

# Fairfax Update

## News From Around Town...



July 24, 2020

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### Enhanced Enforcement of Public Health Orders

The Town of Fairfax joins Marin cities and towns along with the County of Marin on a program of enhanced enforcement of public health orders to help curtail the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. A new multi-jurisdictional task force consisting of County personnel along with staff members from each of the 11 Marin cities and towns is being assembled to conduct enforcement efforts county-wide.

The Marin County Board of Supervisors enacted an [urgency ordinance](#) at their meeting on Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> that created new civil penalties for violations of orders issued by County Public Health Officer Dr. Matt Willis. Efforts will focus on business violations. Locally, the emphasis will be on education and outreach with free masks distributed to those without one.

### Spike in Cases

With a recent spike in confirmed COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, Dr. Willis advocated that it's necessary to recruit assistance to enforce the rules and stem the outbreak of the infectious disease. Wherever appropriate, informal intervention and education will be used as the method of choice to encourage voluntary compliance with public health orders. The new administrative penalties will provide an additional tool where education and warnings are not effective.

For information about Health Orders still in effect for Marin County, please click here: <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/stay-home-order-effect-marin-county>

## Penalties

The civil penalty for noncommercial health code violations related to COVID-19 will start at \$25 and will ascend to \$500 based on the severity of the violation. For commercial activity, fines will range from \$250 to \$10,000. Factors determining the size of a penalty include risks to public health, previous warnings, lack of good-faith efforts to comply, and increased revenue generated from noncompliance.

## Task Force

A task force – including Community Development Agency Code Enforcement, Environmental Health Services, the Sheriff's Office, and the County Counsel's Office – will collaborate with city and town personnel to focus on violations. Those authorized to issue citations for public health code violations include public safety officers (law enforcement and fire), code enforcement officers, park rangers, and any other employees designated by the Town or the County. They may enforce the public health code by inspecting public or private property and fine anyone obstructing the code enforcement. The designated officers may provide up to 72 hours for a violator to abate an issue and avoid penalty. The County will initiate a centralized hearing process for the administrative civil penalties.

The updated [status](#) of businesses and industries reopening in Marin County can be found at [MarinRecovers.com](https://www.marinrecovers.com). Additional details about the Governor's directive can be found at [COVID19.CA.gov](https://www.covid19.ca.gov).



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**Applications Being Accepted for the Town's Racial Equity & Social Justice Committee**

At its July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Town Council approved the formation of the RESJ Committee and appointed Vice-Mayor Ackerman and Councilmember Hellman as the Council representatives to the RESJ.

**Deadline to submit the application:**

5PM on Wednesday, August 5, 2020

Virtual interviews with the Town Council are scheduled for the evening of August 12, 2020. Applicants will receive an email confirming their time slot.

**[For more information about the new Committee and an application, click here.](#)**

Please note: the application is available in Spanish and English, and the online form can be translated using the globe icon on the green bar at the top of the page.

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**Town of Fairfax sitio web se puede traducir al español**

El sitio web se puede traducir al español usando el ícono del globo que se encuentra en la barra verde de cada página.

Our website can now be translated into Spanish (and other languages) using the globe icon found on the green bar at the top of each page.

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**2020 Election**

The next Fairfax General Municipal Election will be held on November 3, 2020, for the election of three members to the Town Council, each for a term of four years.

The nominations period for persons wishing to run for Town Council opened on July 13, 2020, and closes on August 7, 2020.

If you are interested in running for office, please read "**[How to Run for Office](#)**" and then contact the Town Clerk, Michele Gardner.

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**Spare the Air at Home: Remote Work Benefits Air Quality, Employers and Employees**

Spare the Air season is here, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District reminds residents that during warmer weather months, an increase in smog can cause a Spare the Air Alert to be called when levels exceed federal health standards.

During the shelter-in-place, many Bay Area companies implemented work from home policies and procedures and as a result air quality dramatically improved, reducing air pollution in the Bay Area and

demonstrating that remote work can be an effective and efficient solution for companies. To keep air quality moving in the right direction, the Air District has launched the *Spare the Air Cut the Commute Pledge* to encourage employers to commit to extending commute-free options after COVID-19 restrictions are eased or lifted by at least 25% for employees whose work requirements allow for that flexibility.

In addition to greatly reducing air pollution, implementing a new program or continuing to offer an existing remote work program at your workplace has many other benefits:

- Overall [increases in productivity and morale, and decreases in costs and turnover](#)
- Long-term health benefits for employees as a result of reduced commute time
- Long-term savings in real estate costs, and increased productivity
- Fewer vehicles on the road leading to [improved air quality and less traffic](#) congestion

By offering a remote work option and reinforcing this shift in employee habits, together we can have a large impact on creating cleaner and healthier air quality in the Bay Area. For more remote work resources or to sign the pledge, please visit [www.sparetheair.org/reduce-your-impact/cut-the-commute/take-the-pledge](http://www.sparetheair.org/reduce-your-impact/cut-the-commute/take-the-pledge).

For more information on Spare the Air Alerts visit [sparetheair.org](http://sparetheair.org), or to sign up for text alerts, text the word "START" to the number 817-57.

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## Outdoor Dining and Retail Permits

In an effort to temporarily streamline Town regulations regarding outdoor dining and other business uses (e.g., outdoor retail), the Town Council has created a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) process for private property and an encroachment permit process for public property such as parking spaces. These programs will allow restaurants and other businesses to temporarily expand their operations outside for such uses as dining, retail, or exercise classes.

Click the button below for information on the encroachment permit. Please contact the Planning Department at (415) 453-1584 or Ben Berto, Planning and Building Services Director at [bberto@townoffairfax.org](mailto:bberto@townoffairfax.org) for information on the TUP.

Temporary Outdoor Dining and Retail -  
Application

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## Fairfax Library is Open for Curbside Service

Wednesdays 3-7  
Thursday 3-7  
Friday 11-3  
Saturday 11-3

Patrons can place items on hold using our [online catalog](#). Patrons will be notified by email that their item on hold is available. Patrons should call (415) 924-3515 when they are in front of the library

during curbside service hours. Returns are accepted during curbside hours.

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## Upcoming Events

### Fairfax Chipper Days

We have had another successful Chippers Days season! This is the last weekend of the program so be sure to get your final clearing done and out on the curb on time!

July 25 & 26 Deer Park - collection to be done at Doc Edgar Park

Door to door pick up also available.

Your piles/bundles MUST be on the side of the street by 7:00 am Saturday morning. Please don't block vehicle passage.

Call Maria Baird at (415) 456-5652 with questions. *No reservation needed. This is a FREE community service.*

Please note that all the drop off locations are open to the entire Fairfax Community.

**Thank you for your participation in this very important program!**

Please [check website](#) for update and more information.

### Free Webinar - This Tuesday Living with Fire in Marin County Tuesday, July 28 at 6pm

What can fire trends tell us about what to expect in Marin County? How is Marin County preparing? Join Mark Brown, Deputy Chief of the Marin County Fire Department, and Katie Rice, Marin County Supervisor, to find out.

When: Jul 28, 2020 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Living With Fire in Marin

Join on [Facebook](#) live stream or via zoom here:

<https://firesafemarin.zoom.us/j/87382415962>

### Town Council Meetings

**August 5th  
7pm**

**Special Meeting - August 12th  
6pm**

See the [Public Meetings](#) page for the Agendas and info about these virtual meetings.

## **Fairfax Community Farmers Market**

**Every Wednesday**  
**Bolinas Park**  
**4-8pm**

The market started the first week of May and runs through mid October! Of course there will be safety measures in place to keep the farmers and the community safe.

[Click here to learn more about the Fairfax Community Market!](#)

## **Fairfax Food Pantry**

**Saturday mornings from 8-10am**  
**Fairfax Community Church**  
**2398 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Fairfax.**

The Fairfax Food Pantry continues to be open. Drive through or walk up service is available. In addition to our regular bagged groceries, folks will be receiving 15lb produce boxes as part of the **Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)**.

We currently have enough volunteers, however, please sign up through the [Fairfax Volunteer Match program](#) and we contact you as the need arises.

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## **Town of Fairfax COVID-19 Resources**

Visit our dedicated webpage:

[\*\*www.townoffairfax.org/coronavirus-updates-resources\*\*](http://www.townoffairfax.org/coronavirus-updates-resources)

- Information about Building and Planning services that are still available as well as guidelines.
- Links to the EDD, SBA and Utility Companies.
- Online classes thru Fairfax Recreation and Age Friendly Fairfax.
- Information and resources are updated regularly so check back often.

## **Additional Website Resources:**

Discover who is open for delivery, curbside pick up and more on the new and easy-to-use website: [\*\*www.fairfaxopenforbusiness.com\*\*](http://www.fairfaxopenforbusiness.com), where you can also join an email list to receive specials and updates.

The website, [\*\*MarinRecovers.com\*\*](http://MarinRecovers.com), connects Marin County residents, business owners, community leaders, and public health

professionals to collaborate on reopening the economy and community in a safe manner.

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## Fairfax Recreation

We have class offerings for all ages - [check out our website](#) for more information.

Join Our Mailing List

