



FIRE DEPARTMENT – FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
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Vegetation Management
November 2018 Update

Goals:

To enforce the provisions of San Rafael Municipal Code (SRMC) Chapter 4 pertaining to vegetation management and hazardous fuel reduction. Increase the quality and quantity of defensible space inspections. Allow for San Rafael residents to receive skilled guidance from the Fire Department (FD). Consistently improve documentation of SRFD's vegetation management and wildfire prevention outcomes to support future strategic fuel reduction efforts.

July 1 - November 1, 2018 Activities:

- **Firewise USA Communities:** Three (3) current communities: two (2) NEW San Rafael communities (Dominican/Black Canyon and Mont Marin), plus Upper Lucas Valley Estates in Marinwood.
- **Neighborhood meetings:** Multiple presentations to HOAs and other community organizations covering wildfire safety and fuel reduction.
- **Total Inspections:** 1,136 vegetation inspections, including 2nd Inspections and follow-ups.
- **Inspection results:** 72% code compliance rate. 252 inspections pending re-inspection.
 - 211 Residents Compliant on the 1st Inspection
 - 94 Residents Non-Compliant on the 1st Inspection **{Pending re-inspect}**
 - 198 Residents Compliant by the 2nd Inspection
 - 30 Resident Non-Compliant by the 2nd Inspection **{Pending re-inspect}**
 - 10 Residents Compliant by the 3rd Inspection
 - 5 Residents Non-Compliant by the 3rd Inspection **{Pending re-inspect}**
- **Homes benefiting from FD projects:** 250+ homes adjacent to completed fuel reduction project sites.
- **Project acreage:** 1,300+ tons of vegetation removed utilizing mechanical means on approximately 75 acres of public open space, including (in acres unless otherwise indicated):

○ San Rafael Hill: 29.7	○ West End: 3.5	○ Gerstle Park: 1.5
○ Terra Linda: 8.5	○ Point San Pedro: 2.9	○ La Hacienda: 0.25
○ Lynn Court: 5.5	○ Mountain View: 1.6	○ Fire roads: 5.5 miles
- **Goat grazing:** Additional vegetation removed via goat-grazing on 51 acres (May-July 2018).
- **Chipper program:** More than 150 tons of juniper and bamboo chipped from dozens of homes.
- **Private owner projects:** 260+ tons of vegetation removed on 30+ acres as a result of FD inspections and code enforcement. Locations include Dominican, Glenwood, Bret Harte, West End, and Gerstle Park.
- **Homeless Encampments:** Participated in a strategic and collaborative approach to reduce the fire risk posed by homeless encampments. Coordinated efforts with San Rafael Department of Public Works (DPW) and Police Departments (SRPD) to remove encampment materials. Supported immediate removal of fire ignition sources. Documented and reported over 25 encampments as part of vegetation inspections.