No Meeting This Month

Reminders:
Please be aware during these dry hot days! Do not add to the wildfire danger. Be cautious & avoid any activity that could cause a spark:
- Do not burn debris
- Mow lawn before 10 am only; do not mow dry weeds; work on calm days
- Don’t drag towing chains
- Never drive or park on dry weeds and grass
- Use spark arresters on all gasoline-powered equipment
- Keep car well maintained

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!

Help Them Help You...

We will never forget the people who stand up to Mother’s Nature’s fury.

Thank YOU FIRST RESPONDERS

Update on CA Fires - CAL FIRE & Mercury News (Paul Rogers article on 8/30/20)

CAL FIRE statistics, as of 9/1/2020, illustrating the need for vigilance in days and months ahead:

- More than 15,600 firefighters are deployed working to contain California fires.
- Currently active: 19 major fires (Visit https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/)
- Nearly 14,000 lightning strikes since Aug. 15 caused over 900 fires
- Over 1.46 million acres have burned (an area 5 times greater than the city of LA)
- Risk remains high as temperatures rise and humidity is low

From the Mercury News:
“There are at least two, and potentially three more months left where the risk of huge new fires will continue to grow until the fall rains arrive. And 2020 has already seen the second-most acres burned of any year in modern history, behind only 2018, when 1.97 million acres burned.”

Help prevent new fire starts:

>>CLICK HERE<<

Lakehills Fire Safe Council is a community organization. Join and Email us at: lakehillsfiresafecouncil@gmail.com
"The past explains the future. Eight of California’s 10 deadliest fires of all time have occurred in October or November, from the Camp Fire that killed 85 people in the town of Paradise in 2018 to the Wine Country Fires in Napa and Sonoma counties in 2017, to the Oakland Hills Fire in 1991. Similarly, seven of the 10 most destructive fires in California history, measured by the number of homes burned, occurred in October or November.

There are two primary reasons, experts say: lack of rain and strong, dry winds. Unlike in most other states, it almost never rains in the summer in California. As part of California’s Mediterranean climate, most rain ends in April every year, and apart from a few light sprinkles, doesn’t begin again in earnest until November. That means by the time October arrives, nearly six months have passed without rain. As a result, grass, shrubs and trees are usually at their driest condition of the year in October.…..

(And) unfortunately, this year was a dry winter. On April 1, the statewide Sierra snowpack was just 54% of its historical average. Last year it was 161%, and California ended up with a below-average fire year, where just 259,148 acres burned statewide.

The same story is true with rainfall. Since Oct. 1, San Francisco has received just 50% of its historic average rainfall, San Jose 49%, Oakland 42% and Sacramento 53%. Los Angeles and San Diego, by contrast, have had a normal rainfall year, getting 101% and 133% of their historic averages.

Simply put, conditions are drier than normal in Northern California, which contributed to the explosive spread of this month’s CZU, SCU and LNU fires.”  (Read entire Mercury News article [here](https://www.mercurynews.com/2020/10/11/california-wildfires/))

### Your Safety - Your Resources - Links to enable you follow CAL FIRE's “READY SET GO” campaign

Since fires are our reality, here are actions and resources to be prepared and to feel a little less helpless:

**READY**
- Defensible Space around your home [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrQ5tQgUo0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrQ5tQgUo0)
- Emergency Plan [https://www.ready.gov/plan](https://www.ready.gov/plan)
- Register with CodeRed [https://ready.edso.org/](https://ready.edso.org/)
- Download Apps [https://www.readyforwildfire.org/more/ready-for-wildfire-app/](https://www.readyforwildfire.org/more/ready-for-wildfire-app/)
- Know all exit routes in case of evacuation

**SET**
- Alert family and neighbors
- Dress in appropriate clothing
- Stay tuned for updates
- Prepare inside/outside [https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/go-evacuation-guide/pre-evacuation-preparation-steps/](https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/go-evacuation-guide/pre-evacuation-preparation-steps/)

**GO**
- Leave early
- Take emergency supply kit

### Trying Times

Red sunrises and smoky skies affect us all.
Long-time life patterns and customs have been disrupted for months.
We will see shining sunlight & blue skies again; we will return to in-person gatherings again!
In the meantime: Think positive thoughts. Say nice things. Do good for others. Be a community where neighbor helps neighbor & offers support in good or difficult times.

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](http://www.facebook.com/LakehillsFireSafe). Monthly meetings are open to all.