

Good to Go Sunol! Tested by SCU Lightning Complex Fires.

How to get ready, stay informed, evacuate and return from wildfire.

Partners: Alameda County Fire Department
Community of Sunol

CAL FIRE, Santa Clara Unit
Diablo Fire Safe Council

At 4:00AM, Sunday August 16, 2020 a rare lightning storm passed through the San Francisco Bay Area, with thousands of lightning strikes igniting hundreds of fires. Above the community of Sunol, lightning struck Sunol Ridge on the west side and Calaveras Ridge on the south side igniting several small fires. By the next afternoon, Alameda County Sheriff's office issued evacuation warnings for Kilkare Road (below Sunol Ridge) and Welch Creek Road (below Calaveras Ridge). On Monday morning, the Sheriff issued evacuation orders.

The fires on the south side of Sunol converged to form the main body of the "SCU Lightning Complex." Over the next thirty days the fire would spread into four more counties: Santa Clara, San Joaquin, Merced and Stanislaus counties; burning 396,624 acres with 222 structures destroyed, 26 structures damaged, and 6 confirmed injuries. By October 1st, the fire was contained¹ and the SCU Lightning Complex fire became the third fire on the list of "Top 20 Largest California Wildfires" since records began in 1932.

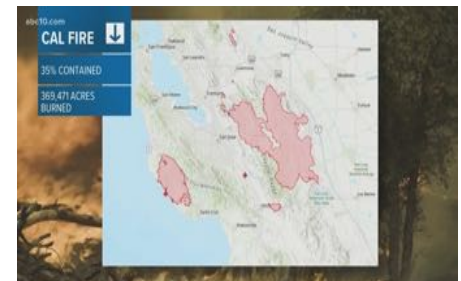
The community of Sunol was located on the north-west edge of the SCU Lightning Complex fires. Residents were evacuated as the fires exhibited unpredictable behavior. The information provided by Good to Go Sunol helped residents understand their roles in the evacuation process. Sunolians who had not prepared in advance had Good to Go as a last minute resource. Subsequently, residents contacted the Good to Go program with requests for additional workbooks, YouTube videos, checklists and information about returning home, dealing with continued smoke, insurance, and other topics.

Ongoing red flag weather heightened awareness in other communities. The Good to Go program is now working on evacuation route hazardous fuel reduction projects with the community of Sleepy Hollow in Orinda. A summary program called *Good to Go! Just in Time* is being developed with the Contra Costa county communities located in zip code 94803 (Richmond, Pinole and unincorporated County).

Website: <https://www.goodtogowildfire.com/>



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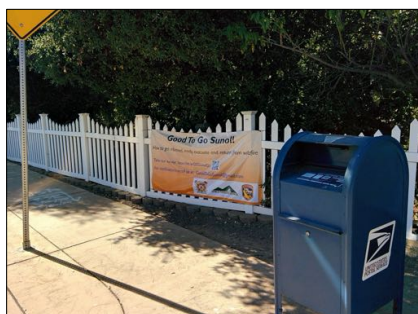
Source: <https://www.abc10.com/article/news/local/wildfire/lnu-lightning-complex-fire-august-28-2020/103-9acd0e58-8e0d-4005->

New Partner: Richmond 94803
(includes Richmond + El Sobrante + Pinole + County)

- New group forming. Support from:
 - Richmond Fire Department (Fire Marshal Emergency Services manager)
 - Contra Costa County Office of Emergency Services (Fire Emergency Planning Coordinator)
- Initial presentation 9/15/20 (39 attendees + recorded and link shared)
- Interest from community to participate.

To Do

- Reach out to other agency partners having jurisdiction (CCFPD + PFD + EBRPD + EBMUD)
- Develop work plan to refine Good to Go Just in Time and community outreach.



Overview & Module 1
Presentation to
Sunol Citizen Advisory Council
Wednesday June 17, 2020

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evacuate and return from wildfire.

DIABLO FIRESAFE COUNCIL
www.diablofiresafe.org

Good To Go Sunol!
How to get ready, stay informed, evacuate and return from wildfire

Introducing a new training program for residents to prepare for wildfires and possible evacuation developed by the Diablo FireSafe Council and taught in 5 modules:

Getting Ready to Go! How to know when to go
Get to Go! What to take when you go
Way to Go! How to know which way to go
Burglarize Go! Protecting pets and large animals
Going Home! Tips for returning after wildfire evacuation

Modules 2-5 will be presented one per month at the SCAC meetings the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00pm.

Take our survey: <https://bit.ly/3GzChmKp>
Sign up for email notifications: Goodtogowildfire@gmail.com

¹ Sources accessed 9/18/20: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/8/18/scu-lightning-complex/>, https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/11416/top20_acres.pdf and https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/11417/top20_destruction.pdf.