Evacuation Tag Information

The Novato Police Department and Novato Fire Protection District are giving away evacuation tags to residents living in the City of Novato. Evacuation tags are a new tool to help us quickly ensure that neighborhoods are evacuated during a disaster. Residents hang the tag in a location that is highly visible from the street when they evacuate (mailbox, front door, garage, end of your driveway).

This saves time and effort which we need to immediately check the next home. We have learned that seconds can count during evacuations and we are excited to bring this new life-saving tool to our residents. Each tag comes with instruction flyer in English and Spanish.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What if I live outside the City of Novato in the Marin County Sheriff jurisdiction?

A: If you live outside the City of Novato, you may pick up an evacuation tag at one of the Sheriff's office or Marin Fire locations or contact the Marin Sheriff Office at 415-473-5567.

Q: What if there is more than one home on my property?

A: When a first responder sees an evacuation tag near the street, they assumes everyone on the property has evacuated. If everyone has evacuated, place the tag near the street. If someone is still on the property, only place the tag on the homes that have been evacuated. If placing the tag near the end of your driveway, only do so when your whole property and all residences are vacant.

Q: Can I get multiple tags to distribute to my neighbors?

A: Absolutely! Depending on the quantity, it may be easiest to coordinate with the Novato Police Community Outreach Coordinator, Lauren Grant, who can be reached at lgrant@novato.org or at 415-897-4361

Q: Doesn't the evacuation tag tell looters I am not home?

A: First responders usually mark your home with yellow tape or an "X" on the street when

they confirm your home is evacuated. This is no different than an evacuation tag. We heavily patrol evacuated zones with help from our mutual aid law enforcement partners. Your safety and the safety of your family is our priority, then we focus on keeping your home and property safe while you're gone.

Q: Where do I place the tag when I evacuate?

A: Place the tag in a location that is most visible to first responders who are on the street. This could be a gate, a mailbox, garage door or a front door. If there is more than one home on the property, make sure all homes are evacuated before placing the tag near the street. We recommend the use of a zip tie or some type of small wire (26 gauge) to affix the tag to a location. Something that will stay where it is placed for an extended period if necessary.

Q: What if I am elderly or disabled and cannot drive to pick up an evacuation tag?

A: We are happy to help community members who need a little assistance. Novato Police Community Outreach Coordinator, Lauren Grant, who can be reached at lgrant@novato.org or at 415-897-4361and will ensure an evacuation tag is sent to you.

Q: Can I get one for my vacation rental or second home?

A: Yes!

Q: Do I need to use an evacuation tag?

A: No. Evacuation tags are optional. It helps us evacuate neighborhoods more quickly, which means firefighters can get in more quickly to fight the fire. Most people we have talked with are very excited about the evacuation tags and we hope you are, too. Sonoma County and Napa County have had great success with their programs.

Q: Where can I pick up an evacuation tag?

A: All the Law Enforcement jurisdictions in the county coordinated to ensure everyone had similar evacuation tags. You may pick up an evacuation tag at the following locations in Novato.

Evacuation Tag Pickup Locations - Novato

- Downtown-Novato Police Station (909 Machin Avenue)
- Central Novato-Novato Fire Admin (95 Rowland Way)

Evacuation Tag Pickup Locations - Sheriff's Office Locations

- Southern Marin Substation (850 Drake Ave, Marin City)
- Kentfield Substation (831 College Ave, Kentfield)
- Main Office (1600 Los Gamos Drive #200, San Rafael)
- Point Reyes Substation (101 4th St, Point Reyes)

Evacuation Tag Pickup Locations - Marin Fire Department Locations

- Tomales Fire Station (599 Dillon Beach Road, Dillon Beach)
- Point Reyes Fire Station (101 4th St, Point Reyes)
- Hicks Valley Fire Station (7330 Red Hill Rd, Petaluma)
- Woodacre Fire Station (33 Castlerock, Woodacre)
- Throckmorton Fire Station (816 Panoramic Highway, Mill Valley)
- Marin City Fire Station (850 Drake Ave, Marin City)
- Inverness Fire Station (50 Inverness Way, Inverness)
- Bolinas Fire Station (100 Mesa Rd, Bolinas)
- Stinson Beach Fire Station (32 Belvedere Ave, Stinson Beach)