No Meeting This Month

Stop Ember Ignition Fires!

Keep the Area Closet to Your Home CLEAR OF DEBRIS:

- Clear the gutters & roof
- Remove all dead from shrubs
- Trim shrubs away from windows
- Keep dead leaves & pine needles raked up & dispose of them
- Remove tree branches overlaying the roof
- Use 1/8" mesh in all attic and foundation vents

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!

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**The Value of a Shaded Fuel Break - by Richard Sleplan**

Earlier this year, my wife Wendy and I experienced the value of the shaded fuel break firsthand. On June 11, 2020 our dog Lox started barking frantically in the backyard, which alerted Wendy. She looked out and saw six-foot flames on a patch of land adjacent to our property and bordering Folsom Lake (managed by California State Parks).

The fire began spreading rather quickly, so Wendy called the El Dorado Hills Fire Department immediately. Our neighbor Brian and I started watering the fringe of the fire with garden hoses.

The fire continued to eat up the dead grass while traveling parallel to our property line and downward into a ravine, toward the lake. Should the winds blow southeast, the fire could’ve easily headed toward neighboring structures. In the 10 minutes before the fire department arrived on scene, the fire had grown to a couple of acres while the flames stayed close to the ground, burning mostly dead grass. Luckily, a CalFIRE helicopter was nearby, practicing filling water buckets from the lake, and they soon began dropping water on the fire as well. Over 25 firefighters were trenching and working on foot, and they were able to contain the fire within 30 minutes with no damage to any structures.

We attributed the quick containment of the fire to the shaded fuel break and the quick response of the local fire department. The vegetation management program initiated by the Lakehills Fire Safe Council has ladder fuel removed annually on public property stretching from Southpointe to Lakeridge Oaks, thereby reducing the opportunity for the fire to spread to the trees. Otherwise, if trees caught fire, an inferno could have quickly ensued and dramatically increased the level of destruction in the neighborhood.

I am grateful for the work of the Lakehills Fire Safe Council in receiving grants to contract for shaded fuel work. I hope our neighbors will appreciate the benefits of this program and stay involved by attending the monthly meetings.

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**What’s a Shaded Fuel Break?**

It is critical to understand: A fuel break is the line of defense.

Our entire area has several risk factors: (1) heavy fuel & pine populations; (2) being a wildfire hazard area; (3) steep slopes up from Folsom Lake; (4) topography; (5) crowning potential (fire spreading via tree tops); and (6) ignition sources (heavy public usage). By reducing the “ladder fuel,” fire is thwarted from climbing from the ground into shrubs and then into the trees, thus restraining the fire’s growth. Under moderate weather conditions, shaded fuel breaks can provide easy access and a good line of defense for firefighters and can slow an advancing fire and reduce fire intensity.

Fuel can be separated into 4 categories: grass; chaparral/shrubs; timber and slash. The Folsom Lake State Recreation Area SFB defines a strategic location where fuels are being modified. The width of the fuel break is typically 130 feet from residences. The carefully planned thinning of dense vegetation is devised so fire does not easily move from the ground into the overhead tree canopy. A shaded fuel break is not the removal of all vegetation in a given area. Any fuel break by itself will not stop a wildland fire but vegetation reduction in the SFB aims to reduce the intensity of a fire by keeping it on the ground.

More info: [CLICK HERE](#)

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Lakehills Fire Safe Council is a community organization. Join and Email us at: lakehillsfiresafecouncil@gmail.com
**Evacuation Tips - Thanks to Cal Fire & PG&E**

Remember the 6 P’s to pre-plan the necessities now to reduce the panic that accompanies an evacuation order. The video also covers this material: [CLICK HERE](#)

1) People and Pets

2) Papers, Phone Numbers and Important Documents

3) Prescriptions, Vitamins, Eyeglasses

4) Photos and Irreplaceable Memorabilia

5) Personal Computer, Hard Drive Disks

6) “Plastic”: Credit cards & ATM cards; Cash

Before finding yourself in an evacuation situation, take time now to make a list of cherished items. Page 3 has a “necessities checklist” of what to take during an evacuation, but don’t stop there. Only you can identify the important, irreplaceable items. You will not be thinking clearly when the call comes. Post the checklist where you see it and evacuate early.

More tips: [CLICK HERE](#)

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**It's Not Always a Wall of Flames - Home Ignition Facts**

**How fires spread**—Wildland fires spread by a combination of a moving flame front and the wind distribution of burning embers. Embers are small pieces of plants, trees, or buildings that are light enough to be blown through the air and can result in the rapid spread of wildfire by where embers are blown ahead of the main fire, starting new fires.

**How homes burn**—Home and building loss during wildfires occur as a result of some part of the building igniting from one or more of the three basic wildfire exposures: 1) embers, 2) radiant heat, and 3) direct flame contact.

Embers cause the majority of wildfire home ignition by directly igniting your home or igniting vegetation or materials on or near your home....Should embers land on or near your house, they accumulate (like hail) and can easily ignite the plants and mulch near your home, dry leaves, gutter debris or lawn furniture. They also land on the roof, deck, or porch and depending on the condition of each may find a gap to enter the house or can catch accumulated dry leaves on fire....commonly embers enter the home or attic through a vent or open window. When embers enter the home or attic, they can easily ignite...and the home will burn seeming from the inside out.

More reading: [CLICK HERE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)

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**Try These Apps to Learn about Nature**

◊ LeafSnap Plant Identification App

◊ Virginia Tech Tree ID

◊ The Tree Identification Field Guide

◊ The Audubon Bird Guide App

◊ Merlin Bird ID by Cornell Lab of Ornithology

◊ Audubon Society Native Plants Database

◊ iNaturalist (plants & animals)

◊ Picture Insect: Bug Identifier

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.
Emergency Supply Kit Checklist

Stock up on supplies to last a week and refresh them at least once a year. Put them in waterproof containers, and store them in an easy to reach place. Here’s what you’ll need:

### Food and water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>1 gallon of water per person, per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tools and utensils</td>
<td>Non-electric can opener and forks, spoons and knives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Nonperishable and easy to prepare without power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baby/pet food</td>
<td>Be sure to include food for all members of your household</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flashlights</td>
<td>Do not use candles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>Battery-powered or a hand-crank weather radio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra batteries</td>
<td>Include two extra sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile phone</td>
<td>Include a portable charger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Health and personal supplies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic first aid kit</td>
<td>From antibiotic ointments and bandages to cold packs and more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blankets and clothing</td>
<td>Blankets, warm clothes, sturdy shoes and heavy gloves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities for children</td>
<td>Toys, books, games and cards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Important documents</td>
<td>Copies of IDs, medical records, pet vaccinations and family photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication and eyeglasses</td>
<td>Prescription and non-prescription</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toiletries</td>
<td>Soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and credit cards</td>
<td>If possible, put aside at least $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other useful items</td>
<td>Paper towels, trash bags, multipurpose tool that includes a knife</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information about how to keep your family and employees safe, visit [pge.com/safety](http://pge.com/safety).