

Alpine Fire Safe Council

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April 2010

Fuels Reduction Update

The fuels reductions collection site at Turtle Rock Park will not be open this spring due to county budget limitations. Also, there will be no spring chipping program. The Alpine Fire Safe Council has applied for grant funding to operate the fuels reduction collection site in the fall. Please stay tuned for more information.

For information on obtaining a burn permit, please see page 2. Below is a listing of available disposal sites in our area. To find local contractors and additional disposal locations, please visit our website at www.alpinefiresafe.org.

Disposal Locations:

Bently Agrowdynamics: (775) 782-4513
(Pine needles, grass, and leaves accepted free of charge. Wood waste \$10 per ton.)

Douglas Disposal: (775) 782-5713
(Green waste disposal \$44.93 per ton.)

Full Circle Compost: (775) 267-5305
(First 2 yards of green waste free of charge, then \$8 per cubic yard. Additional fee for trees and stumps. \$3 per cubic yard credit towards the purchase of their products.)

Community Wildfire Preparedness Meetings

Join us this spring for one of our community meetings on wildfire preparedness. These meetings will focus on defensible space, evacuation and Community Wildfire Protection Plan project ideas. The meetings will be from 4:00 to 5:30 on the dates below:

District 2: April 17th - Woodfords Fire Station
District 3: May 1st - Hung-a-Lel-Tei Community
District 5: May 15th - Early Learning Center

Meeting attendees will receive a barbecue dinner served by the Woodfords Volunteer Fire Department and cool swag. If you have any questions, please call Kerry Radelfinger at 694-2767.

Diamond Valley School Poster Contest

Sixty-two students participated in a poster contest held at the Diamond Valley School in October with the theme "If the forest could talk it would tell us..." The Fire Safe Council awarded prizes for each grade level with first place receiving \$15 and second place receiving \$10 in award money redeemable for books or science kits. Thank you to Joyce DeVore for organizing the contest. Congratulations to all the students on a job well done!

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Reflective Address Signs

If you have not already done so, order your reflective address sign today. Many of your houses have house numbers but they probably COULD NOT be seen from the street at night or if the air was full of smoke or blowing snow. There are some house numbers that cannot be seen from the street while others have no numbers at all. Reflective address signs are easily seen from the street and help our emergency responders find you in the event of any emergency.

Features:

- Highly visible day or night
- Green Reflective material with 4 inch white numbers
- Fade resistant, last for years
- Pre-drilled holes

Save lives and protect your property.

If you would like to order a reflective address sign or would like additional information, ***please call Shirley Taylor at (530) 694-2681***. The address markers are \$20.00.



Burn Permits

Burn permits are available through the local USFS office (next to the Sheriff's office) Monday through Friday from 8:00-4:30. The burn permits are free of charge and will be good through **May 2nd**. Burning can be done between the hours of 6am-3pm, but you must have a permit to burn. You must call the California Air Resources Board at (916) 445-0745 and listen for the prompt for the Great Basin area before burning. In addition, please call the Sheriff's Department at 694-2231 to notify them the day you burn. Detailed instructions will be given when you pick up your permit. You can call the USFS at **694-2142** for more information.

Wildfire Actions

Before, During and After a Wildfire

What to do BEFORE a wildfire:

- Create defensible space to separate your home from flammable vegetation and materials (minimum 100ft PRC 4291.)
- Adhere to all local fire and building codes and weed abatement ordinances.
- Keep all trees and shrub limbs trimmed so they do not come into contact with electrical wires or overhang your chimney. (Do not trim around live power lines yourself, call a professional).
- Prune all lower branches 8 feet from the ground.
- Keep trees adjacent to buildings free of dead or dying branches.
- Stack firewood away from your home and other buildings. (Keep clearance around your piles).
- Keep roof surfaces clear of pine needles, leaves and debris at all times.
- Install spark arresters for each chimney (PRC 4291.)
- Clean chimneys and check and maintain spark arresters twice a year.
- Keep rain gutters clear of debris at all times.
- Use approved fire resistant materials when building, renovating or retrofitting structures.
- Install electrical lines underground if possible.
- Be sure your house numbers show clearly from the street, both day and night.
- Store combustible or flammable materials in approved containers.

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- Store all important papers in a fireproof container or keep copies at another location.
- Make evacuation plans with family members. Include several options with an outside meeting place and contact person. Practice regularly.
- Keep battery operated radios and flashlights with additional fresh batteries on hand.

What to do DURING a wildfire:

- Turn on a battery operated radio to get latest emergency information.
- If you have a ladder, prop it against the house so you and firefighters have access to roof.
- If hoses and adequate water are available set them up. Fill buckets with water.
- Remove combustible materials from the area surrounding your house. (lawnchairs, tables, etc.)
- Turn a light on in each room for visibility in case of smoke.
- Close all doors and windows, but do not lock them.
- Open or take down flammable drape and curtains.
- Close all venetian blinds and non-flammable window coverings. Some venetian blinds are highly flammable and should be taken down.
- Move upholstered furniture away from windows and sliding glass doors.
- Be ready to evacuate all family members and pets when requested to do so.
- Turn off air conditioning/air circulation systems.
- Detach electrical garage doors. Back in your car and leave the keys in the ignition.
- Secure your pets if possible. CONT...

What to do AFTER a wildfire:

- Check with fire officials before attempting to return to your home.
- Use caution when re-entering a burned area - flare-ups can occur.
- Check grounds for hot spots smoldering stumps and vegetation. Use your buckets of water.
- Check the roof and exterior areas for spark and embers.
- Check the attic and throughout the house for hidden burning sparks and embers.
- Continue to check for problem areas for several days.
- Contact 911 if any danger is perceived.
- If burning outside your home was extensive, watch for soil erosion.
- Consult local experts on the best way to restore and replant your land with fire safe landscaping.

Article courtesy of



Visit www.alpinefiresafe.org to view your local Evacuation Plan.

Grant Projects

The Alpine Fire Safe Council has applied for grant funding for another defensible space curbside chipping program and for operation of the biomass collection site at Turtle Rock Park. We have also submitted an application for a fuels reduction project in Markleevillage. Grant determination for these projects will no be made until this summer.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DISTRICT 2 WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS MEETING

APRIL 17, 2010 4:00-5:30PM

WOODFORDS FIRE STATION

AFSC MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL 26, 2010 6:00PM

WOODFORDS FIRE STATION

DISTRICT 3 WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS MEETING

MAY 1, 2010 4:00-5:30PM

HUNG-A-LEL-TEI COMMUNITY

DISTRICT 5 WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS MEETING

MAY 15, 2010 4:00-5:30PM

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

AFSC MONTHLY MEETING

MAY 31, 2010 6:00PM

MARKLEEVILLE FIRE STATION

AFSC MONTHLY MEETING

JUNE 28, 2010 6:00PM

WOODFORDS FIRE STATION

Defensible Space Inspections

CAL FIRE will be conducting Public Resources Code 4291 Defensible Space Inspections to help property owners make their homes safe this fire season. Proper clearance of defensible space to 100 feet dramatically increases the chance of your house surviving a wildfire and also provides for firefighter safety when protecting homes during a wildland fire. Please visit our website www.alpinefiresafe.org to review CAL FIRE form "Notice of Fire Hazard Inspection" to find out what CAL FIRE will be looking for when they inspect your property.



www.alpinefiresafe.org

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