



EL DORADO HILLS, CA

- LAKEHILLS ESTATES - A FIREWISE COMMUNITY
- SOUTHPOINTE - A FIREWISE COMMUNITY
- LAKERIDGE OAKS - A FIREWISE COMMUNITY

April 2017

Lakehills Fire Safe Council Community Bulletin

Promoting Fire Safe Communities

Next Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 11

7:00 PM

EDH Fire Department
Main Fire Station #85

El Dorado Hills Blvd. and
Wilson Blvd.

Speaker

Supervisor John Hidahl will join as both neighbor & guest speaker on Tuesday.

Bring your questions, areas of concern, understand your local government...this public forum offers a unique opportunity.

We hope to see you for this casual evening of topics that interest you ... with time to socialize with neighbors.

Discover the Fire Safe Council. Powered by Volunteers!

Reporting Numbers to Call

Report non-desired activities in a proper and timely fashion.

- Report illegal parking or traffic problems to the Highway Patrol (916) 861-1300.
- Report illegal parkland activities to State Parks (916) 358-1300.
- Report illegal activity on non-park properties to the Sheriff (530) 621-6600.

EVACUATE!! Are YOU Ready?? - Jim Moitoza

EVACUATE!! Are YOU Ready??

LEARN HOW: Attend the annual Firewise Event & BBQ

WHEN: Sunday, MAY 7, 3 to 6 PM

WHERE: Lake Forest Park, Francisco Drive

PRE-REGISTER and receive FREE 11 gal. clear plastic BIN for your emergency kit (1 per family)

RAFFLE: many items for your kit - flashlights, radios, food, first-aid - plus starter plants & surprises

The mission of our Lakehills Fire Safe Council is to be "Fire Wise." We have chosen to live in a beautiful rural environment near nature: the WILDLAND/URBAN INTERFACE. After the "Fire Drill" in June 2012, LHFSC was formed and we developed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan and became a "Firewise Community"; those qualifications helped us to receive government grants to mitigate fuels in the Wildlands adjacent to us. But, IS THIS ENOUGH?

If you think you are now safe from Wildfires, THINK AGAIN! No matter how much preparation and structure protections you have in place, Mother Nature is more powerful. So what else can WE DO? Be **ready** to EVACUATE!

When firefighters and other public defenders respond, their FIRST priority is to save human lives - everything else can be replaced! However, if humans have LEFT THE AREA, then these firefighters can concentrate on saving/protecting property. This lesson was learned the hard way by human mistakes: [1991 Oakland Hills Fire](#)



Drivers scramble up the embankment to escape from Interstate 15 as the Cedar Fire crosses the freeway

The lessons (hard way) learned from the 2003 Cedar Fire, led to improved strategies that greatly benefited the public in the NEXT fire: Witch Fire 2007. Reverse 911 calls were in place as well as air tankers that could be mobilized quickly. Agencies that fought jurisdictional battles before, now COORDINATED their attack plan!

So what can YOU do? Be ready! The **first one out the door** is less likely to be caught up in traffic trying to get out! If we move away from the fire quickly, we gain time and resources for our firefighters, police, and air support to FIGHT THE FIRE - not trying to save us.

This is where our annual Firewise event comes in. We will be assisting everyone who comes to prepare THEIR evacuation plan. If you already have your plan and supplies in place, you don't have to panic and FORGET the important things - the first of which is to SAVE YOURSELF! The El Dorado County Office of Emergency Preparedness will be organizing all attendees and teach us how to GET READY! when it's **our** turn.



Lakehills Fire Safe Council is a community organization. Join and Email us at: lakehillsfiresafecouncil@gmail.com

What is the Cause of most Wildfires? - NFPA Michele Steinberg

New research points to majority of US wildfires as human-started.

As many wildfire prevention specialists will tell you (with tongue in cheek), wildfires start from three main causes: men, women and children. Statistics on wildfire ignitions in the US have varied with regard to lightning vs. human-caused, with some documents showing a more or less even split from those two main causes. New research, however, on two decades' worth of fire data, paints a different picture. University of Colorado Boulder researchers have determined that 84% of wildfires from 1992 to 2012 were started by human beings.

[According to the article in CU Boulder Today](#), this significant proportion of wildfire starts caused by people is both cause for concern and hope. “Not all fire is bad, but humans are intentionally and unintentionally adding ignitions to the landscape in areas and seasons when natural ignitions are sparse,” said John Abatzoglou, an associate professor of geography at the University of Idaho and a co-author of the paper. “We can’t easily control how dry fuels get, or lightning, but we do have some control over human started ignitions.”



[Check out a short video summarizing the research findings here.](#)

That Time of Year - Snakes

It is that time of year and snakes are on the move. Be careful out there! For helpful advice on snakes, use this link to visit the EDHFD website—click below:

[<CLICK LINK HERE>](#)



Cohesive Strategy & SOFAR Update

In the past, the Council has announced major vegetation management work along Hwy 50 as part of the Cohesive Strategy and South Fork of the American River (SOFAR) projects. Over the past year, significant progress was made by Cal-Trans removing dead trees due to tree mortality along sections of Hwy 50. This past month, CALFIRE announced the planned 300 ft. wide Shaded Fuel Break (SFB) on the north side of Hwy 50 from Icehouse Road to Echo Summit has begun. Additionally, SFB work will continue this year around the Jenkinson Lake area and along _____ road.

You can read more about these projects at: [<CLICK LINK HERE>](#)

Chipping Program Suspension - El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

Due to the exhaustion of current grant funding, the EDC Fire Safe Council’s free chipping program is suspended. The EDCFSC is seeking additional funding and hopes to restart the program in the near future. Watch the EDCFSC website for future announcements. [<CLICK LINK HERE>](#)

Spaghetti Feed - El Dorado County Friends of Seniors



GOOD CAUSE AND GOOD FOOD:

On Saturday, April 29th, 3:00-7:00 pm, the EDC Fire Safe Council will again participate in the Friends of Seniors annual Spaghetti Feed benefiting seniors in need. EDC Fire Safe Council supports this event to assist seniors in creating defensible space for their home for those who cannot afford to have the work performed or do the work themselves.

Tickets are \$10 per adult, \$5 child under 10. No host bar. Event is at the Mother Lode Lions Hall, 4701 Missouri Flat Road, Diamond Springs, CA. Contact us for tickets or you can contact Friends Of Seniors 530-334-6090 for additional information and assistance. Volunteers to help with the event are requested. [<CLICK LINK HERE>](#)



Working Together For Defensible Space

Additional Shaded Fuel Break (SFB) work was recently completed on parklands by the cooperative effort of US Bureau of Reclamation, California State Parks / FLSRA, California Conservation Corps and our Fire Safe Council and communities. This effort was truly a model of cooperation and collaboration. It shows what can be accomplished when all involved come together and work together to accomplish common goals.

However, this successful accomplishment of reducing fuels also highlights the responsibility and obligation for all of us. Vegetation Management on park / public lands is not enough. All property owners, especially those bordering the park boundary, need to clear overgrown vegetation. Establish defensible space by creating a 100 ft. area (minimum or to your property line) adjacent to any combustible structures and provide wide defensible space zones. Remove dead or downed trees and trim up landscaping that has been damaged by the gusty winter winds. Just as we all are concerned about fire approaching us from parklands, the Bureau of Reclamation and State Parks / FLSRA are equally concerned with fire reaching parklands from private lands. Public Agencies and Private Landowners—we share the responsibilities.

Do you have adequate defensible space? Is your property clear of brush and ladder fuels? Review your landscaping: is it fire resistant; is there proper spacing between bushes; are trees appropriately limbed up? Please review this defensible space brochure [<Brochure Link>](#). For those who would like a hard copy brochure, please let us know and one will be delivered. Also, help our communities by reaching out to your neighbors; share this brochure and information about a property review. A fire fueled within our community may impact the entire community!

If you are unsure if your property has been cleared to comply with Fire Safety requirements, El Dorado Hills Fire Department is offering personal defensible space / safety reviews for those who request them. In order to participate, please call Stephanie Parrish at 916-933-6623 ext. 1044 to schedule your appointment.

Winter and Spring offer the ideal timeframe to be planning and creating your defensible space work. Be prepared for fire and at the same time, reduce risk by doing your part. Working together, agencies and private land owners, our actions will protect human lives, natural resources, residences, and wildlife and make all safer from a catastrophic wildfire.

Apple - Mike Campbell, Apple Insider and you thought they just made I-phones

Apple's U.S. forestry programs generated more than 13,000 metric tons of wood in 2016, and created jobs.

Two years after Apple partnered with The Conservation Fund to protect more than 36,000 acres of vulnerable forestland in Maine and North Carolina, the ambitious project is showing returns, with more than 13,000 metric tons of wood harvested between the two states last year.

Dubbed a sustainable harvesting initiative, Apple in 2015 purchased more than 32,400 acres of forestland along the Mat-tawamkeag River in Maine and over 3,600 acres of pine and hardwood forest in Brunswick County, North Carolina through The Conservation Fund's Working Forest Fund.

New statistics shared with the Triangle Business Journal on Wednesday show harvesting output from both forests in 2016 was equivalent to approximately 30 percent of Apple's product packaging needs in 2015. Specifically, the 13,000 metric tons of wood were processed into virgin fiber, which was then used to make boxes, bags and other materials.

In addition to wood, Apple's program created more than 30 jobs in the Brunswick Forest region, says Jena Thompson, Meredith, vice president of business partnerships at The Conservation Fund. Workers were needed for survey work, site preparation, harvesting, planting and other supporting roles. In total, logging operations resulted in more than 10 jobs per 1,000 acres.

As for sustainability efforts, The Conservation Fund planted 185,000 trees throughout 300 acres of Brunswick Forest. The group also put down 40 acres of native longleaf pine and Atlantic white cedar trees, both of which help provide shelter for a rare butterfly. Apple's North Carolina forest tract is located next to the Green Swamp Preserve, home to at least six rare species including the carnivorous Venus fly trap.

Apple Vice President of Environment, Policy, and Social Initiatives Lisa Jackson shared the story on social media earlier today. When Apple first announced the forestry initiative in 2015, Jackson and Larry Selzer, President and CEO of The Conservation Fund, wrote a letter of intent explaining the project.

"Apple believes that paper, like energy, can be a renewable resource," they wrote. "So Apple is striving to supply 100 percent of the virgin fibers used in its paper and packaging from sustainably managed forests or controlled wood sources."

A month after announcing the Maine and North Carolina forest efforts, Apple revealed plans to create one million acres of responsibly managed forestland in China, through and with the help of the World Wildlife Fund.