

## **Frequently asked questions**

### **What is the current status of the fire?**

There is a large fire (“Lilac Fire”) along the Highway 76 corridor, west of Interstate 15. There are no current threats to San Marcos. For information updates visit the [San Diego County Emergency Site](#) or follow [CALFIRE San Diego](#) on Facebook and Twitter for updates. Follow [CALFIRE San Diego](#) on Facebook and Twitter for updates. For non-emergency information, call 2-1-1.

### **How can I stay informed?**

Residents should register all of their family's cell phones with AlertSanDiego at [www.readysandiego.org](http://www.readysandiego.org) so that you will all be notified of an emergency affecting your neighborhood. This is especially important if you no longer have a landline at your home. You can also download the [SDEmergency App](#) on your phone.

During an emergency, residents should also stay updated on the latest local safety information by visiting the city's website, following San Marcos @sanmarcoscity on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#); registering for e-notifications; and turning radios to AM 1610.

Information on the Lilac Fire, including regional road closures and other important updates is also being posted on the San Diego County Emergency Site at [www.sdcountyemergency.com](http://www.sdcountyemergency.com). Residents are encouraged to follow [CAL FIRE San Diego](#) on Twitter. For non-emergency information, call 2-1-1.

### **What can I do to prepare?**

Besides registering your cell phone with Alert San Diego, review your family emergency plan, prepare a supply kit, and inventory home items such as important documents and medications so that you would want to take with you so you are ready to go if told to do so by a public safety official.

### **When should I evacuate?**

You should evacuate if an order is issued by a public safety official or if you feel your safety is at risk. Take pets and pet food with you. In the event of an emergency, information about shelters and where to take animals will be provided. Since there may be smoke in the area, you should keep windows closed and remain indoors.

### **I heard there is a shelter open in San Marcos. Should I be concerned?**

Because there is no current fire danger in San Marcos, a shelter was opened at Palomar College to assist people in neighboring communities affected by the Lilac Fire. If you have

friends or family impacted by the fire that need shelter information, they can go to [www.sdcountyemergency.com/shelters](http://www.sdcountyemergency.com/shelters) for a full list of open shelters.

### **How can I protect myself from smoke?**

If you smell smoke it is likely that it's at a level that is unsafe to breathe. In areas where you smell smoke, it is advised that you limit physical activity, and if possible, stay indoors to limit your exposure.

If you are bothered by smoke or sensitive to it you should move out of it until it clears up. You can shelter inside, but if it gets smoky inside, leaving is the best idea. Keep indoor air as clean as possible. Windows and doors should be closed unless it is extremely hot outside. Run an air conditioner if you have one, but keep the fresh-air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent outdoor smoke from getting inside.

For more information, visit [www.readysandiego.org](http://www.readysandiego.org).

### **Is there a change in any city activities?**

While there are no significant air quality concerns in San Marcos, Adult Softball League play has been canceled out of consideration for out-of-town players. All other recreation programming will continue as regularly scheduled. Stay updated on the latest fire conditions by visiting [www.caloes.ca.gov](http://www.caloes.ca.gov).

### **How can I volunteer, donate, or help?**

The city appreciates residents' willingness to help those in need. There are several ways you can help:

- San Diego County 2-1-1 is in need of volunteers to help in its call center. To sign up to volunteer, you can call (858) 300-1269.
- The San Diego/Imperial County Red Cross said the best way to help their organization is through monetary donations. You can donate at [www.redcross.org/local/california/san-diego](http://www.redcross.org/local/california/san-diego).
- The San Diego County Humane Society said they are not in need of volunteers at this time, but those wishing to help can donate pet supplies and food by going to their Amazon wish list at [sdhumane.org/who-we-are/shop/amazon-wish-list](http://sdhumane.org/who-we-are/shop/amazon-wish-list).