

## **Evacuation Tag Information**

The Fairfax Police Department in partnership with the Ross Valley Fire Department is giving away evacuation tags to residents living in the Town of Fairfax, Marin County, California. Evacuation tags are a new tool to help us more quickly ensure that neighborhoods are evacuated during a disaster. Residents affix the tag in a location that is highly visible when they evacuate (mailbox, front door, garage, end of your driveway).

This saves time because first responders don't have to utilize our own ribbon on the property and we can immediately check the next home. We've learned that seconds can count during evacuations and we are excited to bring this new time-saving tool to our residents. Each tag comes with a bilingual instruction flyer, too.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

*Q: What if there's more than one home on my property?*

A: When a first responder sees an evacuation tag near the street, he/she assumes everyone on the property has evacuated. If everyone has evacuated, place the tag near the street. If someone is still on the property, only place the tag on the homes that have been evacuated. If placing the tag near the end of your driveway, only do so when your whole property and all residences are vacant.

*Q: Can I get multiple tags to distribute to my neighbors?*

A: Absolutely! Depending on the quantity, it may be easiest to coordinate with us ahead of time. Please call Fairfax Police Dispatch at 415-453-5330 and ask to speak with the watch commander.

*Q: Doesn't the evacuation tag tell looters I'm not home?*

A: First responders usually mark your home with yellow tape or an "X" on the street when they confirm your home is evacuated. This is no different than an evacuation tag. We heavily patrol evacuated zones with help from our mutual aid partners and neighboring agencies. Your life is our first priority, then we focus on keeping your home and property safe while you're gone.

*Q: Where do I affix the tag when I evacuate?*

A: Place the tag in a location that is most visible to first responders who are on the street. This could be a gate, a mailbox, Garage door or a front door. If there is more than one home on the property, make sure all homes are evacuated before placing the tag near the street. We recommend the use of a zip tie or some type of small wire (26 gauge) to affix the tag to a location. Something that will stay where it is placed for an extended period of time if necessary.

*Q: What if I'm elderly or disabled and can't drive to pick up an evacuation tag?*

A: We are happy to help community members who need a little assistance. Please call Fairfax Police Dispatch at 415-453-5330 and request to speak with the watch commander.

*Q: Can I get one for my vacation rental or second home?*

A: Yes!

*Q: Do I have to use an evacuation tag?*

A: No. Evacuation tags are optional. It helps us evacuate neighborhoods more quickly, which means firefighters can get in more quickly to fight the fire. Most people we've talked with are very excited about the evacuation tags and we hope you are, too. Sonoma County and Napa County have had great success with their programs.

*Q: Can I get an evacuation tag if I live in unincorporated Fairfax, Marin County?*

A: Absolutely. We coordinated with all of the Law Enforcement jurisdictions in the county to ensure everyone has the same evacuation tags. If you live outside of city limits, please contact Marin County Sheriff's Office and ask about evacuation tags.

### **Evacuation Tag Pickup Locations - Police Department**

Fairfax Police Department

144 Bolinas Rd. Fairfax, CA 94930

### **Evacuation Tag Pickup Locations - Fire Department Locations**

Ross Valley Fire Department - Station 21

10 Park Rd. Fairfax, CA 94930