Lakehills Fire Safe Council
Community Bulletin

Promoting Fire Safe Communities

December 2015

Next Council Meeting
Thursday, January 14
7:00 PM
EDH Fire Department
Main Fire Station #85
El Dorado Hills Blvd. and Wilson Blvd.

No Meeting in December
Happy Holidays!

Next Meeting
Thursday,
January 14

Special Note
Note this change from our typical Tuesday meeting
Due to a calendar conflict for January, our first meeting of the year will be on Thursday and we will then return to our usual 2nd Tuesday beginning in February.

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.

Your Chance to Help

Your Lakehills Fire Safe Council will start its 4th year in 2016. In January, the Board will start its new fiscal year. We’re reaching out this year and that’s where you come in!

After 3 years on the Board, Jon Vegna is leaving, so the position of Treasurer is open and needs to be filled. We want to thank Jon for his commitment and service to our Council as one of the founding members and a key participant in our activities. Jon has reiterated his commitment to the Fire Safe Council and will continue to participate.

Please take a moment to think about 3 years of Firewise events, Shaded Fuel Break work, monthly meetings with speakers and newsletters. It is an important endeavor and our goal of and efforts toward making our communities safer from catastrophic wildfire continues. We are asking more than “someone” for the Board; we’re asking everyone. Come forward and participate! With more participation, the work for each individual is more manageable.

It is gratifying that the remaining Board members are going to continue so there is great continuity, but we need a new Treasurer to volunteer and commit for a year or two. It’s a good group and a meaningful endeavor. Join and contribute. If you would like to know the Treasurer’s duties and responsibilities, contact Peggy Willis 933-3238. Say you will help.

With Christmas upon us, now is the time to think about Christmas Tree Safety. Thanks, EDH Fire Dept.

<CLICK HERE FOR LINK>

Lakehills Fire Safe Council: lakehillsfiresafecouncil@gmail.com ~ 561 Guadalupe Drive EDH, CA 95762 ~ 916-933-3238
Drones: If You Fly, We Can’t

NFPA & CALFIRE

Legislation proposed to limit recreational drone use during a wildfire response

According to a CNBC News article, “As wildfires continue to rage on the west coast, firefighters are not only faced with high temperatures, strong winds and arid conditions, but drone pilots who are flying their crafts too close to the blazes.” Recreational drone use in airspace where wildland fires are raging has become a concern for the safety of wildland fire responders. CAL FIRE has even created a public service announcement that warns about the use of recreational drones during a wildfire response.

A US Senator from New Hampshire has proposed new federal legislation to keep recreational drones from interfering with wildfire disaster relief efforts. U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) on October 7th 2015 introduced the Wildfire and Emergency Airspace Protection Act. According to the senator’s website, there have been 13 wildfires this year to which the US Forest Service has responded and experienced drone interference to wildfire fighting aircraft. This legislation is specifically aimed at criminalizing drone use that knowingly interferes directly with disaster relief efforts.

<CLICK HERE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT VIDEO>

Prevent Home Ignition During Wildfires

National Fire Protection Association

Winter and Spring are the ideal time to be doing your defensible space and actively working to eliminate ignition sources around your home. Ignition sources include pine needles, leaf debris, dead branches, etc. As expressed in this article and video, little things that every homeowner can easily do can make the difference in saving their home.

This video highlights key research on home ignition during wildfires. Can your home survive a wildfire? Dr. Jack Cohen thinks so. He demonstrates how “Your Home Can Survive a Wildfire” in a new NFPA video featuring recent findings from IBHS Research Center experiments with embers and home ignitions. Dr. Cohen's extensive research into why some homes burn and some survive in extreme wildfires is highlighted as well.

Grab a cup of coffee (or your beverage of choice) and learn more about what you can do around your home to give it a much better chance to resist ignitions from embers and flames. You'll see dramatic footage from the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) Research Center's ember experiments on homes. You'll watch Jack evaluate a home for its ignition potential. And you'll hear about a couple who applied all the knowledge derived from home ignition research to their new home in Colorado, and their success in surviving an extreme wildfire.

As Jack says, "If your home doesn't ignite, it doesn't burn." What can you do to give your home a fighting chance against wildfire ignition? Watch this video and find out!

<CLICK HERE FOR PREVENTION VIDEO>

Brown's Ravine Trail Brushing Work - Volunteers Wanted

Mark Pecotich is organizing this trail clean up effort and sends the following message:

Hi All - We have set-up a Facebook page for the Brown's Ravine Trail Brushing Work Days where you can direct people interested: https://www.facebook.com/events/128136020886894/. Please RSVP on this Facebook page or email Mark at cmpeco@sbcglobal.net if you plan on attending. It is important to RSVP so we know how many people are coming each day in order to have adequate tools and trail work leads. If you plan on coming out, be sure to bring sturdy shoes, long sleeves if you are allergic to poison oak, work gloves, water, and loppers if you have them.

We will be meeting at the Browns Ravine Marina entrance - by the entry shack - at 9 am. To get to Browns Ravine:

<CLICK HERE FOR DIRECTIONS>

Scheduled work dates are: Saturdays; December 12, December 19, January 9, January 23 (9 am)

Have you visited our website? Go to the EDCFSC website at edcfiresafe.org > in the banner, click on “Cooperation” > In the drop down menu click on “Associate Councils” > Use that drop down screen to select “Lakehills...” Or, use this link to go directly there now: <CLICK HERE FOR LHFSC WEB LINK>.

Let us know what you think! Suggestions? Ideas? Compliments?