



PRESS RELEASE

Date: September 17, 2021

Contact: Jason Hoppin

Jason.Hoppin@santacruzcounty.us

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY EVACUATION ZONES UPDATED

CAL FIRE and the Santa Cruz County Office of Response, Recovery & Resilience (OR3) are urging everyone to prepare for future evacuations by getting to "Know Your Zone."

Evacuation zones help protect the community by fostering the orderly transition of residents away from high-danger areas during natural and manmade disasters and other event. Evacuation zones have recently been updated, and everyone is encouraged to learn their zone by visiting https://community.zonehaven.com and entering their address in the search bar.

"These zones will improve community safety and public safety response when evacuations become necessary," CAL FIRE Chief Ian Larkin said. "Unfortunately, we are seeing more frequent fires and other natural disasters, and our community must protect itself by increasing our preparedness efforts."

The new zones are optimized to be used during multiple types of events and build on lessons learned during the 2020 CZU Lightning Fires and subsequent debris flow planning and evacuations processes. Residents should write down their zones and include that information in their family evacuation planning and disaster preparedness efforts.

Residents should also sign up for Code Red alerts by downloading the Code Red app or visiting scr911.org and signing up for alerts. Code Red alerts may include emergency wildfire and flood evacuations, severe weather alerts and neighborhood shelter-in-place alerts.

For more information on disaster preparedness, residents should visit ReadyforWildfire.org or SantaCruzCounty.us/OR3.aspx.