EVACUATE!! Are YOU Ready??
LEARN HOW: Attend the annual Firewise Event & BBQ
WHEN: Sunday, MAY 7, 3 to 6 PM
WHERE: Lake Forest Park, Francisco Drive

Be your own first responder: prepare an evacuation plan, learn what essential items to include in your evacuation kit, and what tools and apps can provide advance warning. Will you be ready ahead of time and know what actions to take if fires are in our area?

The El Dorado County Office of Emergency Preparedness is offering their experience, together with OES (Office of Emergency Services, El Dorado County Sheriffs) and El Dorado Hills Fire Dept.; this is an exceptional opportunity for our community. Learn from these experts how to GET READY!

Celebrating all our Firewise Communities: Lakehills, Southpointe and Lakeridge Oaks

The event also offers food, drink and time for socializing. The raffle is always a fun part at the close of our event; tickets will be available for purchase. Station 84 will be there — if not dispatched — and the fire engine is always a big draw. Bring chairs! Remember parking is limited; overflow parking is at Marina School.

CAL FIRE Launches New Ready for Wildfire App

SACRAMENTO—Being Ready for Wildfire has never been easier with CAL FIRE’s new Ready for Wildfire app. This new tool puts a whole library of step-by-step checklists in the palm of the user’s hand. It allows homeowners to track their progress while creating Defensible Space, hardening their homes with fire-resistant construction, assembling an emergency supply kit and creating a family communication and evacuation plan. App users, with the tap of a finger, can check off each step and see their progress as they reach 100% Ready!

While being a great educational tool, the Ready for Wildfire app also provides critical wildfire alerts. Users can sign-up for customized alerts that will send a text or push notification to their device when a CAL FIRE is responding or assisting to a wildfire in their area. Additionally, users can set up alerts for single counties, multiple counties, or statewide. If a user travels or enjoys recreating in forested areas, CAL FIRE has that covered, too! The app lets users enable an alert system to notify them if a wildfire is reported within 30 miles of their device. To download the app, visit the App Store or the Google Play Store – search for CAL FIRE and install. You are now on your way to becoming Ready for Wildfire.
As we take action to clean up around the homestead after a long winter, let us think about how we can create a Firewise home and landscape, not only focusing on the vegetation surrounding our home, but also the “human treasure” that we simply cannot seem to get rid of. We all know that someday we might need these items. Many of these treasures, such as old tires, leftover wood, sofas, and other furniture items and papers can contribute to debris piles often located in close proximity to the home. This creates a scenario where we have put kindling around the home that will make it easier to ignite if there is a wildfire.

Make sure the items that you are storing do have value. Hoarding items outside can be just as hazardous as hoarding excess items inside. The NFPA offers some great resources to help fire service professionals and others with these potentially hazardous conditions. If you choose to keep these items, do not store them next to the home or under the deck, rather put them in the garage or in an enclosed shed.

Even such things as open garbage cans under the eaves, flammable attachments such as trellises with dead vines, cocoa or rattan door mats, and patio cushions can create hazardous conditions for a home during a wildfire event. Make sure that your garbage cans have lids and are not located under the eaves of your home. Use nonflammable attachments and remove all dead vegetation away from your home. If you are going to be away from your home, take door mats and patio cushions inside. Learn about how you can take steps today and all throughout the year to make your home safer from wildfire. To make your home Firewise.

Remember: If you are unsure if your property has been cleared to comply with Fire Safety requirements, El Dorado Hills Fire Department is offering personal defensible space / safety reviews for those who request them. In order to participate, please call Stephanie Parrish at 916-933-6623 ext. 1044 to schedule your appointment.

Seeking Resource Advisory Committee Members - US Forest Service

**News Release:** Date: April 25, 2017: Forest Service Seeks Resource Advisory Committee Members to Recommend Projects in El Dorado County - applications due May 31

PLACERVILLE, CA - The Eldorado National Forest and Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit are looking for interested community members to serve on the El Dorado County Resource Advisory Committee. The Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is responsible for evaluating and recommending projects on or affecting federal land in El Dorado County. The committee is authorized by the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act which includes funding for projects that improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure; implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems; and restore and improve land health and water quality.

"The RAC helps the forest identify projects that have broad based support across many different groups," said Forest Supervisor Laurence Crabtree. "Both the Eldorado National Forest and the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit have benefitted greatly from the work of this committee over the years."

The Resource Advisory Committee has a four-year term and is composed of 15 members from a wide diversity of interests organized into the three categories. An additional 3 members are also appointed as replacements should a committee member leave for any reason.

For more information, contact Jennifer Chapman, El Dorado County RAC Coordinator, (530) 621-5280 or jenniferachapman@fs.fed.us, www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado