SOUTHERN MARIN FIRE DISTRICT

WINTER WEATHER PREPAREDNESS



Keep your toolkit stocked with the tools that help protect you and your family during high tides, flooding, storms and power outages.

Southern Marin can experience very high tides and localized flooding under blue skies. Winter storms may also bring heavy rain, high winds, outages and debris flows. Prepare before conditions change.

Stock Your TOOLKIT

1 Know Your Risk

Use ReadyMarin's Hazard Mapping Tool to check flood, landslide and other risks near your home, workplace and regular travel routes.

2 Watch the Tides

High water levels can combine with King Tides, rain, wind or storm surge. Check NOAA forecasts and move vehicles and belongings from low-lying areas.

During El Niño, Kelvin waves can raise sea levels for months.

3 Prepare Your Home

- Clear gutters, downspouts and storm drains.
- Test sump pumps and drainage.
- Secure outdoor items.
- Stock flashlights, batteries, medications, food and water.
- Know how to open your garage door manually.

4 Avoid Floodwater

- Never drive, walk or bicycle through standing water.
- Obey barricades and road closures.
- Avoid flood-prone parking.
- Use caution near shorelines, seawalls, docks and pathways.

5 Keep Your Mailer

SMFD's Flooding and High Tides Mailer was sent Districtwide. Keep it accessible for safety reminders. A digital copy is available online.

6 Find Sandbags Early

Prepare before a storm. Supplies may be limited. Bring a shovel and transport your own bags.

MARIN CITY
- Marin City Harriet Tubman Building, 740 Drake Avenue

MILL VALLEY
- Hauke Park, 1 Hamilton Drive
- Boyle Park, 71 Thalia Street
- Near Old Mill Park, 40 Molino Avenue

SAUSALITO
- Old MLK School, 610 Coloma Street

STRAWBERRY AND ALTO
- Across from 10 Miland Drive

TAM VALLEY
- Community Center, 203 Marin Avenue

TIBURON
- 654 Tiburon Blvd. (Blackie's Pasture)
- 6 Beach Road (Tether Park)

See the County of Marin Sandbag Resource Page for more locations or instructions on how to fill bags.

7 Prepare For Outages

- Charge devices and battery packs.
- Keep flashlights, batteries, food and water.
- Use the PG&E Outage Center or call 800-743-5002.
- Stay far from downed lines and call 9-1-1.

8 Travel Safely

- Slow down and leave extra distance.
- Use headlights with windshield wipers.
- Watch for water, debris and power lines.
- Treat dark signals as four-way stops.
- Never drive through a flooded road.

9 Stay Informed

- Register for AlertMarin.
- Register for Nixle.
- Monitor the Marin County Emergency Portal.
- Follow SMFD updates.
- Call 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies.

10 Flood Insurance

Check the FEMA Flood Map and review your coverage before storm season. Keep policy numbers, insurer contacts and key documents in a waterproof pouch or secure digital file.

11 After A Flood

- Return only when officials say it is safe.
- Photograph damage before cleanup.
- Dry wet areas within 24-48 hours.
- Wear gloves, goggles and a mask.
- Discard items that cannot be cleaned and dried.

Know when it's a mess you can deal handle or when you need a professional. Refer to the Flood Cleanup and Stopping Mold brochure.

KEEP YOUR TOOLKIT STOCKED
BEFORE CONDITIONS CHANGE

READY MARIN
Know Your Risk

SMFD RESOUCES
Flooding, Cleanup & Storms

ALERT MARIN
Emergency Alerts

Sources: NOAA Ocean Service, ReadyMarin, Marin County and Southern Marin Fire District

TRACK THE WATER
USE TOOLS DURING KING TIDES & STORMS

The following are useful tools during King Tides and storms:

NOAA Tide Predictions provide the official schedule of predicted high and low tides. **During King Tides and storms, actual water levels may differ because of wind, atmospheric pressure, rainfall, storm surge and broader ocean conditions. Use several sources together and rely on official alerts for safety decisions.**

SOUTHERN MARIN FIRE DISTRICT FIRE DISTRICT
(415) 388-8182, www.smfd.org

OFFICIAL WATER & WEATHER SOURCES

TOOL	BEST USE	WHAT TO KNOW
NOAA Tide Predictions OFFICIAL	High and low tide times and predicted heights.	The official astronomical tide forecast. Select the station closest to the location you are monitoring.
NOAA Water Levels OFFICIAL	Compare observed water levels with predicted tides.	Check whether the Bay is running above or below the published prediction before the next high tide.
Coastal Inundation Dashboard OFFICIAL NOAA	Real-time levels, short-range forecasts and flood history.	Useful for near-term coastal flood awareness and understanding past high-water events.
San Francisco Bay Forecast System OFFICIAL NOAA GUIDANCE	Water-level and current guidance across San Francisco Bay.	Provides model guidance for water levels, currents, winds, temperature and salinity out to 48 hours.
NWS Bay Area OFFICIAL	Coastal Flood Advisories and hazardous-weather forecasts.	Use for watches, warnings and advisories that account for weather impacts beyond the astronomical tide.

LOCAL CONDITIONS & ALERTS

Use these sources to confirm current conditions, official closures and emergency instructions in Marin County.

TOOL	BEST USE	WHAT TO KNOW
Marin One Rain OFFICIAL LOCAL DATA	Local rainfall, creek-stage and weather gauges.	Helpful during rain events when creek flooding, runoff or drainage problems may occur independently of the tide.
Marin Emergency Portal OFFICIAL COUNTY SOURCE	Current incidents, road closures and emergency instructions.	Use this portal to confirm significant advisories, closures, evacuation information and shelters.
AlertMarin OFFICIAL ALERT SYSTEM	Critical information and potentially life-saving instructions when action is needed at a specific address or location.	Marin County's official system for urgent, life-safety notifications by phone, text and email.
Nixle SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE SYSTEM	Community notices from participating local agencies.	May include road information and general updates. It does not replace AlertMarin for emergency notifications.
Caltrans QuickMap OFFICIAL STATE SOURCE	State highway conditions, incidents, cameras and closures.	Use for Routes 1, 101 and other Caltrans-maintained roads. Local street closures may appear elsewhere.
511 SF Bay OFFICIAL REGIONAL SOURCE	Regional traffic, incidents and transit disruptions.	Provides a broader Bay Area view of traffic and transportation impacts.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNITY TOOLS

TOOL	BEST USE	WHAT TO KNOW
ReadyMarin Hazard Mapping OFFICIAL PLANNING TOOL	Use for planning before a storm. The map shows risk areas, not live conditions or confirmed closures.	Check flood, landslide and other hazards near an address.
WET Weather Event Tide SUPPLEMENTAL APP	Formerly MarinFlood. Use as an additional neighborhood-level planning tool, not as an official closure source.	Hyperlocal Bay Area tide, weather and coastal-flood alerts.
FloodRoute SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNITY TOOL	Forecasts are estimates. The tool focuses on coastal tidal flooding and does not cover every creek, flash-flood or drainage hazard.	Estimated street-level tidal flooding and community reports.
Marin Monitor SUPPLEMENTAL DASHBOARD	An independent dashboard. Verify critical information through the original agency or official alert source.	A convenient overview of tides, weather, advisories and cameras.

Important **WET, FloodRoute, Marin Monitor and similar tools provide useful situational awareness, but their forecasts should not be treated as confirmed road closures or substitutes for AlertMarin, the Marin Emergency Portal, posted barricades or instructions from local authorities.**

Sources include NOAA Ocean Service, National Weather Service, Marin County, Caltrans, 511 SF Bay and the listed tool publishers.

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