

# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



**CONTACT:**  
Information Officer  
(650) 477-0379

**RELEASE DATE:**  
July 1, 2024

### CAL FIRE CZU Urges Safety During Red Flag Warning

**FELTON** — A Red Flag Warning has been issued for most of the Bay Area. CAL FIRE CZU is urging you to take the necessary precautions to ensure everyone’s safety. Red Flag Warnings are issued by the National Weather Service to indicate conditions that are ideal for wildfires, including strong winds, low humidity, and dry vegetation.

Please avoid outdoor activities that could spark a fire, including using machinery that can create sparks in the heat of the day such as lawnmowers, chainsaws, and power tools. Do not discard cigarette butts on the ground or out of car windows. Monitor local news and weather reports for updates on fire conditions and potential evacuation orders. As always, if you see any signs of smoke or fire, report it immediately by calling 911.

The use of fireworks is illegal in most areas of San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties with a fine of up to \$1,000. Even the possession or use of safe and sane fireworks are prohibited in many areas of Santa Cruz and San Mateo Counties.

CAL FIRE CZU Deputy Chief Jed Wilson says, “With the predicted heatwave forecast by the National Weather Service, we could experience rapid fire spread and increased fire behavior. Take safety precautions and prepare yourself in the event a wildfire should start near you. Be familiar with notification options for your county, like CruzAware in Santa Cruz County and SMCAAlerts in San Mateo County. The Santa Cruz and San Mateo coastlines are both areas where people seek relief from the heat. Fire danger is not the only risk. The risk of water-related tragedies also increases. Be prepared by staying hydrated and maintaining awareness if visiting the beaches or local bodies of water.”

Sign up for emergency alerts in your county and have an emergency kit ready in case you need to evacuate.

[Sign Up for SMC Alerts](#)

[Sign Up for Cruz Aware](#)



For more information on how to prepare for wildfire, visit [ReadyforWildfire.org](https://www.readyforwildfire.org).

