, authorities and a framework for organization. The MTZ plan includes evacuation maps with primary and secondary evacuation routes. You can find the MTZ map for Sleepy Hollow here: [https://www.marincounty.org/-/media/files/departments/fr/wildfire-evacuation-zones/mtz\\_ross-valley-north.pdf](https://www.marincounty.org/-/media/files/departments/fr/wildfire-evacuation-zones/mtz_ross-valley-north.pdf)

FIRESafe MARIN and many Marin fire agencies including the Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District, cities and towns, and other partners are working together to develop improved wildfire evacuation maps and messaging for residents in Marin's Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) communities such as Sleepy Hollow. These "Fire Clear" maps will be published as they are completed over the course of 2020-2021. The Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District plans to mail printed copies of these maps to all residents in the near future. Here is a link to more information about this project and the Fire Clear map for Fairfax: <https://www.firesafemarin.org/evacuation/maps>. In addition to mapping the streets that should be used for vehicle evacuation, the maps identify temporary refuge areas to be used as a last resort if you can't evacuate. The maps also contain information about alert and warning, evacuation safety tips, and an evacuation checklist.

In recognition of the need to adapt our evacuation processes in Marin to be both dynamic and inclusive of traffic control and routing, the new Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA) has authorized purchase of the Zonehaven interactive mapping software for evacuations inclusive of traffic control and routing. This purchase is supported by the Marin County Fire Chiefs Association, Marin County Police Chiefs Association and the Marin County Office of Emergency Services.

Zonehaven's Evacuation Management Platform (EMP) is a cloud-based application that uses critical data and modeling capabilities to deliver simple, usable insights to emergency responders and the community in the event of an emergency situation. The Zonehaven team engages directly with local fire and law enforcement to develop intelligent evacuation zones that are traffic and threat aware. Network analysis algorithms identify key intersections and choke points. Based on this and other data, intelligent zones are defined to reduce gridlock and enable fire and law enforcement to more easily support evacuations. Zonehaven uses the best available data from fire agencies, law enforcement, Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the community, such as:

- Geographic features; Vegetation type and density
- Weather conditions; Threat direction
- Structure/address count; Population estimates
- Traffic loads and road type; Access to egress points; Clearance times

In the event of an evacuation, models can be generated to enable fire and law enforcement to look ahead at what may come. Rapid simulations provide one-, three- and five-hour models, and related recommendations for evacuation zone sequencing. These simulations can be used for training purposes as well. In addition, during an actual emergency, Zonehaven personnel will be available 24 hours a day to provide assistance in real time.

In terms of community education, Zonehaven's Community Evacuation Interface (CEI) provides a regional website for the public to understand and plan for evacuations. Every resident within an area that has deployed Zonehaven EMP will be assigned a home and/or work intelligent zone. The set-up of Zonehaven ends with the roll-out of the Community Evacuation Interface, an example of which is available at [community.zonehaven.com](http://community.zonehaven.com) for areas that have already deployed Zonehaven. In 2020, Zonehaven was successfully deployed and used during the CZU Lightning Complex Fire, the Glass Fire and the Red Salmon Fire. Here is a short video that explains how this system can be used by residents

to know when to evacuate, which roads are safe and where to go:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3pXJ9NKEfc>.

The MWPA will release a Request for Proposals for an Evacuation Risk Assessment in early 2021. While Zonehaven provides a tool to quickly react during an incident, and a common understanding of evacuation protocol, the Risk Assessment will address the prevention measures that can be implemented to reduce risks that may affect a successful evacuation before it takes place. It will identify and quantify risk factors such as topography, vegetation, traffic constraints, the presence of vulnerable populations, the locations of safe refuges, and the level of preparedness of communities. With this information, agencies will be able to determine and to prioritize improvements that can be made to reduce risks. This separation in scope between the Evacuation Risk Assessment and the Evacuation Management Platform allows member agencies to obtain a management platform in time for the next fire season. A detailed discussion of the planning process for this Evacuation Risk Assessment can be found here starting at 12:10 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yRv4tBn-2c&feature=youtu.be>.

The best advice to help you remain safe during wildfire is to evacuate early. During wildfires, Marin residents should be prepared to monitor multiple sources for fire and life safety information. Monitor the weather, most major wildfires that destroy homes and cause death and injuries have a common denominator: dry winds blowing from the east or northeast. Emergency managers will use several methods to distribute fire information: Alert Marin, Nixle, Social Media, NOAA weather radios, local TV and radio, and social media (Facebook and Twitter) are the primary outlets. Don't neglect to use your own senses - look, listen, and smell for signs of fire and changing conditions.

Your Wildfire Action Plan must be prepared and familiar to all members of your household well in advance of a wildfire. At all times during fire season, prepare a Wildfire and Emergency "Go Kit." Assemble a kit for each family member and pet, and keep the kit(s) in your vehicle or near your front door. It's very common for the power to go out before a fire strikes, since fire and winds can damage electrical infrastructure. You need to be prepared to communicate and escape, even without power. For garage doors, a battery backup should be installed. They typically cost less than \$100, and can be installed by homeowners. For home phones and internet connections, a "UPS" Uninterruptible Power Supply is a good option. Long before a fire strikes, all Marin homeowners should take time to harden their homes against embers and flames, and create defensible space with good landscaping and maintenance practices.