



August 2, 2019

Dear Property Owner,

Since 2015, California and the North Bay have experienced a dramatic increase in the number, frequency and intensity of catastrophic wildfires. Marin has a long history of devastating wildfires, including many in Kentfield and nearby communities.

The California Fire Code, International Wildland Urban Interface Code and Public Resources Code require that any person who owns, controls, or leases property located within a designated Wildland Urban Interface "WUI" Zone maintain 100-150 feet defensible space around structures, 14 feet of vertical clearance over roadways, and 10 feet of horizontal clearance along roadsides and driveways.

The Kentfield Fire Protection District has identified high hazard areas in Kentfield where improvements can be made to reduce the amount of hazardous vegetation located along primary and secondary evacuation routes. Many properties located within the Kent Woodlands have been found to be non-compliant and do not meet roadside vegetation clearance standards.

The Kentfield Fire Protection District has received a grant through CAL FIRE and FIRESafe MARIN to provide funding for the initial clearing of vegetation located along the roadway properties throughout the Kent Woodlands. In the months of **September and October** personnel from the Fire Department will be working with private contractors to begin clearing vegetation along the roadways. The work will include the following:

- Cut back or remove vegetation and tree limbs that encroach into the roadway.
- Remove low hanging tree limbs that extend over the roadway to create at least 14-16 feet of vertical clearance.
- Remove hazardous or combustible vegetation located within 10 feet (horizontally) of a roadway. Vegetation to be removed includes (but is not limited to) broom, bamboo, juniper, cypress, acacia, prida madera, and grasses (jubata/fountain/pampas).
- Remove tree limbs to 6-10 feet above ground on mature trees within 10' of roadways.

Additional information on the program, with diagrams and specifications for the clearance work is available online at <http://kentfieldfire.org/evac-2019>. If you have any questions or if you we can provide any additional information, please contact Fire Inspector Larry Pasero at lpasero@kentfieldfire.org or 415-453-7464.

Respectfully,

Mark Pomi
Fire Chief, Kentfield Fire Protection District