Logtown Fire Safe Council
Spring 2008 Newsletter

What’s New

Your Fire Safe Council has had a busy year. We completed our organization, elected executive board members and appointed board members at large to represent all neighborhoods. One neighborhood organized a very successful spring cleanup. We added new members from the Maric Homeowners Association and a few others from outlying areas within the FSC boundaries. About 100 people attended our first annual Hot Dog Social last fall.

Some of the more significant achievements are listed below.

• The Logtown Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was completed in 2007. You can find it online at [www.edcfiresafe.org](http://www.edcfiresafe.org) We suggest that you download the Evacuation & Preparedness Plan for easy reference.

• Applications for grant funding have been submitted for perimeter fuel reduction zones around the developed area on south Crystal Boulevard and west of Stope Way and for roadside clearance along the Mica Road evacuation route. Shaded fuelbreaks east of the south end of Crystal Boulevard and along Buzztail and Rattler Ridge are included in the funding request. All of these projects were identified in our CWPP.

• Large Fire Safety Signs will be placed at strategic locations around the Logtown area in April. These signs may also be used to alert residents to “Red Flag Days”.

Continuing Efforts

Phone Trees

Last year most neighborhoods organized phone trees to provide early alerts on fires in the area and to communicate other important information on a timely basis. Now is the time to verify that these phone trees are ready for the fire season.

• Call down the tree to find broken links. Add new names, changed or backup numbers and remove names of people who have moved. Make sure downline callers are still available. Lets try to make the phone trees self maintaining.
House Numbers

Make sure that your house numbers can be seen easily from both directions. Put yourself in the shoes of a first responder (fire, sheriff, or ambulance). Can you clearly see your address numbers from both directions? Is it clear which address belongs to which house? Can they be seen at night? Some new four inch reflective numbers on both sides of your mailbox or signpost is a very small price to pay for valuable time saved in an emergency. It will also help with deliveries and friends coming to visit. See county code 15.04.040 for more detail.

Smoke Alarms

One of the most important safety features in your home are your smoke alarms. Make sure that you change the batteries and test the alarms once a year. If you need help in replacing your batteries or alarms, just let us know and we will help.

Evacuation Plan

Make sure you and your family has a personal evacuation plan. Know where to go and what to take. We have an excellent tool in the recently developed Logtown Wildfire Protection Plan. Go online to http://www.edcfiresafe.org, click on Local Fire Safe Councils and scroll down to Logtown. The Evacuation and Preparedness plan is near the bottom of the list.

Spring Cleanup

We want to schedule a community wide clean up for mid May. Spring is a great time to prepare for the fire season and take preventative measures that will help reduce the risk to your property throughout the summer and fall.

- Volunteers trained to evaluate defensible space will be available ahead of time to look at your property and tell you what you need to do to improve your fire safety. Pamphlets and checklists will be available showing Cal Fire requirements and guidelines for defensible space. Contact Ken Hasse or Pat Dwyer to schedule an evaluation.
- Green waste dumpsters will be positioned at several locations around the Logtown area for green items that cannot be run through the chippers. (Rounds, stumps and leaves or small branches that would plug the chipper.)
- The chipper will be scheduled to come through our neighborhoods, so all you have to do is sign the enclosed “REQUEST FOR CHIPPING” form and return it to Ken Hasse or Pat Dwyer (see addresses on the next page) then drag your cuttings to the side of the road in front of your house. Please return the forms by May 1st. We can’t guarantee that you will be included in the schedule after that time. We will return the request forms in bulk to facilitate chipper scheduling.

Information on preparation for chipping can be found at: http://www.edcfiresafe.org. Look under Helpful Links to find “Chipper Program”. There is no cost to you.
Let’s make it a community effort. We all benefit from cleared roadsides and defensible space around our homes and property, so let’s help each other. Neighbor helping neighbor is the foundation of the Fire Safe Council and our community’s safety. Help your immediate neighbors by working as a team to create defensible space. Form a “chain saw brigade” to limb up trees and cut up debris for the chipper and dumpster. If you have a tractor offer to help haul greenwaste to the dumpsters or move chips.

Be Fire Safe
Create Defensible Space

Please let us know how you intend to participate by returning the following form. We will use the phone trees and email to update you on scheduling.

Name: _________________________________________________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
Phone # __________________________    email ________________________________

Please Circle

We want to use the chipper*    YES  NO
We want to use a greenwaste dumpster:    YES  NO
We will need tractor help:    YES  NO
We are available to help our neighbors:    YES  NO
We have a tractor and will help:    YES  NO

Mail this form to: Ken Hasse, 6861 Crystal Blvd. El Dorado, CA 95623  or
FAX your info to: 622-2658  or
Email us at khasse@internet49.com or dwyerro@sbcglobal.net

*Sign and return the enclosed chipper request form to addresses above.