Next Council Meeting:

If protocols permit, our next meeting will be June 9th.

Alan Thompson was part of a disaster recovery team after the 2018 Camp Fire where failures in emergency communications occurred. His presentation offers ways to develop Neighborhood Radio Watch programs for local communities.

Other Planned Dates:
- Tues., July 14
- Tues., August 11

Please select Lakehills Fire Safe Council as your charity choice on Amazon Smile. Thanks to those who already partner! Make a donation to the Fire Safe Council every time you buy…Thanks!

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.

Ongoing Shaded Fuel Break Work - by Steve Willis

Once again this year, our communities have been fortunate to receive continuing support from our agency partners to expand and maintain the Folsom Lake Shaded Fuel Break. This annual work serves to protect our communities from wildfire.

Under the supervision of the US Bureau of Reclamation and California State Parks, we completed maintenance and expansion of the Shaded Fuel Break (SFB) by removing downed trees, clearing regenerated brush and berry regrowth on 21.5 acres of land. Crews were in our area in early spring.

The Shaded Fuel Break (SFB) project area runs from New York Creek to Mormon Island Dam and was conceived as a reduced fuel zone to prevent wildfire from running from the parklands to residential communities and the reverse, from communities to parklands. Although most areas have been treated, areas with steep slopes or limited access continue to be a challenge.

Since 2012, the continual effort has now produced a total SFB reduced vegetation zone of 180 acres treated and/or maintained at an expense of $623,000 from a variety of resources all contributing to the effort. This difficult work has all been accomplished by hand crews.

We wish to express our current and continuing appreciation to our partners: the US Bureau of Reclamation, California State Parks FLSRA and the California Conservation Corps (CCC) for their consistent effort, work and partnership to make our communities safer from catastrophic wildfire.

CAL FIRE INCIDENTS

Per Cal Fire incident reporting for California, 1482 acres have burned in 2020 (data through 5/3/2020); that’s 888 incidents—fortunately with no causalities and no structures lost. More info on the fires’ locations here: https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/

While wildfires are a natural part of California’s landscape, the fire season in California and across the West is starting earlier and ending later each year. The length of fire season is estimated to have increased by 75 days across the Sierras and seems to correspond with an increase in the extent of forest fires across the state.

When outside, be aware, understand current conditions and keep yourself and others safe. Read about wildfire causes: https://www.nps.gov/articles/wildfire-causes-and-evaluation.htm
Take A Breath - May 8, 2020 newsletter Bureau of Land Mgmt. (Dept of Interior)

Although wildflowers return every year, sometimes we aren’t in a position to view the vibrant carpets in person. This spring has provided another outstanding display— but perhaps you missed the show due to isolation / self quarantine protocols. For a relaxing, beautiful few minutes, view the photos from Bureau of Land Mgmt. (BLM) below and in the link.

BLM does have land near us (Pine Hill Preserve in Cameron Park), and are also responsible for a tremendous amount of acreage across the West. We are fortunate to have them as a valued agency partner. Thanks for this glimpse of nature at its best.

You can see much more at the link below. Enjoy!

https://www.doi.gov/blog/wild-wildflowers?fbclid=IwAR3rU-yHgndKMR-K4k35s2ud7E618NCAUvYmGtHnvOEm2A8qNZt06k9fBwk.

Chipping Program / Burn Permits

The El Dorado County Fire Safe Council (EDCFSC) announced that due to high volume, funding to support the free-to-you chipping has been depleted. New grants have been applied for and support has been requested of EDCFSC supporters and partners. Check EDCFSC website for notification of reopening. https://www.edcfiresafe.org/chipping-service-suspended/

Although chipping is preferred over burning your yard waste, if planning a burn pile, remember Cal Fire requires an annual burn permit. View video & understand restrictions before burning: https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov/apply-for-a-permit/

Defensible Space Request from Cal Fire

May 3rd began Wildfire Preparedness Week. Cal Fire wants to emphasize the importance of being ready! Wildfire Season is coming. Watch the videos below for preparedness tips and learning how residents are a vital part in keeping us all safe.

https://twitter.com/CAL_FIRE/status/1258100539390222336?s=09
https://yubanet.com/california/wildfire-preparedness-week-proclaimed-for-may-3-9/

Wait a Minute >> Fire Safety is My Responsibility?

PRC 4291 (State Law) … Understand what defensible space is? Want to learn? Want a residential review to see if you are in compliance? Wildfire season is here. Wildfire knows no HOA or fence line boundaries. We are in this fight together. Are you ready?

These links below are from Cal Fire. There are many preventive steps you can take to be safer. Small efforts can make a big difference.

https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/get-ready/hardening-your-home/
https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/get-ready/defensible-space/

Answers on May 14th - El Dorado County Vegetation Ordinance explained

Have questions about the County’s Vegetation Ordinance? How does it affect you? El Dorado County is hosting a video conference on May 14th for residents who have questions or want to learn more about the Vegetation Ordinance now in effect. The topics will include Defensible Space, Requirements per the Ordinance, the Good Neighbor Policy, 2020 Inspection Areas, Education / Resources and Compliance / Enforcement. Mark your calendar: Thursday, May 14th from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. The meeting will be online via Zoom and will have presentations from EDC Vegetation Management and local fire districts. A Question and Answer session will follow. More information, including contact info, is included on the attachment.

Open attachment to see flyer and active meeting link here
or copy https://zoom.us/j/99601842734 into your browser and use Meeting ID # 996 0184 2734

The Lakehills Fire Safe Council posts on NextDoor (to the LakeForest group) and has a Facebook page. Please find us at www.facebook.com/LakehillsFireSafe. Monthly meetings are open to all.