

Why We love living at 4 Meadow Way

A little over 43 years ago, a lifelong dream became a reality, and this house became my home. I grew up just across the street and knew the neighborhood like the back of my hand and buying 4 Meadow Way felt like a match made in heaven.

Years of improvements, a small addition, refurbishing the entire interior, and major landscape projects turned this house into the comfortable and peaceful oasis that I and my wife and I enjoyed for close to 30 years.

Two majestic, heritage oaks define the property and have been the anchor tenants for decades. The elegant, mature Redwood was planted years ago from a 4-inch pot and we have watched it mature ever since. The raised garden beds and the opportunity to grow food in your own yard is a treasure. The bay tree in the vegetable garden produces leaves of cooking grade. The large, fenced yard keeps the deer out and is a dog's paradise. We are leaving our spiral herb garden with European laurel and Methuselah rosemary bush (35 years old) as a center piece plus potted citrus, olive, and three fruit trees.

Once meadows used for dairy cows, the street is quiet with no through traffic, respectful and friendly neighbors, and a vibrant creek. The land and vintage oaks give us a unique micro- environment for native plants and wildlife. The oaks house three kinds of squirrels and a multitude of birds: woodpeckers, hummingbirds, finches, doves, hawks, owls at night, plus the usual chickadees, juncos, and sparrows. It's a great pleasure to watch the deer use the deer trail just above the fence line and see the yearly fawns grow up.

A short hike to the top of Pam's Blue Ridge or Blue Mountain provides a view of downtown Fairfax and the surrounding neighborhoods. This is an incredible place to watch a full moon rise, especially a Harvest Moon, or an eclipse. At the end of Cascade Drive is the Elliot Nature Preserve, a gateway to great hikes and, during the winter months, a thundering waterfall. Also leading out of the canyon is a steep three-mile fire road that was once the home to the infamous Repack Mountain Bike Downhill Challenge. For years I used this hike as training for my hiking adventures in the Grand Canyon. At the top of Repack is another gateway to fantastic hikes including an incredible Dwarf Sargent Cypress Grove on the Pine Mountain Road and two waterfalls, Little Carson Falls and Big Carson Falls. This is also the gateway to Lagunitas, Bon Tempe, and Alpine Lakes and breathtaking vistas from Mt. Tamalpais.

A short walk and you can be in downtown Fairfax with its unique collection of shops and destination restaurants. Peri's and 19 Broadway offer live music almost every night of the week and, including the dining opportunities, Fairfax can be very lively after dark. The yearly town parade and music festival on three stages are always a highlight, Little League games at Cantratti Field, the incomparable Good Earth Organic Food store, The Marin Bicycling Museum, Scoop's Organic Ice Cream are beyond compare. The one-of-a-kind Fairfax Variety Store, Fairfax's oldest business, is just down the road. All these add up to a very livable and vital community.

Fairfax has the undisputed honor of being the home of the mountain bike. There are two beautiful tile mosaics paying homage to this fact in the center of town.