

MARIN VILLAGES WEEKLY UPDATE

April 27, 2021

Dear Marin Villages members and volunteers,

Seems like we were just here, getting this update ready for you, but no, that was last week and this is this week—and of course everything is different except what's exactly the same. Here we go!

COVID-19 UPDATE

Close, but no cigar! Marin is not yet in the yellow tier, alas. The earliest date for achieving yellow tier status in Marin is May 4. Every Tuesday Dr. Matt Willis updates the Board of Supervisors on the status of the pandemic in Marin. There is some really good information in his Zoom video from last week on why we are still in the orange tier and, most importantly, why we remain vulnerable to COVID despite our high level of vaccinations in the County. Check it out here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=303lpUu9wgM>

Get vaccinated!

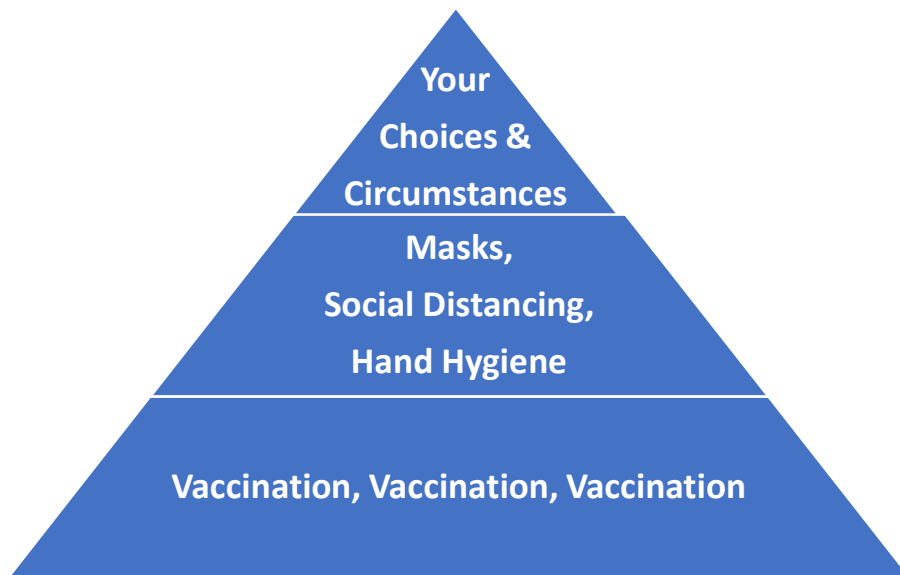
No excuses on scheduling accepted! There is plenty of vaccine available in Marin now and appointments are finally easy to book, at least for right now. There are walk-in or pop-up sites available throughout Marin and mobile units offering vaccinations are increasing. In addition, next-day appointment availability is possible at many other sites. Vaccinations can still be booked at the Marin drive-through facility at the ferry parking lot in Larkspur, the Marin HHS facility at the Civic Center, at onsite locations of healthcare providers in Marin, and at various pharmacies in the county. If you are homebound, you can get an in-home vaccination as well. Notwithstanding this good news, we know it can still seem daunting to schedule vaccinations.

Everyone not yet vaccinated should be aware that the big facility at the Civic Center will be closing at the end of May and the last date to obtain a first-dose vaccine from the Marin Health and Wellness Campus on Kerner Blvd and the Marin Center (Marin County fairgrounds) is this coming **Saturday, May 1**. (Both sites will remain open through May 29 to fulfill second-dose needs.) So, if you'd like help scheduling a vaccination, please call the office. We can help. (415) 457-4633 Or try calling this number that the County has made available for helping residents with vaccination scheduling: (833) 641-1988.

Are masks necessary?

Lots of conflicting advice and opinions out there. Marin Public Health continues to require most individuals to wear a face covering when interacting with others who are not members of their household in both public and private spaces. In line with that requirement, we also request members and volunteers to wear masks when getting together. Vaccinations drastically reduce the risk of infection, but do not offer 100% protection. Masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene continue to be important until we reach herd immunity and we aren't there yet.

Remember the pyramid. Make safe choices!



MEANWHILE...

The drought

Last week the Marin Municipal Water District issued mandatory restrictions on water usage for central and southern Marin customers in light of the extreme lack of rain received in the past months. There are fines for noncompliance. Those of you who receive water from the district must comply with the restrictions. Those of you not in the Marin Municipal Water District are well-advised to similarly restrict your water usage as well, as the drought is affecting the entire area. More restrictions and rules may be forthcoming, but as of now make sure you understand what is currently required as listed below. Rebates for water-wise appliances and actions you can take are available through the district as well. Check out <https://www.marinwater.org/rebates>

Marin Municipal Water District requirements as of April 27

- Do not wash vehicles at home. If you need to wash your car, use a carwash that recycles water
- No power-washing homes or businesses
- Do not wash driveways or sidewalks
- Do not water outdoors between 9:00am and 7:00pm

- Do not waste water. Flooding gutters is prohibited
- Leaks must be fixed within 48 hours after being discovered
- Garden hoses must have shutoff nozzles
- Beginning May 20, golf course irrigation is restricted to greens and tees
- No watering grass on public medians
- No using potable water for dust control, sewer flushing projects or street cleaning
- No refilling or topping off decorative pools or fountains

Emergency preparedness (wildfire as well as earthquake)

The drought heightens the risk of wildfires and the need for emergency preparedness. And, of course, the possibility of earthquakes is omnipresent in California. Time to consider again how prepared are you if there is a disaster or need to evacuate. Here are three important steps you can take:

1. Is your phone number in the AlertMarin system or Nixle?

You can register with the Nixle alert system: simply text your zip code to 888-777, and you will get, by text, public safety and emergency information from local fire and law enforcement agencies.

You can also register your cell phone or Comcast phone line (or other voice over internet phone line (VOIP)) with AlertMarin to receive emergency alerts and evacuation updates by going to www.alertmarin.org.

Note that your landline telephone (listed or unlisted) is already registered with AlertMarin, so you will automatically get alerts at that number.

2. Do you know two possible evacuation routes from your home, as well as the nearest Community Refuge Area that offers a safe space in case evacuation is not possible?

For some, but not all, areas of Marin you can download and print information on evacuation routes and refuges. If you don't see information on your town, contact your City or Town offices or local fire district now, in advance of an emergency, to get the best information on evacuation routes and refuges near you. <https://www.firesafemarin.org/evacuation/maps>

3. Is your go-bag ready?

A backpack, fanny pack, and/or small case with essential items should already be packed and located near the door to grab and go in an emergency. Make sure any emergency kit you have on hand is near the front door and update the contents as needed. There are many resources for suggested items, and here are two good sources for checklists:

http://readymarin.org/dev/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/GrabGo-Checklist_readymarin.pdf

<https://www.firesafemarin.org/firewise/17-site-content/100-wildfire-evacuation-guide>

Note: It's not too late to register for the Zoom program on Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults which is scheduled for tomorrow at 10:30. See below under Community Programming.

MARIN VILLAGES PROGRAMS

Marin Villages Donor Recognition Event

Sunday, June 6, 5:00pm



Join us for a short program and a wonderful performance by Nancy Gilliland, who will entertain with songs from the Great American Songbook. Please RSVP here: <https://bit.ly/MVDonorEvent> This will be a really fun event!

Did you miss our last program? If you missed our program last week on volunteer Colin Crawford's almost 30-year personal effort to find his family, you can access the video here:
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/cohagwBb5T7htUt3GhGy_C2AjGC5e9_yDS1sOVgRiSWO4iAD_4ycqSWCBtinbW0.9sE91luF9ck7QXPt

Access Passcode: [^3.@#qpC](#)

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Age Friendly Marin Forum—*Emergency Preparedness for Aging Adults*

Wednesday, April 28, 10:30 – 11:45am

Your life might depend on being organized and ready should an emergency situation arise. Reacting as quickly as possible under pressure takes advanced preparation. Get the best advice available geared for older adults and learn how to survive. Speakers: **Maggie Lang**, coordinator, Marin County CERT, emergency preparedness consultant, Mill Valley Fire Department, Southern Marin Get Ready coordinator; **Diana Lopez** county commissioner, Commission on Aging, HICAP counselor. Register on our website: <https://marin.helpfulvillage.com/events/2855-age-friendly-marin-forum---emergency-preparedness-for-aging-adults>

Or use the Zoom info below.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87522017040>

Meeting ID: 875 2201 7040

One tap mobile (669) 900-9128 87522017040#

Is There a Doctor in the House? Telehealth and Bridging the Digital Health Divide

Thursday, May 27, 10:00am – 12:30pm

This is the Commission on Aging's annual health forum—which is being held digitally this year. Register now for this great free webinar: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_kDIhuf8mSW-NIb0AaSrTDA

THANKS TO OUR DONORS

We are so grateful to our many wonderful donors for their ongoing support. Your generosity not only helps us continue what we are doing, but also allows us to explore new services and activities to help strengthen and expand our community. If you haven't already made a donation, please do consider doing so. Every contribution really helps!

https://marin.helpfulvillage.com/fundraising_campaigns/8-annual-fund-spring-2021-campaign

WEEKLY UPDATES AND THINGS TO DO

With the expectation that, at least in Marin, the virus risk will continue to lessen and there will soon be greater opportunities for us to be other than home alone, we are planning to change our Weekly Updates and Things to Do to a less frequent schedule. The plan is to move to every other week in May, and to once a month starting in June.

Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to share ideas of “things to do” and sent in notes of appreciation for the increased communications during this crazy pandemic time. If there are aspects of what has been included in the Updates or Things to Do list that you'd like to see continued as we move to a once-a-month schedule, please feel free to call or email the office to let us know.

info@marinvillages.org or (415) 457-4633

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Live opera is coming to Marin in May with a drive-in production of *The Barber of Seville* at the Civic Center. Creativity abounds! But nothing like this silly *COVID Fan Tutte* excerpt from a Finnish National Opera company production. A little silliness is good for the soul, given everything else going on these days. To see the English subtitles, click on the cc icon at the bottom of the video page. Mozart is undoubtedly turning in his grave—and fortunately, we get our vaccinations in the arm.

COVID Fan Tutte—Finnish National Opera: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eivb7CB7p7M>

Cherie Sorokin, President

Marco Maina, Executive Directors