

THE WOODS

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CASCADEL WOODS
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Weed Whacking Rd 233

**HAPPY
FATHER'S
Day!**

Sunday June 17



Saturday June 9

VOLUME 31 June 1, 2018

WATER COMPANY NEWS

Firewise Committee BBQ

This year's Informational Fire Preparedness Meeting and BBQ was a huge success.

Approximately 40 people were in attendance, including several of our newest residents.



Thanks to Ken Wood for the fabulous ribs once more and thanks to Brian Curtis for bringing that awesome grill, getting the wood ready and handling the raffle for 20 man hours of work on someone's property. The raffle brought in \$202 for the Firewise Committee/Brigade. Thank you to all for your generous donations!

WINNERS WERE
ROBERT & GLORIA CABALERO
CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Two new residents of Cascadel Woods.

currently on the ground, we must all do as much as possible to ensure our homes are **defensible**. Go to this site to get up to date information on how you can be as prepared as possible. <http://www.readyforwildfire.org/>



A fire extinguisher demonstration was presented by Cal Fire representative Jamie Williams. She brought a computerized screen for the residents to hone their skills on putting out a home fire with a fire extinguisher. This was fun for all.



All of our speakers, Cal Fire, USFS, Madera Sheriff and COPS, were in agreement that we are still in a drought situation and with more trees dying along with the logs and slash piles

We wish to thank Simon Elman, Carol and Stan Eggink for clearing the tall grasses on the CSA-21 overflow parking area and the clubhouse lawns.

Overflow parking was obviously needed and there were plenty of spaces for all the vehicles.



Please note this Sheriff car. Not your normal looking car. So be extra careful out there and keep your speed down.



Firewise Brigade

The Brigade had a work day on May 12. They gathered smaller piles from around the subdivision for chipping. Our new skid steer was used to bring logs out of the ravine (Cascadel Dr between Vista & Loma Linda) for chipping as well.

At this time the ravine has been cleared of much smaller debris. The remaining logs will be decked for removal at a later date. Chips were spread out along the service road. Thanks to all of the Brigade members who took part in this project. The day was topped off by a complementary lunch provided by Judy Rose. The entire work crew wishes to thank Judy for the wonderful lunch.

Then on May 14, we were fortunate to have the Mt. Bullion crews here for additional

clearing in the ravine. They continued with chipping and sawing of long logs to size for decking and chipping. They also did a lot of weed whacking in the ravine as well. Thanks guys.

We wish to thank Karen Balog who weed whacked well below her property in the ravine and near the stream for extra fire clearance.

The clearing of the easements on Cascadel roads has been started by the local weed whacker, Carol Eggink. Justin Macomb, Cal Fire Captain at the Rancieria Station, asked for certain areas of Cascadel to be cleared of tall grasses similar to last year. So, we will be addressing these areas as well as the rest of the easements.

The Fire Brigade also cleared and burned slash piles on one private property in May. There were many scattered logs on that property, which were decked for removal.

ROAD 233 EASEMENT CLEARING EVENT



On Saturday June 9, the Cascadel Heights and Cascadel Woods volunteers will once again be clearing the easements on Road 233 leading into Cascadel Heights and Cascadel Woods. This will be our third year for this event.

Everyone is welcomed to join in on the fun.

Since the Mission Fire burned most of the debris near the Arch, we hope to get much further down the road this year. The more of you able to sling a weed eater, the more roadside territory we can cover. So come out and help protect our communities this year from another wild fire. Every bit helps the first responder's ability to defend our community.

PG&E Community Wildfire Safety Program

PG&E has a new program to prevent damage to power lines from fallen trees and to assist First Responders and Utility Crews in the event of a wildfire, especially in high fire-danger areas.

PG&E will be installing PG&E owned and operated weather stations across their service areas to better predict where a wildfire might occur for quicker response times.

They are also working to improve fire-risk models that can better determine the

likelihood of a fire ignition in a high fire-risk area.

Vegetation clearance in the past was a minimum of 1.5 feet from the power lines. It will be increased to 4 feet and in some cases 12 feet or more to ensure compliance until the next inspection. In the high-fire threat areas, (Cascadel Woods), they are proposing to create fire safety zones under the power lines by eliminating vegetation and brush 15 feet on either side of the power line.

The PG&E representative is Arbor Works. They are in the area now and will contact each property owner to explain the program and request permission to access your property for this vegetation removal. The program is voluntary, so you make the decision regarding the amount of clearance you would prefer.

WHISKY FALLS

Autumn Ridge Road HAS RE-OPENED

The section of 8S09 (aka Autumn Ridge Road) road that washed out during 2017 winter storms has recently been repaired and is open to the public. This road is access to Whisky Falls Campground and Peckinpah Meadow, to name just a few points of interest.

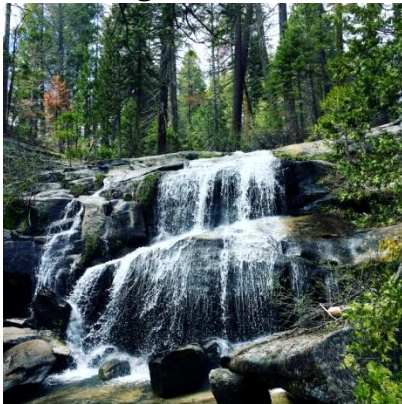


Photo and article by Aimee Cox

SURVEY TO RESIDENTS

On Wednesday April 18, 2018, a survey was sent to all property owners in Cascadel Woods to get opinions on the possibility of The Cascadel Mutual Water Company assuming responsibility for our road maintenance.

As people begin to discuss this change the questions are thoughtful as well as lively. It appears that there is a positive interest in doing whatever we can to improve the quality of our community for the good of all.

As of the printing of this newsletter, the survey results are increasing from a 10 to 1 ratio in favor last month to a 13 to 1 ration now. We are committed to sharing

information to ensure a thoughtful and informed decision on this important issue. A special meeting of the property owners will be announced soon to allow for an open discussion regarding this proposed change. In response to questions about the scheduling of the special meeting, with Saturdays being unavailable to some, we will also offer an evening meeting during the week.

PART TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Cascadel Mutual Water Company and Cascadel Woods Property Owners Association are looking to fill two positions as listed below:

1. Office Administrator

The employee will be doing billing and basic office duties a few hours per week and must be familiar with QuickBooks™ and computers. If interested in applying for this position, please email our office at cascadelwoods@netptc.net.

2. Part time Water System Operator

Training will be provided. You must have your own vehicle. If interested in applying for this position, please email our office at cascadelmutual@gmail.com.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- **June 7 CMWC Board Meeting**
3:30 PM at the Clubhouse
- **June 9 Two Community Event on Road 233**
8AM (Or whenever you can get there) - Residents from Cascadel Heights and Cascadel Woods will convene on Road 233 to remove overgrowth from the easements. Everyone that can work a weed eater is welcome to attend.
- **June 23 Firewise Brigade/Committee**
10AM at the Clubhouse Work Day
- **CMWC Annual Meeting is Postponed**

NEXT MONTH

- **July 21 Firewise Brigade/Committee**
10AM Clubhouse – Workday

US Forest Service

The USFS has begun the mastication project around Cascadel Woods. They are scheduled to be clearing on the North and East sides of the subdivision.