



# Logtown Fire Safe Council

P.O. Box 1601  
El Dorado, CA 95623



---

**Notes from 9/13/2014 Meeting  
Station 44  
Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire Protection District**

Meeting convened at 09:04

1) Firewise Practices:

The first Order of Business was to show a documentary video on “Ember Awareness,” specifically, how to best protect one’s home in the ember storm that could precede an advancing wildfire. The program noted “most homes destroyed in wildfire events were ignited by embers from the fire, rather than the fire itself.” It then proceeded to discuss several aspects of home construction and maintenance that might make the structure more, or less, susceptible to ignition by flying embers. These included:

- 1) Roof construction (flat tile and composition roofs a plus, no wood shakes, must keep debris clear and fill openings in semicircular tile roofs to prevent ember migration under the tile);
- 2) Spark arrestors on wood-stove chimneys are a must;
- 3) Close open windows, double-glazed windows with tempered glass offer best protection
- 4) Subfloor vents should be covered, tight (< 1/8”) mesh or double-slat design;
- 5) Gutters should be kept clean of debris;
- 6) Cover openings in siding;
- 7) Move wood piles away from fences and buildings;
- 8) Store patio furniture before evacuation;
- 9) Clear debris under decks to prevent ignition;
- 10) Keep flower boxes green so they won’t ignite;
- 11) Protect eaves – box with non-flammable materials if possible;
- 12) Keep flower beds green and away from structures;
- 13) Mulched areas should be at least 30 feet from structures;
- 14) Keep doors and windows of parked vehicles closed;
- 15) Close your garage door;
- 16) Keep garbage cans and bins closed and do not overfill;
- 17) Keep flammable (wood) fences away from structures – metal gates are a good way to provide isolation.

The video closed with the question: “Will your home survive when the embers arrive?”

Ref: [www.livingwithfire.org](http://www.livingwithfire.org)

## 2) Treasurer's Report:

Account moved to Umpqua Bank, as a sub-account of the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council. Expenses included \$24.00 for new checks and a \$500 donation for Sand Fire victims. Balance in account is \$4,933.33.

## 3) Hot Dog Social:

Setup begins at 10:30 on 10/11/14 at Station 44. Checklist verified readiness of cooks (the usual suspects), Emcee (Pat Dwyer, in absentia), Ticket sales and cashiers (Patricia & Trudy), Table pick-up at True Value (Virgil & Rod), grill provision and hauling (Dave & Virgil), and provision of ice tubs for beverages (John). Volunteers are also asked to participate in the pot-luck, and Ken will ask Ray Nutting to serve as auctioneer. There will be text-alert signup and Firewise materials at the event. For donations and arrangement of raffle materials, contact Nancy at 620-7220.

## 4) Text-Message Alerts:

So far, over 100 sign-ups for the text-alert system. It worked very, very well in the Sand Fire event to keep residents informed. Residents can sign-up at the hot dog social, or send their cell number and carrier (required) to Pat or Ken. Messages are limited to (about) 140 characters.

Nextdoor Logtown also apparently has a text broadcast capability with no advertisements. Other informational resources regarding wildfires include:

- 1) YubaNet.com (very timely information – and they accept donations, too)
- 2) Broadcastify.net for live scanner feeds
- 3) Twitter
- 4) EDC reverse 911 (sign up with your cell number)

## 5) Sand Fire:

Pat and Ken toured the Sand fire area, including an extensive tour of dwellings on Freshwater Lane. Conclusion was that “defensible space works!” (See more on edcfireafe.org). More than \$80k was collected for Sand Fire victims at the charity dinner, and some 30 quilts were crafted by a local quilting group (in four short weeks) for donation to the Sand Fire’s new-found homeless.

## 6) El Dorado County FSC:

EDCFSC donated \$500 to Sand Fire recovery effort.

Question was raised as to whether Logtown FSC can provide volunteers to support logistics or to assist evacuees. There’s apparently a structure for this, called CERTs (Community Emergency Response Teams). Certs work with local fire and OEs officials

in a helpful, voluntary capacity. Ken will raise the question with the County FSC regarding how to fit this model in Logtown.

The EDCFSC also saved some \$400 annually by shifting its insurance to a local provider.

7) Chipping Program:

Chipping program is up and running. Go to [EDCFORES SAFE.ORG](http://EDCFORES SAFE.ORG) to find chipper links and sign up for this service. There's some uncertainty about funding continuity, especially after the end of October. This is due to the funding's sourcing, as local FSC's get this funding from the USFS.

8) State Responsibility Area Fees:

The State is on the verge of committing some \$10M to Fire Safe Councils throughout CA from the SRA fee and Cap & Trade funds. We hope to capture our share of these funds, and the EDCFSC is planning to use these funds for a part-time coordinator to manage the operation. The best guess at this point is that the majority of paid-out SRA fees will go to SRA communities.

9) Neighborhood Coordinators:

Karen (Yellow Neighborhood) distributed some 70 flyers and got 9 responses to add to the e-mail/Text alert lists! She's continuing to pursue more signups.

Dave (Blue Neighborhood) has distributed a one-page flyer soliciting new signups for the Logtown FSC and its services. He's also advertising the hot dog social (10/11/14) as a means to attract local residents.

10) Public Comment:

Kathy White informed the community of the upcoming Golden West Community Services District (GWCS D) board election. She provided voter registration forms for those in need, and noted the three candidates running for the two open positions on the Board.

Katherine Sei mentioned that the Logtown FSC might forfeit its Section 501c(3) non-profit status by hosting campaign-related discussions in its meetings. This seems unlikely, as the FSC uses none of its funds to support election campaigns.

Rich Engelfield noted that County Animal Control will soon cease to pick up road-kill carcasses due to lack of funding. That responsibility falls now to County DOT, but DIT apparently maintains that all District roads are either private, or to be maintained by others. As a result, County agencies may begin charging a fee for such services.

Signed

*Marc Regelbrugge*