

NEWS RELEASE



San Rafael

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – updated 5:15 p.m. 6/30/10



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Fire on Margarita Drive Burns 15 Acres – No Homes Damaged

Reminder to Home Owners to Have Wildfire Action Plans in Place

June 30, 2010, San Rafael, CA – At 1:30 p.m. a fire started at 366 Margarita Drive burning approximately 15 acres on the hillside behind the home. Three structures on Margarita Drive were immediately threatened. Due to quick response by the fire fighters the fire was effectively contained saving hundreds of more homes in the area. More than 150 personnel from 20 engine companies from across the county responded to the fire. Seven hand crews, as well as helicopters, air tankers and representatives from CAL FIRE and the Sheriff's Office were also at the incident to aid in the response.

San Rafael Fire Department fire investigators determined the cause of the fire to be the use of power tools by construction workers when sparks from the power tools ignited dry grasses on the hillside behind the home.

“This situation could have easily gone the other way. We urge all home owners better prepare yourself, your family and your home in the event of a wildfire,” said fire chief Chris Gray, San Rafael Fire Department. “Quick response by the fire fighters kept the fire limited in size and kept the nearby homes in the area safe. Please have your plans in place. Visit the Ready, Set, Go Marin website and develop your plan. Contact your local fire department if you need assistance putting your wildfire action plan together. Wildfire season is here.”

As of 4:36 p.m. the fire was 100% contained and the approximate burn area is reported to be 15 acres. Crews will remain on scene over night to mop up, monitor hot spots and make sure there are no flare ups.

Ready, Set, Go! Marin – wildfire planning website <http://www.readysetgomarin.org>

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