



EL DORADO HILLS, CA

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

August 2018

Lakehills Fire Safe Council Community Bulletin

Promoting Fire Safe Communities

Next Council Meeting:

Tues, August 14th, 7 pm
EDH Fire Department
Main Station #85
El Dorado Hills Blvd. and
Wilson Blvd.

Please join us for a presentation
on PG&E's new Community
Wildfire Safety Program.

Guest Speaker:
Joanne Drummond
Vegetation Program Manager,
Fuel Reduction

PARTICIPATE!

The Lakehills Fire Safe Council, a non-profit group with a 7-member volunteer board, is seeking your time! With 6 years of history & accomplishments, it is time for a succession plan to assure continuity & continuation of projects and new ideas. There are large tasks (i.e. leadership roles; funds & grants; project manager), once-a-year tasks (Firewise Event Coordinator, literature distribution), and more. Step forward –we will fit a

Reporting Numbers to Call

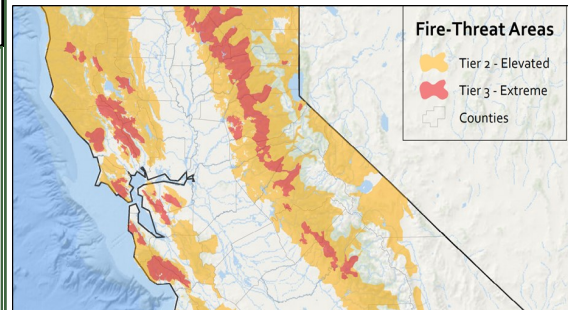
Report non-desired activities in a proper and timely fashion.

- 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.

Power Outage and Wildfire - Jim Moitoza (LHFSC Treasurer)

We are familiar with the inconvenience of power outages - usually caused by Winter Storms or unpredictable power equipment failures. Our response: shelter in place, report the outage, get out the flashlights, etc. BUT WHAT IF YOU HAVE TO EVACUATE? Imagine this: **You are asked to evacuate, the fire is coming over the hill, AND YOUR POWER GOES OUT! Your car is in the garage and -- how do you open the Garage Door?**

This scenario has become more likely with the new PG&E policy recently adapted for management of Wildfire Emergencies. While the details of When, Why, How Long have not been announced yet, we have all received letters warning us to be aware and PLAN! PG&E is trying to make its customers aware of this possibility with full page ads in newspapers and TV ads. Our Fire Safe Council urges our members to be apprised and **READY** if this happens! Stay informed:



<<[Register with PG&E](#)>>

In the areas served by LHFSC, homes vary in threat risks. Some electric lines & homes are in Tier 3 (extreme risk) threat (see map). **Enter your address to check** using website link: <<[PGE.com](#)>>

El Dorado County FSC Grants

Congratulations to EDCFSC! They submitted 2 grants and sponsored 3 others for local fire safe councils with 4 of the 5 awarded. Awards were announced for the CCI funding last week. EDCFSC's Chipping Program, which is entirely dependent on grant funding, will now continue through 2022. Their CWPP grant will help local councils update their Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Lakehills Fire Safe Council & El Dorado County residents have greatly benefited from the leadership & effectiveness of EDCFSC.

CodeRED — did you receive alerts? - Peggy Willis (LHFSC Secretary)

Did you get evacuation alerts for the Shingle Springs & Pilot Hill fires last week?

If not, please double check your settings on the CodeRED mobile app. After neighbor Kathy V. called to share how effectively the CodeRED alert system worked, I started researching as I **had not** received alerts on my mobile phone or home phone. My mobile app trial subscription had expired in 2017! Please log on to CodeRED from your phone and if necessary, either "continue" with the free service (action may be required annually) or subscribe to the service. If you subscribe, the mobile app will cost \$0.99/year. Also **check your settings** while you're logged in. Do you want to be notified within a 5 mile radius? Those with that setting did not receive these recent alerts. Aren't Shingle Springs & Pilot Hill close enough that you would want to know about those evacuations? Change the radius to the max setting (25 miles). There are also setting options for audible notifications via mobile phone...no dings, whistles or music ring tones...just El Dorado County's OES broadcasting from your phone! Note: texts about these fires did arrive from my CalFire mobile app. Please take the time now to confirm that critical communication tools sending alerts about wildfire danger are working correctly!! Thank you, Kathy!

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

Skylights - An Entry Point for Embers Cathy Prudhomme NFPA

Prevent skylights from being an entry point for embers and flames

Skylights and their ability to compromise a home during a wildfire is the featured topic in this month's NFPA Wildfire Research Fact Sheet. A skylight can be vulnerable if subjected to extended radiant heat exposure or to flames when embers ignite accumulated vegetative debris. Implementing precautionary steps can help keep them from being an entry point for embers and flames.

Fact Sheet can be found here: [<<CLICK FOR LINK>>](#)



Check Homeowner's Insurance - megan.fitzgerald-mcgowan NFPA

Don't wait for a wildfire to check your insurance policy!

Is your home covered in case of a disaster? An unfortunate reality is that most homes are underinsured, meaning they don't have enough coverage to protect them if they are damaged or destroyed. While we hope you are never faced with making a claim, here are some resources to help make sure you are prepared:

Complete the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America's (PCI) Wildfire Reality Check:

Conduct an annual insurance checkup – call your agent or insurance company to discuss policy limits and coverage. Not sure what to ask? Check out these [<<10 questions to ask your insurance agent>>](#) from Linda Masterson, author and wildfire survivor.

- Know what your policy covers
- Update your policy to cover home improvements
- Maintain insurance – continue to carry homeowners insurance after the home is paid off
- Get renters insurance

Create a home inventory. Having a home inventory is one of the best ways to determine if you have enough coverage to replace your possessions. This task may seem daunting, especially if you've been in your home for many years, but it can be manageable. Some simple steps from the Insurance Information Institute include:

- Pick an easy spot to start, an area that is contained such as a small kitchen appliance cabinet or sporting equipment closet
- List recent purchases
- Include basic information – where you bought it, make and model, what you paid
- Count clothing by general category
- Record serial numbers found on major appliances and electronic equipment
- Check coverage on big ticket items
- Don't forget off-site items
- Keep proof of value – sales receipts, purchase contracts, appraisals
- Don't get overwhelmed – It's better to have an incomplete inventory than nothing at all.

When creating your home inventory, embrace technology! Take pictures or videos, back them up digitally. There are also many apps available to help organize and store your records.

For a more in depth discussion on financial preparedness, check out:

[<<Firewise Virtual Workshop: Understanding Insurance in the Wildland Urban Interface>>](#)

Or, listen to Linda Masterson share her experience of losing her home and contents in a wildfire,

[<<Firewise Virtual Workshop: Get Prepared, Stay Alive, Rebuild Your Life>>](#)

Along with financial preparedness, it's never too late to take action around your home. Visit the NFPA's wildfire division for steps on [<<how to prepare your home for wildfires>>](#).

California Wildfires “Uncharted Territory” - Associated Press August 2, 2018

More than 1,000 homes torched as California wildfires reach ‘uncharted territory’

UPPER LAKE, Calif. — A massive wildfire in Northern California has torched more than 1,000 homes in and around the city of Redding, authorities said Wednesday as some evacuees were allowed to return home and new blazes exploded in what has become an endless summer of flame in the Golden State.

“Whatever resources are needed, we’re putting them there,” Gov. Jerry Brown said at a news conference. “We’re being surprised. Every year is teaching the fire authorities new lessons. We’re in uncharted territory.”

Just a month into the budget year, the state has already spent more than one-quarter of its annual fire budget, at least \$125 million, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection spokesman Mike Mohler said. Click here to read entire article: [<<CLICK FOR LINK>>](#)

8/7/2018—current status of largest California fires, per CAL FIRE: Carr Fire (Redding): 167,113 acres; Mendocino Complex Fires (Ranch & River): >290,00 acres; Ferguson Fire (Yosemite): 91,502 acres



CAL FIRE Hopes to Get HC-130's — Bill Gabbert July 27, 2018

CAL FIRE hopes to get the seven HC-130H aircraft the Forest Service turned down.



Now that the U.S. Forest Service has decided they do not want the seven HC-130H aircraft that were in the process of being transferred from the Coast Guard to the Forest Service, the door has opened “Plan B” for those aircraft.

This story [began in 2013 when Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act](#) directing the Coast Guard to transfer the planes and then the Air Force would arrange to assume the backlog of maintenance and the work needed to turn them into air tankers.

The act appropriated up to \$130 million to complete the work. At least two of the planes were close to completion with the exception of installing a retardant delivery system. Tankers 116 and 118 have been seen occasionally working on fires using a borrowed Modular Airborne FireFighting System, in lieu of a permanent tank.

CAL FIRE has been considering the long range plans for their fixed wing fleet for a while. The 1,200-gallon S2T's are not getting any younger and in recent years the agency has been supplementing those 23 air tankers with large and very large air tankers on a call when needed and exclusive use basis. At various times CAL FIRE has used BAe-146's, DC-10's, the 747 Supertanker and other tankers, all holding from 3,000 to 19,200 gallons. CAL FIRE was an innovator, being the first to contract for the Very Large DC-10 and 747 air tankers.

CAL FIRE Chief Ken Pimlott announced in an email July 26 that the agency is hoping to obtain the seven HC-130H's: [<<CLICK FOR LINK>>](#)

Smokey Bear's Birthday



Smokey Bear's 74th birthday is Thursday, August 9th!

How will you celebrate Smokey's timeless wildfire prevention message?

If it's on social media, remember to use the hashtag #OnlyYou and tag Smokey Bear directly (@smokeybear on Instagram and Facebook and @smokey_bear on Twitter).