

# Fairfax Update

News From Around Town...



August 21, 2020

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## **This Week's Rotating Outages and Widespread Wildfires Underscore PG&E Needs to Be Able to Reach Customers in Emergencies**

*PG&E Encourages Customers to Update Their Contact Information Ahead of Peak Wildfire Season -- Updates Needed to Prepare for Emergencies, Natural Disasters, PSPS Events*

After seven days filled with rotating power outage due energy supply issues and lightning-sparked wildfires grow across the state, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is urging customers to provide the company with updated mobile numbers, email addresses and other key information so the company can contact them with important safety alerts and updates during wildfire season.

### **Updating Customer Contact Information is Easy**

Already this year, more than 1.2 million PG&E customers have updated their contact information. PG&E thanks customers who have already taken action to ensure they will receive its wildfire safety alerts. For customers who have not yet confirmed or updated their contact information, PG&E strongly encourages everyone to do so by visiting [www.pge.com/mywildfirealerts](http://www.pge.com/mywildfirealerts) or by calling the PG&E contact center at 1-866-743-6589.

It is important that all customer information is up to date so that PG&E can share wildfire safety alerts. This is especially critical for medical baseline customers. In addition to notifying customers directly, PG&E also will provide outage updates and information through channels such as social media, local news, radio and the

pge.com website.

“We have already seen the result of a dry winter rain season and a hotter-than-average late summer in our service area coupled with lightning strikes. A number of wildfires are burning across the region, and we continue to encourage our customers to conserve energy as we reach the tail end of a week-long extreme heatwave that resulted in rotating outages on Friday (Aug. 14) and Saturday (Aug. 15),” said PG&E Chief Customer Officer, Senior Vice President Laurie Giammona. “We are asking our customers to be sure we have their latest contact information so that we can share important safety alerts and information about their electric service.”

### **Customer Preparedness Tips**

Besides updating their contact information, PG&E encourages customers to do the following:

- Have an emergency plan for wildfires and discuss it with your friends, family and neighbors
- Check in with your elderly neighbors and friends who may have special needs.
- Update or create a go bag or 72-hour kit that can be used if you need to evacuate
- Prepare an emergency supply kit with food, water, flashlights, batteries and other critical supplies.
- Customers concerned about pet safety during a PSPS should identify which kennels, shelters or veterinarians can care for pets during an emergency ahead of time
- Clear defensible space around your home or business.

For additional preparedness tips, worksheets, checklists and other resources, visit PG&E’s [Safety Action Center](#).

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### **Cascade Survey**

The Council will be discussing the status of the Cascade Striping Project at its September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. If you haven’t already, we encourage you to fill out the on-line survey.

The survey will close at 3:00pm on Thursday, 8/27

[Take the Survey Here](#)

### **Fairfax Climate Action Plan Survey**

The Town of Fairfax is updating its 2014 Climate Action Plan and Climate Action Committee needs your input to develop effective

measures that will substantially reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In March of 2019, the Town Council passed a Climate Emergency Resolution and set a target of zero emissions by 2030, going beyond State reduction targets.

After receiving community feedback, the Fairfax Climate Action Committee will bring a first draft of the 2030 Climate Action Plan to the Council and then post it for further public comment. Hopefully, a final version will come before the Council by the end of this year.

[Take the Survey Here](#)

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### **Mental Health Resources**

Last month the Marin IJ published [this article](#) outlining the increase in incidence of mental health crises and the escalation of both physical and drug abuse the County is seeing during this pandemic. Depression and anxiety are at an all time high and feeling isolated is impacting a significant number people's day to day lives.

Unfortunately, we are not entering a time when mental health and wellness is suddenly going to improve. Thankfully, we are however living in a time when asking for help is considered a strength. Below are links to County and National resources which may be helpful for you or a friend or family member.

[Click here](#) for a list of local and national resource lines.

[Click here](#) to connect with Community Action Marin and their resource guide.

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### **Managing Anxiety for You and Your Children as the School Year Starts**

Dr. Jei Africa, Director of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, discusses how to manage anxiety for you and your children as we prepare to return to school.



**Free FireSafe Marin Webinar**  
**Evacuations & Warnings: How to Survive a Wildfire**  
**Tuesday, August 25 at 6pm**

Due to the large number of wildfires and associated evacuations that we are experiencing, our webinar topic this month will be "Evacuations & Warnings: How to Survive a Wildfire". Join Todd Lando, Battalion Chief/Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Specialist at Central Marin Fire Department, to learn how to prepare your family, and yourself, to survive and safely evacuate a wildfire.

Our originally scheduled webinar "Community Organizing for Fire Preparedness" has been rescheduled for next month.

Join on [Facebook](#) live stream or via zoom here:  
<https://firesafemarin.zoom.us/j/87382415962>

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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 closed on August 7, 2020.

Please visit our [Elections page](#) for the list of candidates and more information about the election.

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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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## Upcoming Events

### Upcoming Board & Commission Meetings

**August 24th at 6:30pm -- [Volunteer Board Meeting](#)**

**August 24th at 7pm -- [Tree Committee Meeting](#)**

**August 25th at 7pm -- [Open Space Committee Meeting](#)**

### 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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## **Fairfax Recreation**

We are working on the fall catalog, adapting our offerings to work with this "new normal". Wishing all the best to our community of families as the kids head back to school, online.

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



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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) 453-8151 when they are in front of the library during curbside service hours. Returns are accepted during curbside hours.

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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.

### 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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