

THE WOODS

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CASCADEL WOODS
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

CAL FIRE WARNS



NO FIREWORKS



VOLUME 32 JULY 1, 2018

INDEPENDENCE DAY



FOURTH OF JULY

NO MORE OPEN FIRES

[Cal Fire](#) announced Monday, June 18 that it was immediately suspending all burn permits for outdoor residential burning within the State Responsibility Area of Madera, Mariposa and Merced counties.

The ban is for all residential outdoor burning of landscape debris such as branches and leaves.

"This year is turning out to be just as volatile as last year. The public cannot let their guard down and must continue to be involved in preparation efforts for the upcoming wildfires," said Chief Ken Pimlott, Cal Fire director.

Unit Chief Nancy Koerperich took note of the devastating 2017 wildfires including Detwiler, Railroad and Mission. "2018 is already proving to be equally challenging for firefighters with high temperatures and low humidity's," Koerperich said. Cal Fire says that since Jan. 1, firefighters across the state have responded to 2,397 wildfires.

To be ready for wildfires and evacuations visit:

<http://www.readyforwildfire.org/>

Don't forget your pet's **ready bag**.

<http://www.readyforwildfire.org/Animal-Evacuation/>

CSA-21

On June 6, the County changed the locks on the Clubhouse doors. We are currently not allowed to use the clubhouse. The County did not give any notice of the lock out.

The Children's Art Classes had to be cancelled for the next day, because no one could get in the Clubhouse.

Ahmad Alkhayyat, Director of Public Works Department, did send one of his Deputy's out so Jo Ann Huffman could retrieve the children's personal belongings and her teaching supplies.

Ann Kennedy has been gracious in lending her home for the older children's Art Class. Thank you for stepping up Ann!

We spoke to Ahmad Alkhayyat regarding the decision. According to him, the building is no longer safe to use. We asked for documentation of his findings and there are none. It seems the County received a complaint from one of our residents and so they decided to act without further investigation.

Ahmad said he was to have a meeting with the legal department on Friday, June 22 to discuss the matter. We are now in negotiations regarding the management of the clubhouse and grounds. As of the publication of this edition of *The Woods* the CWPOA is submitting requested documentation, but no final agreement has been reached.

Firewise Brigade

The Firewise Brigade and many resident volunteers have been quite busy clearing fuels from their property and along the easements of our roads and fire hydrants.

Together we have recorded a total of 362 hours of weed eating, chipping, bucking up logs, splitting rounds and decking large logs.

This equates to a value of over \$8,000 of in-kind volunteer credit. Along with the educational Firewise BBQ last month, we have more than covered the necessary requirements to remain certified under National Fire Protection Association, (NFPA). There are some who have not sent in hours but your contributions are very much appreciated and equally important.

Well done to everyone on your fire prevention activities. This year promises to be a hard one in regards to wildfires. So everything you do is

a benefit to the entire subdivision and we all thank you for your hard work.

Carol Eggink is also working to provide fuel breaks in the front of the subdivision and other areas to give our first responders a fighting chance should the need arise. She would like to thank everyone for the friendly waves and short talks while she is out there weed eating the tall grasses.

ROAD 233 EASEMENT CLEARING EVENT



On Saturday June 9 & 10, the Cascadel Heights and Cascadel Woods volunteers ventured out with weed eaters on Road 233. We had crews at Peckinpah Acres Drive and at the Arches. There were 13 volunteers on Saturday with two more venturing out for an additional 2 hours, later in

the day. On Sunday, three volunteers went out to hit some areas that needed a bit more clearing. Thanks to everyone who made this event a huge success. See you next year. Sierra News Online did a nice write up on the event and you can check it out at:

<https://sierranewsonline.com/three-years-of-evacuations-make-these-folks-serious-about-wildfire/> .

Photos by Ken Trapp



Kitty Williams

WATER COMPANY/CWPOA NEWS

SURVEY TO RESIDENTS

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

As of the printing of this newsletter a majority of the Water Company Membership are in favor of making the change. The money collected for road maintenance covers the cost of not only regular repairs and snowplowing

but emergency repairs and liability insurance for everyone's protection. Based on our many conversations it would be reasonable to report that those contributing to road maintenance expenses are quite upset over those who are getting a "free ride" while using the same roads as those who contribute. The responses also reflect that maintaining our roads, snowplowing and insurance is everyone's responsibility.

SMOKE IN THE AIR

The smoke is caused by the Lions Fire. Aimee Cox sent us an update from the USFS.

Lions Fire Update 6-25-18

The Lions Fire continues to burn in the Ansel Adams Wilderness area. Strong winds and dry conditions have resulted in the fire growing to about 2000 acres. The fire is burning in rugged and inaccessible terrain in the Stairway Creek drainage, north and west of the Middle Fork of the San Joaquin River.

The communities near the fire can expect smoke impacts in varying degrees for at least the next week. Air quality and smoke forecasts will be available as the incident progresses.

For more information, see Lions Fire <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/incident/news/5850/> or call 760-582-5203.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- **July 14 Saturday Community Meeting re: Road Maintenance**
10 AM Clubhouse Back Yard
- **July 21 Firewise Brigade/Committee**
9AM at the Clubhouse Work Day
- **CMWC Annual Meeting is Postponed**

NEXT MONTH

- **Aug 18 Firewise Brigade/Committee**
9AM Clubhouse – Workday

**HAVE A SAFE
FOURTH OF JULY!!!**

YOUR NEWSLETTER

We hope you enjoyed The Woods Newsletter. Send any submissions for the August Newsletter to Carol Eggink by July 27 at egginks@netptc.net or call her 559.877.6290.