



EL DORADO HILLS, CA

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

January 2019

Lakehills Fire Safe Council Community Bulletin

Promoting Fire Safe Communities

No Meeting this Month

Next Council Meeting:

Tues., March 12th, 7 pm
EDH Fire Department
Main Station #85
El Dorado Hills Blvd. and
Wilson Blvd.

PLEASE SUPPORT!

As a non-profit with a small budget, the Fire Safe Council runs on donations. Many benefits have been provided by this group of volunteers: education, vegetation mgmt. of dangerous fuel loads, defensible space reviews, etc.

When you select Lakehills Fire Safe Council as your charity choice on **Amazon Smile**, a portion of your purchase is donated back to us. Very easy & much appreciated!

Make a donation to the Fire Safe Council every time you buy....



[<<REGISTER 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.

2019 Let's be Resolved

As the reports continue to be published about 2018's destructive fires and as we support those victims, let's be resolved to do everything in our power not to be the next horrific story. Start with what can be done in the area closest to your home: the **"Immediate Zone"**.

The home and the area 0-5 ft. from the furthest attached exterior point of the home should be thought of as a non-combustible area. Science tells us this is the most important zone on which to take immediate action as it is the most vulnerable to embers. **START WITH THE HOUSE ITSELF**, then move into the landscaping section of the Immediate Zone.

- Clean** roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
 - Replace or repair** loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
 - Reduce** embers that may pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8 inch metal mesh screening.
 - Clean** debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8 inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers.
 - Repair** or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows.
 - Screen or box-in** areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
 - Move** any flammable material away from wall exteriors – mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles – anything that can burn.
 - Remove** anything stored underneath decks or porches.
- See related video about Zones 1 (30 ft.) and 2 (100 ft.) around your home and how to stop embers: [<<CLICK LINK>>](#)

California Fires - upward trend (from CAL FIRE)

LARGEST FIRE: Mendocino Complex (Cause Under Investigation) **July 2018** Colusa County, Lake County, Mendocino County & Glenn County 459,123 acres; 280 structures; and 1 death [<<CLICK LINK>>](#) for top 20 fires.

MOST DESTRUCTIVE FIRES: 1) Camp Fire (Under Investigation) **November 2018** Butte County 153,336 acres; 18,804 structures; 86 deaths. 2) TUBBS (Under Investigation) **October 2017** Napa & Sonoma 36,807 acres; 5,636 structures; 22 deaths [<<CLICK LINK>>](#)

MOST DEADLY FIRE: Camp Fire (Under Investigation) 86 deaths [<<CLICK LINK>>](#)

Home Address Visibility (from EDHFD)

Important all the time, but especially during the Fall / Winter months when darkness comes sooner and lasts longer, visible home addresses are critical in emergencies. Can your home be found in the dark by those who may not know the area? Time is critical when first responders are called, do your part to make your address readily identifiable. Are your house numbers easily visible? From both street directions? In the dark of night?

Evaluate your preparedness now! Tips and requirements are available by visiting the EDH Fire Department website: [<<CLICK LINK>>](#)

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

Eerie Similarities

The LH2 project - vegetation management work for New York Creek / Iron Mountain in Southpointe - is complete and we will review accomplishments and complete the paperwork over the next few weeks. Confirming why we stress reducing vegetation, maintaining defensible space, and work to share fire safe education with the community was affirmed by photographs received showing the Carr Fire (Shasta Co./Whiskeytown Lake/Keswick Dam). In viewing the photos I was taken aback by some similarities between our 2 areas: tree-covered hills, drainages, a river, a lake, a marina, etc. Included in the link below, there are a large number of photos, but what caught our attention was the burn areas: the hilltops to the water line, part of the marina and even islands in the lake. Depending on the American River and Folsom Lake to provide barriers in the event of wildfire may require re-thinking, making plans and taking action accordingly.

As we continue towards our goals of creating defensible space for our homes, properties, residents and communities, we thank all those who participate in the projects to reduce fuel and who support efforts to make everyone safer from catastrophic wildfire and who forward kind and supportive comments. It does take a community (cooperation, singular purpose and action)!



We want to thank Ron Phillips of the Folsom Fire Safe Council for sharing this article and photos. See all photos and article here: [<<CLICK LINK>>](#)

Upcoming SFB Work

Reminder: we are fortunate to once again have the California Conservation Corps (CCC) return to the parklands area over the next few weeks for more vegetation management work. This work helps maintain the Shaded Fuel Break (SFB) work already done and performs additional fuel reduction work where appropriate.

We wish to remind everyone that the CCC is an excellent State of California youth program (crews are not the CAL FIRE prison crews). When you are out and see the crews be sure to give them a hearty "Thank You" for the hand work they are completing to make our communities safer. Additionally, this work is sponsored and funded by the US Bureau of Reclamation and work is conducted in association with California State Parks FLSRA.

Our sincere thanks to all our agency partners who support this important work.

Welcome EDH Fire Chief

Over the past few weeks, we had the pleasure to meet and welcome our new EDH Fire Department Chief Maurice Johnston. Just recently, Steve had the opportunity to give Chief Johnston and Deputy Chief Lilienthal a tour of the recently completed NY Creek (LH2) project, the existing SFB in FLSRA, and explain ongoing maintenance plans for the SFB.

As we all know, if not for the effort, hard work and support of EDHFD, we probably would not have a fire safe council working to protect our communities. Our sincere thanks to EDHFD for their partnership and sponsorship.