



## EL DORADO HILLS, CA

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

March 2018

# Lakehills Fire Safe Council Community Bulletin

Promoting Fire Safe Communities

### Next Council Meeting

**Tuesday, March 13th  
7:00 PM**

**EDH Fire Department  
Main Fire Station #85**

**El Dorado Hills Blvd. and  
Wilson Blvd.**

Communities working together toward common goals get results! We offer valuable resources, "how to" help, education & FIVE years of experience.

### DO YOUR PART!

Contributions are always appreciated! Support this all volunteer, non profit group by selecting "Lakehills Fire Safe Council" as your choice on AmazonSmile. Thanks!

[<CLICK HERE>](#)



### 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.

## CAL FIRE SPEAKER — March 13th

Together with EDH Fire Dept., we are pleased to host CAL FIRE's Battalion Chief Brian Mackwood (Battalion 1, Amador El Dorado Unit) who will present details and statistics about Northern CA's most recent wildfires. This first meeting of the year will clarify all the reasons our Council exists and emphasize the real & continual need for individual actions aimed at reducing overall neighborhood risks. Bring your neighbors and friends!

Our meetings' themes will follow CAL FIRE's educational program READY SET GO:

- ⇒ **Be Ready:** Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers.
- ⇒ **Get Set:** Prepare your family and home ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate.
- ⇒ **Be Ready to GO!:** Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

Stay aware and informed. Download the CAL FIRE Ready for Wildfire Mobile Phone App here: [<<CLICK LINK HERE>>](#)

## Home Address Visibility

Emergencies don't always occur in daylight. Can first responders easily identify your home when time is critical? Are your house numbers easily visible? Does vegetation block & impede quick identification? Help the responders help you. Evaluate your preparedness by visiting the EDH Fire Department website for tips: [<<CLICK LINK HERE>>](#)

## Projects update

For December 2017- February 2018 winter, we were pleased to be beneficiaries (again!) of a tremendous team effort! Even with all the work done in the previous winter (\$90K of vegetation management work), the tremendous rain and winds brought down additional flammable debris. Through the efforts of a Bureau of Reclamation and California Conservation Corps partnership securing a grant (\$50K dollars) and in association with California State Parks / Folsom Lake State Recreational Area and Lakehills FSC, much needed follow-up work was completed in the Shaded Fuel Break on public lands this year.

This year, crews covered 29 acres, removing wildfire vegetation, down limbs and debris. 18 fallen trees and 5 truckloads of wood were removed from the Shaded Fuel Break Zone. Reduced fuel zones and firefighter access points were expanded.

We will soon update our Community Wildfire Protection Plan & Firewise USA Action Plan (see page 2) and will proudly present the accomplishments of 6 years of partnership and effort. The LH2 New York Creek project is in process and we will provide an update in April.

As we work to make our communities and adjacent lands safer from catastrophic wildfire, we want to fully express our appreciation to our team partners: US Bureau of Reclamation, California State Parks / FLSRA, California Conservation Corps, El Dorado County Fire Safe Council and always under the watchful eye and support of the El Dorado Hills Fire Department and CAL FIRE. Our THANKS to all.

Lakehills Fire Safe Council is a community organization. Join and Email us at: [lakehillsfiresafecouncil@gmail.com](mailto:lakehillsfiresafecouncil@gmail.com)

## Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

The Council often talks about living in the WUI. The interface is most commonly defined from a wildland fire perspective where fire issues attract the public's attention due to endangered communities next to park lands/public lands—clearly exemplified in the photo bottom left. To an individual homeowner, the WUI is an area where human-made infrastructure is in or adjacent to areas prone to wildfire.



**However, the WUI is also an area of wildlife interaction. The photos to the right show some neighbors by homes in Marina Village and Lakehills**



The wildlife that shares our area include too many critters to list. It's one of the marvels of living here! Let's be responsible partners in our WUI; our preventive actions will also protect our mammal, reptilian & avian neighbor's environment.

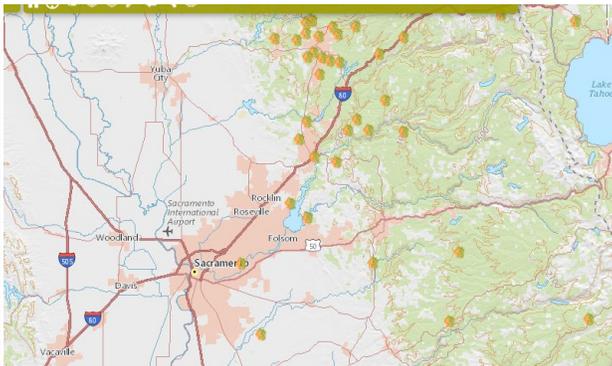
In California, humans cause 90% of the fires, [<<CLICK LINK HERE>>](#) so we should be 100% aware of how to prevent and reduce the devastating effects! Actively contribute to reducing fire risk — rake, trim and clear around your home; move any firewood at least 30 feet from structures; create a buffer that will slow or stop the spread of wildfire. Protect your home and our wildlife's environment.

## Firewise USA - Residents Reducing Wildfire Risks

NFPA's Firewise USA™ program teaches people how to adapt to living with wildfire and encourages neighbors to work together and take action now to prevent future losses. Firewise USA began in 2002 providing a framework and guidelines for residents to implement important actions. There are currently 1,479 active Firewise sites across the US, of which California has 137. Both Lakehills/Southpointe and Lakeridge Oaks have been active as Firewise communities.

After five years, it is time to re-assess our neighborhoods' wildfire risk and review/modify our action plans. Initially, the action plans pointed to the public lands as our highest threat. With the help of grants (\$400K) & agency partnerships, 50 acres of Shaded Fuel Break work has been accomplished in the public lands adjacent to our neighborhoods. All though that work is ongoing, now it's time to get some ideas for projects inside the neighborhood.

Firewise USA promotes neighbors working together. **Ideas come first—share yours!** What do you see when reviewing your neighborhood? Come up with a project idea! Example: In 2016, 15 vacant parcels (7 acres) were treated and 10 trees on private property were removed. This was made possible through a PG&E grant aimed at treating areas that either endangered power lines or public safety.



Map above shows Firewise communities near us.

### What can you do individually?

Inspect your **entire property** to assess your own fire risk. It may extend beyond your fence & front access; you are responsible for all of your property. Defensible Space 101: Pay special attention to clearing the 30 ft. surrounding your home. The entire 100 ft. defensible space zone may include the other side of your fence. Evaluate your street-side clearance (especially if your parcel fronts 2 streets). Dispose of trimmings using your green waste bins or EDCFSC's free chipping program (resuming soon!). Do not dump trimmings (**FUEL**) on empty lots, over your fence or on public land.

[<<CLICK LINK HERE>>](#)