



Market and Economic News & 10 Wildfire Evacuation Tips

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Market and Economic News

Brad McMillan, Commonwealth's Chief Investment Officer, recaps July's market and economic news. U.S. indices were up by low single digits in July, with the Nasdaq doing best as tech stocks continued to rally. International markets also did well, but fixed income was weaker. This market performance reflected the underlying economy. Strong job creation pushed consumer confidence up significantly, supporting income and spending growth. Inflation continued its decline, although the Fed raised rates again as expected. Will this improvement continue? Tune-in to find out.

Insights from our CIO
Market Thoughts
August 2023



Top 10 ways to get ready for a wildfire evacuation

This fire season we want to share some wildfire evacuation tips with you.

1. Be aware of Red Flag Days. These are days when extreme caution is urged because wildfires are more likely to ignite and spread. By signing up for [Nixle](#), you will receive information about when there is a Red Flag Warning in your neighborhood.
2. Make sure you will get an evacuation alert. The best option is to sign up for [Alert Marin](#) which will send an alert to your phone when action is needed at the address you signed up with. Often people have their phone in the “Do Not Disturb” setting at night. To make sure you get an alert, add Alert Marin’s phone number to your contacts and change your settings to allow messages through (415) 473-6376.
3. Park your car facing the road. Make it easy to leave your home! If you usually park your car in the garage, have a plan for opening the door if the power is out (and close it when you leave so that embers cannot enter).
4. Make sure your car is full of gas or fully charged. The last thing you want is to be stuck!
5. Make a [plan](#). Talk to the other members of your household about different scenarios and the actions you would take if ordered to evacuate on short notice. What would you do if you were all at home? What would you do if you were in different places? Pick someone outside of your county to be a point of contact if phone lines are jammed.

6. Know your evacuation route. Usually the best route is the one that you use every day to get to the store! Take the fastest paved route to the valley floor, away from the wildfire. Avoid using fire roads. You can look up the evacuation route for your Marin neighborhood [here](#).
7. Have your go-kit packed. Don't leave packing until the last minute! Go over the items that should be in your go-bag [here](#). Put a notecard in a visible place with last minute items to grab, such as your computer and medications.
8. Make a go-kit for your pets. Your pets are relying on you in an evacuation. Go over the helpful items for your pets [here](#).
9. Wear the right clothes. You should wear long sleeves and long pants made of cotton or wool, even if it is hot out! Goggles, hats and gloves can help protect from embers.
10. Leave right away! If you get an evacuation order, it is very important that you follow those directions as quickly as possible so you are not putting your life or firefighters lives at risk.

For this article and others, please visit [FireSafeMarin.org](https://www.FireSafeMarin.org).

My staff and I deeply appreciate the continuing opportunity to work with you. Please let me know if you have any questions or requests. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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