



# City of Monterey Park News Release

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## Monterey Park Fire Department Urges Fire Safety During Red Flag Warning Conditions

Monterey Park, Calif. - December 6, 2017 - The [Monterey Park Fire Department](#) would like to ensure all residents remain safe during these periods of Santa Ana wind conditions or what is referred to as Red Flag Warnings. As we have seen in Northern California and most recently right here in Southern California, wind conditions along with low humidity can create catastrophic fire conditions. Weather conditions here in Monterey Park are expected to remain warm for the entire week with temperatures reaching the 80s by the coming weekend. Wind gusts are expected as well. Please adhere to the following safety guidelines:

### 1. Equipment Use Safety

- Never mow or trim grass on a Red Flag Warning Day
- Never use lawn mowers in dry vegetation
- Spark arresters are required in wild land areas on all portable gasoline powered equipment.

### 2. Campfire Safety

- Before starting a campfire, make sure you have a campfire permit and that they are permitted on the land you are visiting
- Afterwards, ensure that your campfire is properly extinguished.

### 3. Defensible Space

- Make sure there is 100 feet of defensible space around structures
- Clear dead weeds and vegetation
- Remove leaves and needles from gutters
- Trim branches 6 feet from the ground.

### 4. Vehicle

- Never pull over in dry grass
- Ensure trailer chains don't drag on ground
- Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained
- Have proper tire pressure to avoid driving on wheel rim
- Never let your brake pads wear too thin.

- More -

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### 5. Other

- Make sure cigarette butts are properly extinguished
- Never burn landscape debris
- Report any suspicious activities to prevent arson.

Due to the many fires currently burning across southern California, Monterey Park Fire Units are currently dispatched to assist with containment efforts. We have two engine companies deployed in the Ventura area and we have initiated mandatory call back for personnel to ensure the city is adequately staffed. With the weather conditions expected to continue through the weekend, we are currently staffing one additional engine company as a necessary precaution and will patrol areas that have high fire potential.

If you have family members that live in the affected areas and have been forced to evacuate, please visit the City of Monterey Park website at [www.montereypark.ca.gov](http://www.montereypark.ca.gov) for a list of evacuation centers in Los Angeles County or visit the Los Angeles Fire Department website at [www.lafd.org/news](http://www.lafd.org/news).

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