



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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PRESS RELEASE

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VISITORS ASKED TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY

The Santa Cruz County Emergency Operations Center requests that tourists, out-of-towners and visitors occupying local overnight accommodations such as hotels, motels and vacation rentals depart the County immediately in order to free up shelter capacity.

Local shelters are near capacity. The EOC is working with local agencies including cities, post-secondary institutions, school districts and others to increase capacity. However, the scale of existing and anticipated evacuation orders is unprecedented and the need to safely house evacuees is critical. Depart south on Highway 1 or north on Highway 17. New visitors should not travel to the county.

Evacuees should first seek shelter with friends and family. The County is also asking social media leads for NextDoor, Facebook and other groups to help arrange shelter by requesting members with extra capacity to volunteer in-law units, spare bedrooms and even tents for evacuees.

For information on accommodations, please call 211 or Red Cross at 1-866-272-2237. If you need assistance evacuating animals, please call 831-471-1182. The Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds currently has capacity to board horses, and Alameda County Fairgrounds has offered their facility as well.

The County needs donations of tents and cases of water. Please deliver to the County warehouse at the rear of the Emeline complex, 1082 Emeline Ave., Santa Cruz.

To find the most current evacuation map visit

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/f0121f7f2f0941afb3ed70529b2cee75>. Sign up for Cal Fire email updates at <https://tinyurl.com/czulightning>.

The Santa Cruz County Human Services benefits hotline is 1-888-421-8080 (toll free). Residents impacted by the fire who are enrolled in benefits programs may be eligible for replacement benefits.

To list yourself safe go to www.redcross.org/safeandwell to click "List Yourself as Safe and Well." For the latest traffic advisories or restrictions: <https://cruz511.org/>. For the latest local air quality information: <http://air.mbard.org/>.

Community Foundation Santa Cruz County has established a community fire relief fund. Go to www.cfsc.org.