



August 25, 2020

Greetings Neighbor,

As we all learned last week, wildfire season had an early start this year and will keep us all on high alert through November. Thankfully, the second dry lightning storm this weekend did not have the dreaded effect that last weeks' storms did throughout much of the State. But these 'new' weather incidents are likely to be a 'new normal' going forward and the City of Oakland is on high alert. As you know, the air quality is unhealthy throughout much of the East Bay.

Oakland Fire Department (OFD) is collaborating as usual with County partners for mutual aid; twenty-seven OFD firefighters have been deployed at the CZU lightning complex(San Mateo/Santa Cruz counties). OFD also engages in high alert status during all red flag days.

This is a brief newsletter to announce my upcoming virtual town hall on wildfire prevention and safety, and other safety information and resources

-Dan

North Oakland Hills Wildfire Prevention / Safety Virtual Town Hall – Aug 31, 6:00pm

In collaboration with Councilmember Sheng Thao's office (D4), we are working with the Oakland Fire Department and the City Administrator's office to organize another virtual joint town hall on wildfire prevention and fire safety.

WHEN: Monday, August 31, 6-7.30 PM

WHERE: Zoom – please email Lisa Jacobs at ljacobs@oaklandca.gov to register for the town hall and get the Zoom link information.

Following is the list of topics to be covered during the town hall:

- Wildfire Prevention as Citywide Priority – how city departments are collaborating
 - Grizzly Peak / Skyline corridor update
 - Update on Vegetation Management Plan / EIR
 - Evacuation Planning & Safe Parking in the Hills
 - PG&E rolling blackouts
 - Oakland Community Preparedness & Response Program
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Red Flag Days

The National Weather Service issues Red Flag Warnings to alert fire departments about critical weather and dry conditions that could lead to rapid or dramatic increases in wildfire activity. On these days, literal red flags are raised at fire stations to warn residents and urge extreme caution because **a simple spark can cause a major wildfire**.

On Red Flag Days in Oakland:

- Oakland firefighters conduct roving fire patrols in the Oakland Hills, especially in areas that attract visitors such as parking lookouts on Grizzly Peak and Skyline Boulevard.
- Barbeques are prohibited in all City parks.
- **Joaquin Miller Park is completely closed** to the public. Signs are posted at all park entrances and trails and OFD patrols the area.
- Other East Bay parks, trails, and recreational facilities may also be closed to visitors.

Get Emergency Alerts on Your Phone or Email

Get alerted about emergencies by signing up for [AC Alert](#) to receive phone calls and messages on your mobile, home, or work phone; by text message; and by email.

AC Alert will provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of emergencies, including fires, severe weather, earthquakes, unexpected road closures, and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods.

AC Alert is a unified emergency notification system for Alameda County residents, businesses and visitors. An AC Alert subscription is free, and all residents and business owners are strongly encouraged to sign up.

Spare the Air Alert Through Wednesday, Aug 26

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQD) is extending a [Spare the Air Alert for wildfire smoke through Wednesday, August 26](#), which bans burning wood or any other solid fuel, both indoors and outdoors. Wildfire smoke from numerous fires inside and outside of the Bay Area is causing elevated levels of particulate pollution. Elderly persons, children, individuals with respiratory illnesses, and unsheltered persons are particularly susceptible and should take extra precautions to avoid exposure. Depending on We expect additional Spare the Air days through the end of August and in to September.

Check air quality with the EPA's Air Quality Index ([airnow.gov](#)) and be sure to use the map to find your closest sensor for the most accurate reading. Another resource is [Purple Air](#) which offers real-time air quality monitoring.

IT'S SMOKY OUTSIDE!

Stay Safe from Smoke



STAY INDOORS

Stay indoors at home, a library, or mall
Find a cooling center

PROTECT INDOOR AIR

Close windows and doors
Avoid using toxics like paint
Recirculate air in your car

STAY INFORMED

Sign up for ACAlert.gov
Track fire conditions at CalFire.ca.gov
Get current air quality at baaqmd.gov



<http://www.acphd.org/phep/wildfire-resources.aspx>

Stay Safe When It's Smoky

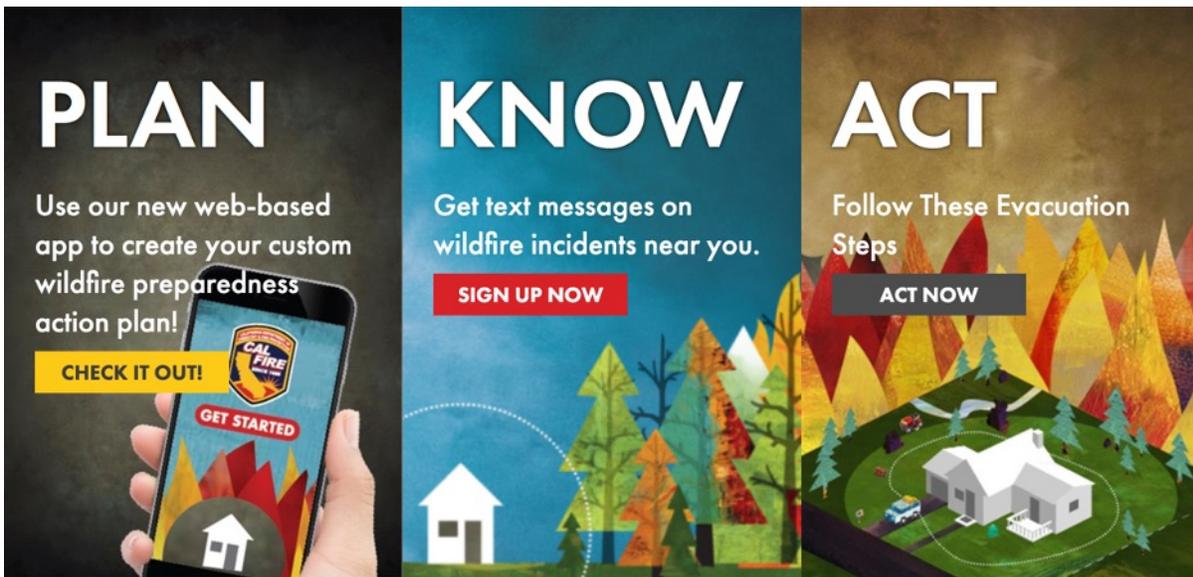
- Stay indoors with windows and doors closed. This is particularly important for young children, senior residents, and those with serious health issues.
- Keep indoor air relatively cool (see Alameda County [heat resources](#)).
- Set home and car ventilation systems on re-circulate to prevent drawing in outside air.
- Stay hydrated by drinking water.
- Refrain from using wood-burning stoves, gas-powered lawnmowers or leaf blowers, or barbecues. All of these release unhealthy particulate matter.
- Avoid or limit outdoor recreational and sports activities.

Resources for Unsheltered Residents

During air quality events, [Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless](#) has N95 masks available for county, city, outreach workers and community volunteers who can distribute them to unsheltered people experiencing homelessness. Please contact achc@acgov.org or call (510) 891-8950 to pick up masks.

My District 1 Office also has some N95 masks available for homeless residents in our neighborhoods; please email me at dkalb@oaklandca.gov if you know someone who is living outdoors and needs a mask.

Emergency Preparedness



There are many resources to support us in being prepared for emergencies. Here are a few helpful links:

- [CAL FIRE Ready for Wildfire](#)
- [Alameda County Public Health](#)
- [Oakland Fire Safe Council](#)
- [Oakland Community Preparedness & Response Program](#)

I have spoken with the City Administrator about informational resources for Oakland residents regarding preparedness and response. He said that they will be posting new and updated information on the city's website very soon.

As always, please stay safe!

Contacts:

Dan's [COVID Resources](#) page

Oakland SeeClickFix - Call 311 - <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/oak311>

Alameda County Social Services and Referral - Call 211
<http://211alamedacounty.org/2-1-1-alameda-county-resource-finder/>

Councilmember Dan Kalb's Office - 510-238-7001

OPD for Emergencies - 911 (or 510-777-3211) \ for non-emergencies - 510-777-3333

Oakland Recycling/Waste Collection Hotline - (510) 238-7283 (recycling@oaklandca.gov)

DAN KALB

Oakland City Councilmember - District 1
1 Frank Ogawa Plaza • Oakland, CA • 510-238-7001