

Fairfax Update

News from around Town...



September 2019

Election News

An election will be held in Fairfax for two Town Council terms, one Town Treasurer term, and one Town Clerk term, all for three years on November 5, 2019.

The candidates are as follows (listed alphabetically):

Renee Goddard for Councilmember

Stephanie Hellman for Councilmember

Cindy Swift for Councilmember

Michele Gardner for Town Clerk

Janet Garvin for Town Treasurer

Highlights of the September 4, 2019 Town Council Meeting

The Town Council took the following actions:

-- Adopted Proclamations:

- Thanking and commending the Fairfax Planning Commission for their dedication and hard work on Town policies and ordinances.
- Naming September Prostate Cancer Awareness Month
- Congratulating the Community Media Center of Marin on their 10Year Anniversary

-- Authorized the Town Manager to contract, up to \$80,000, for the repair and/or replacement of a portion of the sidewalks in

downtown. The work on the specific sections of sidewalks along Bolinas Road between Broadway and Elise Lane is scheduled to begin in September. Town staff will work with the Chamber of Commerce to provide advance notices to the affected businesses.

-- Adopted two ordinances, which take effect October 4, 2019, to address commercial cannabis:

- An ordinance establishing zoning standards and restrictions for certain commercial cannabis uses and cannabis cultivation for personal use. The Town only allows adult-use delivery-only retail businesses and continues to allow medical storefront and delivery operations. The ordinance would establish a maximum of two commercial cannabis businesses at any one time in town. A business can be a combination of any of the allowed uses.
- An ordinance regulating commercial cannabis businesses which establishes the local cannabis business permit approval process.

-- Adopted an ordinance amending local smoking regulations to prohibit the sale of favored tobacco products to include menthol-favored tobacco, all cigar packaging sizes, and pipe/chewing tobacco. This ordinance takes effect September 1, 2020.

-- Introduced an ordinance to establish time limits for incomplete applications and project entitlement approvals. Please note that the introduction of an ordinance is the first of two public meetings required for the Council to adopt an ordinance.

-- Introduced an ordinance regulating single-use foodware to require businesses to use compostable or reusable materials for take-out food.

For more information on the Council agenda items above, please go to www.townoffairfax.org.

Presentation on Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

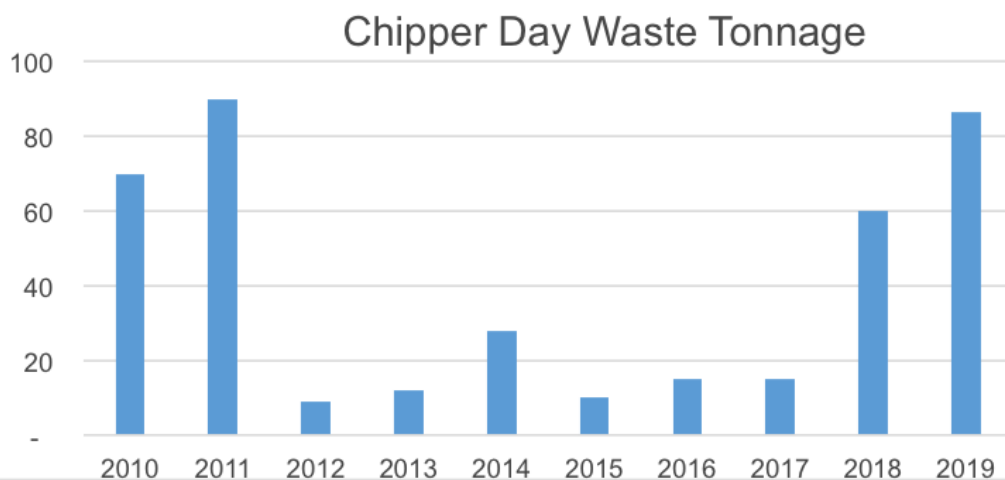
At the September 4th Council meeting, Ross Valley Fire Department/Marin County Fire Chief Jason Weber provided an overview of the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (WMFA) initiative that is proposed to be on the March 2020 ballot. Currently, 19 local fire agencies provide fire protection and emergency response services to communities in Marin, but there is no single coordinating agency for wildfire prevention. The Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority would allow local fire agencies and emergency service providers, city and town governments, and county of Marin to work together as a single coordinated Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to develop and implement a comprehensive wildfire prevention and emergency preparedness initiative.

Chief Weber's presentation can be viewed [on our website](#).

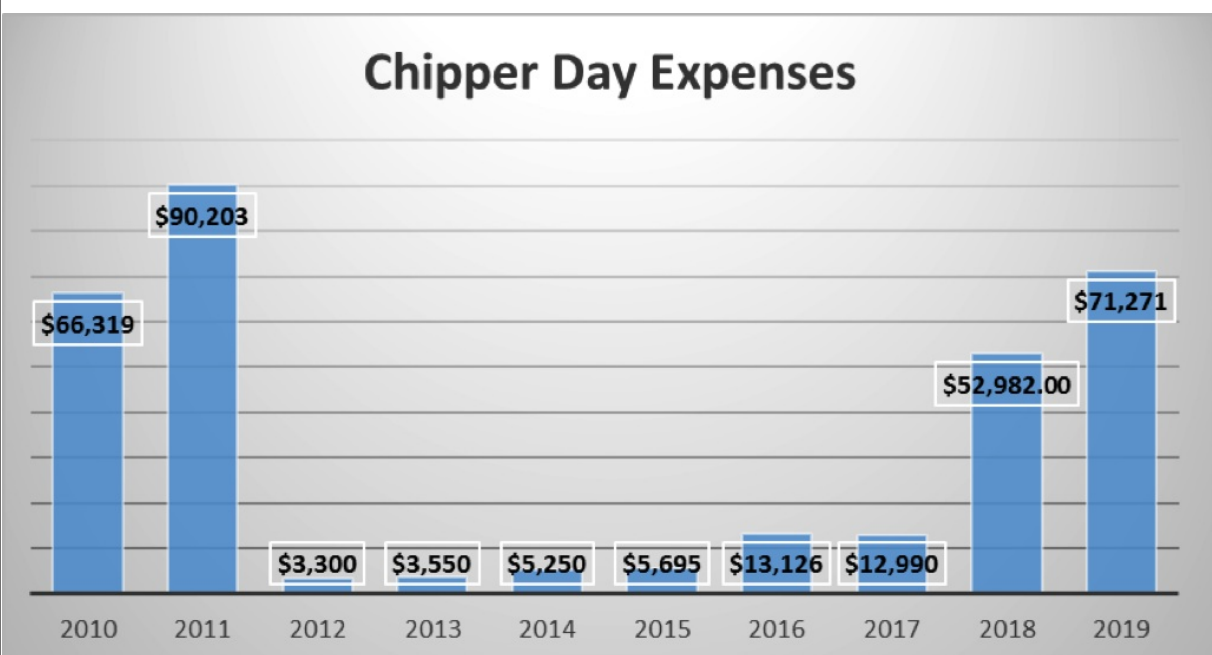
For more information on WMFA click on www.marinwildfire.org

Chipper Days

Given the heightened awareness of fire safety, the Town scheduled more "Chipper Day" events (eight) than the previous year (six). Of the eight Chipper Days, three (3) were specifically targeted for neighborhoods that are designated Firewise communities. In 2019, the Town collected over 86 tons (172,000 lbs.) of brush/cuttings from 404 participating households, which is the most tonnage since 2011 when the Town did a town-wide door-to-door pick up of brush/cuttings.



The table below compares costs with pervious years.



7-9pm
Fairfax Women's Club

Join us for a FREE 2-hour seminar on wildfire preparedness in Fairfax.

FIRESafe MARIN, Marin County Fire Department, Ross Valley Fire Department, and Firewise USA Sites in Fairfax will host this seminar, consisting of a 90-minute presentation and 30 minutes of questions and answers.

As Marin residents, we all share responsibility to be prepared for wildfires. Wildfires are a natural part of our environment, and it's imperative that we build our homes, maintain our landscapes, and prepare our families for the next major fire.

Learn about your community's hazard and what you can do about it:

- Are you and your family prepared to safely evacuate when a wildfire strikes?
- Is your home vulnerable to igniting from wildfire embers?
- Does your home have adequate Defensible Space?
- Are you interested in working with neighbors and land managers to reduce fire risk in your community?

This workshop is intended primarily for residents, homeowners, and regular visitors to Marin County, CA.

Registration online at www.firesafemarin.org/events is encouraged, but not required.

For more information visit the FireSafe Marin website.

PUBLIC SAFETY
POWER
SHUTOFF

What is the PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)?

In order to keep communities safe, PG&E may need to turn off power during extreme weather or wildfire conditions. This is called a Public Safety Power Shutoff. To learn more, go to: <https://prepareforpowerdown.com/>

Sign up for alerts even if you are not a direct customer of PG&E

"How can people in our communities receive notifications of a PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff if they are not a PG&E customer?" Now anyone can get those notifications by zip code.

You might want to sign up for these non-account holder alerts if:

- Your landlord or property manager is the account holder for your electric service.

- You care for someone who relies on electricity for medical needs, but you are not the PG&E account holder at their address.
- You or your organization provide critical care or services dependent on electricity.
- You may also sign up if you would like to receive PSPS ZIP Code Alerts for an area where you don't have a PG&E account.

Call 1-877-900-0743 to enroll or go to [PG&E's website to sign up.](#)

Upcoming Events

Townwide Picnic - this weekend!

September 15th

12-5pm

Ballfield

This family-friendly event always features live music, art, games, and food and refreshments.

This is a great event to connect with your neighbors and make new friends. We hope you will be encouraged to continue to build our community throughout the year – through block parties, opening community pathways, educating your friends about fire prevention and other good works that help make Fairfax neighborhoods even better close-knit communities!

We always need extra hands setting up and especially taking down this event. Please contact Maria Baird at mbaird@townoffairfax.org if you want to lend a helping hand!



Fairfax Art Walk
September 27th
5-8pm

The third annual Art Walk is almost here! Our three Artists-in-Residence, Stephanie Mohan, Georgia Gibbs, and Susan Pascal Beran are working diligently to put together an amazing evening of art in the local businesses of Fairfax. Each participating shop will feature a different artist showcasing their artwork, food, and music. The evening comes alive with spectacular displays and a fun scavenger hunt that adds to the excitement, complete with raffle prizes donated by the merchants!

To learn more about the artists and the businesses that are participating, visit: www.fairfaxartwalk.com

Speak Cheesy - a Wine and Cheese Whodunnit
October 10th
7pm
Fairfax Women's Club

Welcome to the "Speak Cheesy" A Cheese & Wine Tasting Whodunnit Enter a 1920's "Speak Cheesy" where you will enjoy an array of delicious cheeses paired with various sustainable and organic wines (along with plenty of accouterments). FTC will be your guide and will take you on a journey of the senses. Learn about cheese and wine while being entertained by the Fairfax Theatre Company. Enjoy an evening's educational and very tasty entertainment!

To learn more about the event and get tickets, visit our [Arts and Culture website](#).

MotherLoad Cargo Bike Documentary

October 12th

7pm - film starts at dusk

Contratti Ball Field

Join us for a Bike-In movie on the Ballfield! Local filmmaker, Liz Canning, has created a call to action that we all need to hear - get back on your bike! The benefits are great for you and the world at large.

To learn more about the film visit our [Recreation website](#) or www.motherloadmovie.com

Streets for People

October 13th

10-4pm

Mark your calendars for Streets for People - a one-day "open streets" event in downtown Fairfax. Bolinas Road is transformed into a gathering space for people of all ages to come together as a community to enjoy our public commons. There is live local music, dance, crafts, shopping and other activities. Local restaurants serve food outside creating an outdoor cafe setting.

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE

Please join the Streets for People team and [Volunteer at the event](#).

Are you artistic? We need you! Write to JenniferH@sustainablefairfax.org.

Are you a Fairfax business owner or a resident with a creative idea to bring to the street? [Please fill out this form](#).

This event is organized by Sustainable Fairfax and The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and supported by the Town.

Fairfax Recreation

Peri Park Update: The Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) along with the Richard Sloan, has been working diligently on moving the restoration plans forward.

View the [proposed plans](#) learn about the fundraising goals and get updates [on our website](#).



Classes and Events

Our fall catalog is available now - filled with classes and events. Keep an eye out for it in your mailbox, pick up a copy at Town Hall or [read it online here](#).

Join Our Mailing List

Join our Facebook page for regular updates throughout the month!

