EL DORADO HILLS, CA

• LAKEHILLS ESTATES - A FIREWISE COMMUNITY
• SOUTHPONTE - A FIREWISE COMMUNITY
• LAKE RIDGE OAKS - A FIREWISE COMMUNITY

Lakehills Fire Safe Council
Community Bulletin

Happy Birthday! - Firewise USA

Notice the new signs at Lakehills’ entrances? Congratulations to Lakehills & Southpointe for being a Firewise Community for 5 years! The annual Firewise Event and BBQ on May 6th was a great way to celebrate residents’ and agencies’ cooperation, working together toward reducing wildfire risks. At the June 12th meeting, there will be a recap of accomplishments since 2012 (both inside the communities and on contiguous public lands) and an update on Southpointe’s firebreak project.

JOIN THE EFFORT!
The Lakehills Fire Safe Council, a non-profit volunteer organization with a 7-member board, is seeking volunteers. At this strategic time, with 6 years of experience, we need to create a succession plan to continue the mission, the projects and the ideas. We have large tasks (ie funds/grants, project manager), once-a-year tasks (Firewise Event Coordinator, literature distributor), and leadership roles. Existing experience assures a smooth transition!

Self Assess Your Property – Defensible Space Evaluation form

On page 3 of the newsletter, EDCFSC offers a quick and easy form for use in evaluating your property. Do you comply with state law by maintaining 100 ft. of defensible space around your home? The key to improving the odds of your home surviving a wildfire is the defensibility of the structure itself. We will review the form at the June 12th meeting and questions will be answered (bring photos). Request help—it’s only an email away.

Register now for CodeRED - El Dorado County Sheriff’s Office

The El Dorado County Sheriff’s Office - Office of Emergency Services (EDSO - OES) Alert Notification System “CodeRED” provides a number of ways in which the county may contact the community in the event of an emergency (ie evacuations due to wildfires or hazardous material spills, or urgent law enforcement operations). EDSO OES partners with CodeRED emergency notification service to alert residents and businesses by telephone, cell phone, text message, email and social media when there is a threat to the health or safety of residents. The CodeRED database contains information received from public databases, including regional phonebooks. However, no resident should assume that their information is in the system. Proactively registering your smartphone number, in addition to your land-line number, will ensure the notifications come directly to you. The CodeRED sign-up form allows you to indicate both a primary and alternate phone number. Cell phone and/or work phone numbers can be entered as alternate phone numbers. Both primary and alternate phone numbers will be contacted when a notification is sent.

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.

Lakehills Fire Safe Council is a community organization. Join and Email us at: lakehillsfiresafecouncil@gmail.com
**Wind doesn’t help** – SFGate, article by Sophie Haigney (May 31, 2018)

As temperatures warm up throughout the Golden State, the greenery and grass across Northern California will begin turning brown—creating fuel for wildfires.

Cal Fire is urging homeowners to create defensible space around their property. Typically, people only worry about that during the warm summer months, but that would be a mistake. **This year, Cal Fire has already been dispatched to more wildfires than they’ve had during the same time last year.** See photos of Contra Costa and Alameda fires from the end of May and the article here: [[CLICK HERE]]

---

**Vacant Lots** – El Dorado Hills Fire Department

EDHFD is reducing the risk of wildland fire by enforcing the Vacant Lot Program again this year. This Unimproved Property Hazard Reduction Ordinance requires owners of unimproved property to cut and/or clear combustible vegetation, establishing 100 feet of defensible space around residences, buildings and combustible fences. The sounds of string trimmers and mowers filled the days of May! If you have a question, contact Fire Inspector Stephanie Layton or refer to these FAQ: [[CLICK HERE]] If you are seeking the status of a specific vacant lot, [[CLICK HERE]]

---

**2018 Firewise Event and BBQ Recap** – May 6th

**Thank you** to all our volunteer worker-bees for pulling off another successful BBQ! Here are some attendees:

- The A-Team Organizers
- Professional BBQ’ers
- Raffle Expediters
- Decisions at Raffle Table
- Red Cross’ Dana Epstein
- Beverage Quality Control Team

If these photos don’t properly summarize the day, try this description: fun, beautiful day, good food … and a dash of safety education!

---

If the number of attendees is 100 next year?
RESIDENTIAL CLEARANCE EVALUATION
The key to improving the odds of your house surviving a wildfire is the defendability of the structure itself.

Homeowners Name: ____________________________
Address: _____________________________________
City: __________________ Zip: _________________
Email: __________________ Phone: ______________

Evaluated By: ____________________________
Title: __________________
Date: __________________

Zone 1 / Within 30 feet of all structures or to the property line (Refer to illustration below):

☐ A. Remove all branches within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe outlet, pursuant to PRC § 4291(a)(4) and 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(2).
☐ B. Remove leaves, needles or other vegetation on roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc., pursuant to PRC § 4291(a)(6) and 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(1).
☐ C. Remove all dead and dying trees, branches and shrubs, or other plants adjacent to or overhanging buildings, pursuant to PRC § 4291(a)(5) and 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(2).
☐ D. Remove all dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds and needles, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(1).
☐ E. Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs, pursuant to PRC § 4291(c)(1) and BOF General Guidelines item 1.
☐ F. Remove flammable vegetation and items that could catch fire which are adjacent to, or below, combustible decks, balconies, and stairs, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(4).
☐ G. Relocate exposed wood piles outside of Zone 1 unless completely covered in a fire-resistant material, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(3).

Zone 2 / Within 30-100 feet of all structures or to the property line (Refer to illustration below):

☐ H. Cut annual grasses and forbs down to a maximum height of 4 inches, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(b)(2)(B).
☐ I. Remove fuels in accordance with the Fuel Separation or Continuous Tree Canopy guidelines (see back), pursuant to BOF General Guidelines item 4.
☐ J. All exposed woodpiles must have a minimum of 10 feet clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(b)(2)(C).
☐ K. Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be permitted to a maximum depth of 3 inches, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(b)(2)(A).

Defensible and Reduced Fuel Zone / Within 100 feet of all structures or to the property line (Refer to illustration below):

☐ L. Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from other vegetation, pursuant to BOF General Guidelines item 3.

Other Requirements:

☐ M. Outbuildings and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(c)(1).
☐ N. Address numbers shall be displayed in contrasting colors (4" min. size) and readable from the street or access road, pursuant to 2016 CFC § 505.1.
☐ O. Equip chimney or stovepipe openings with a metal screen having openings between 3/8 inch and 1/2 inch, pursuant to 2016 CBC § 2113.9.2.

COMMENTS:

KNOW THE LAW
BE FIRE SMART

100 feet of Defensible Space is required under the Public Resources Code (PRC) 4291. California Building Code Chapter 7A requires certain construction materials and methods for homes in wildland areas. Be sure to contact your local fire department for additional requirements to ensure your home is compliant with the law.

READYFORWILDFIRE.ORG/THELAW

PRC § 4119. The department, or its duly authorized agent, shall enforce the state forest and fire laws. The department may inspect all properties, except the interior of dwellings, subject to the state forest and fire laws, for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with such laws.