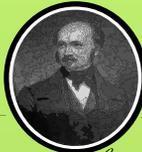




Happy Easter



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The 2016 Fire Season is upon us

Our current view of the surrounding foothills is green; however, the effects of the drought pose serious fire hazard issues to *our* community in the months ahead. Please take a moment to review the below recommendations on how to keep your family, yard, home, and neighboring property owners safe from the threat of fire.

Design/Construction

(For new Wildland Urban Interface Construction or Remodels)

- Use ignition resistant construction (effective January 1, 2008) for roofs/roof assemblies, gutters, vents, decks, exterior walls, and exterior windows.
- Enclose the underside of eaves, balconies and above ground decks with fire resistant materials.
- Show your 100 feet Defensible Space on plot plan
- Build your home away from ridge tops, canyons and areas between high points of a ridge.
- Consider installing residential sprinklers.
- Make sure that electric service lines, fuse boxes and circuit breaker panels are installed and maintained per code.
- Contact qualified individuals to perform electrical maintenance and repairs.

Access

- Make sure that your street name sign is visibly posted at each street intersection.
- Post your house address so it is easily visible from the street especially at night.
- Address numbers should be at least 4 inches tall and on a contrasting background.
- Identify at least two exit routes from your neighborhood.
- Clear flammable vegetation at least 10 feet from roads and 5 feet from driveways.
- Cut back overhanging tree branches above access roads.
- Construct roads that allow two-way traffic.
- Make sure dead-end roads and long driveways have turn-around areas wide enough for emergency vehicles.
- Design bridges to carry heavy emergency vehicles.
- Post clear road signs to show traffic restrictions such as dead-end roads, and weight and height limitations.

Roof

- Install a fire resistant roof. Contact your local fire department for current roofing requirements.
- Remove dead leaves and needles from your roof and gutters.
- Cover your chimney outlet and stovepipe with a nonflammable screen of ½ inch or smaller mesh.

Landscape

- Create a **Defensible Space** of 100 feet around your home. It is required by law.
- Create a **“LEAN, CLEAN and GREEN ZONE”** by removing all flammable vegetation within 30 feet immediately surrounding your home.
- Create a **“REDUCED FUEL ZONE”**. You have two options in this area:
Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants. The amount of space will depend on how steep your property is and the size of your plants.

Large trees do not have to be removed as long as all the plants beneath them are removed.

- Remove lower tree branches at least six feet from the ground in un-landscaped areas.
- Landscape with fire resistant plants.
- Maintain all plants with regular water, and keep dead branches, leaves and needles removed.
- When clearing vegetation, use care when operating equipment such as lawnmowers. Once small spark may start a fire; a string trimmer is much safer.

Yard

- Stack woodpiles at least 30 feet from all structures and remove vegetation within 10 feet of woodpiles.
- Above ground Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LP-gas) containers (500 or less water gallons) shall be located a minimum of 10 feet with respect to buildings, public ways, and property lines of adjoining properties that can be built upon. – CFC 3804.3.
- Remove all stacks of construction materials, pine needles, leaves and other debris from your yard.
- Contact your local fire department to see if debris burning is allowed in your area; if so, obtain a burning permit and follow all local air quality restrictions.

