

THE WOODS



Easter Sunday
April 12



A NEWSLETTER FROM THE CASCADEL WOODS
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
VOLUME 53 APRIL 1, 2020



Earth Day
April 22

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER (CDC) BOARDROOM IS CLOSED

Due to the COVID-19 epidemic the CDC will not allow the use of their Board room until all restrictions on social distancing have been lifted.

The next Board meeting for the CMWC scheduled for April 10 has been postponed to May 8. This date may change according to restrictions. Please call the office if you plan on attending to verify the meeting is taking place.

Look up the latest news regarding COVID-19 at
<https://www.cdc.gov/> and for Madera County at
<https://www.maderacounty.com/government/public-health/health-updates/corona-virus>

FIREWISE BRIGADE

The Firewise Brigade held a community chipping day March 7. There were six volunteers for the day's work including Brigade members and Board members. Thanks to all who showed up. It made the day go very smoothly.

The crew worked three hours for a total of 18 labor hours.



We cleared eight areas of piled debris from Cascadel Drive North to Mr. Morgan's property just outside the arches. Mr. Morgan showed up to see how the job went. He was pleased.

The Brigade is already working on performing the next chipping day as soon as the weather dries out the piles.

THIS COULD BE ANOTHER DROUGHT YEAR

On February 20, 2020 the California Department of Water Resources took its snowpack measurement and found that we are about 54% of the Sierra's average for that time of the year. This gives Fire personnel great concern for an earlier start to the fire season.

With the weather we experienced in March, it is possible their concerns have faded somewhat. A new snowpack measurement will occur on April 1 according to information in a Sierra News Online article of February 22. That should allow for a better forecast on the coming wildfire season.

NFPA WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS DAY GRANT

The Firewise Brigade was awarded \$500 grant funding this year. The official date of the Preparedness Day is May 2. NFPA is allowing for the work to be performed on a different day due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is our hope to have the event of easement clearing and pile chipping and/or burning as close to that date as possible in order to get a good start on hardening many vital areas of the subdivision prior to the wildfire season. We will let you know through the newsletter when this will happen.

THE CMWC FIREWISE WILDFIRE INFORMATIONAL BBQ & POTLUCK IS POSTPONED

Due to the suggested restrictions issued by the Governor of California and other local officials, it was decided to postpone the BBQ until later in the year.

This event is very important to the Firewise Brigade. It is a requirement to keep our Good Standing in the organization.

Since the BBQ is postponed, your Firewise committee will be offering suggestions to enable you to harden your home and yard against wildfires. Look for this month's suggestions on the last page of this newsletter.

Firewise Brigade needs new members!!!

If you are interested, you are invited to attend a scheduled meeting with notification to the committee chair, Carol Eggink. She can be reached at 559-877-6290 or egginks@netptc.net.

CSA-21

Dave Braun, President of LAFCO emailed that the Board of Supervisors are in the process of applying to LAFCO for the dissolution of CSA-21 and the creation of a Park District for Cascadel Woods.

Dave reminded us that due to the COVID-19 gathering restrictions, the Park District process will

continue when the restrictions have been lifted. The process requires the option for property owners to be heard in chambers on the matter before it can be put into a resolution.

CWPOA NEWS

GRANTS

You may remember that the CWPOA, under the sponsorship of the Yosemite Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council (YSRC&DC), applied for a very large grant that would have been very beneficial to us. Neither the YSRC&DC, nor any other Grant Sponsor in our area received any funding.

All is not lost. Justine Reynolds, Director of the YSRC&DC, has informed me that we will apply for more grants this year.

CWPOA BOARD MEETING OF MAR 14

The office computer was out dated and due to the addition of electronic invoicing and payment by credit card, it was decided to replace the system. This has been done and is working extremely well.

The phone lines are currently being forwarded to Busy Bee Accounting Services. You may call 5 days a week during regular business hours, and your call will be answered by a person most of the time. It is our hope to have your concerns heard with a faster response time.

As always, you may check the website for the latest Draft Board meeting minutes and the financials for both the CWPOA and the CMWC. Website address is www.cascadelinternet.com

Before the Board meeting began we had a short Birthday celebration for Ken Trapp.



Happy Birthday to you Ken Trapp!

PAY BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD

If you receive a hard copy invoice, and wish to pay via Debit or Credit Card, simply email our office at info@cascadelmutual.com or call (559-877-2635) and we can either email your invoice to you or take your card information over the phone to pay your bill.

SNF OFFERS PINE SEEDLINGS

According to a story in Sierra News Online, the North Fork Bass Lake Ranger District will be reforesting 700 acres of land affected by the French fire of 2014. Approximately 200-320 seedlings will be planted per acre.

There will be excess seedlings which may be adopted by persons in the community. Up to 20 seedlings may be given to one person.



Call before you go down to get your seedlings to make sure there are trees remaining for you. The number to the Bass Lake Ranger District is (559) 877-2218.

COMMUNITY BEAR HUNT GAME

Since the children of Cascadel Woods are home through the week, one of our residents, Kristen Fry, thought we might get in on the BEAR HUNT game.

All you have to do is place a stuffed bear or a picture of a bear in your window or outside on the lawn. Do this by **April 6, 2020.**

The children will simply walk around the subdivision for exercise and try to locate as many bears as they can. The game is meant to be fun. No prizes will be awarded. Thank you for participating in this fun event during this time of separation due to COVID-19. The game will end **April 24.** That gives you 3 weeks to find the bears.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- **April 6 – April 24 – BEAR HUNT GAME**
- **April 10 – CMWC Board Meeting**
POSTPONED TO MAY 8 TENTATIVELY
- **April 12 – Easter Sunday**
- **April 15 – Tax Day has been postponed to Jul 15**
- **April 18 – Firewise Work Day**
Tentatively meet at clubhouse 9AM
- **April 22 – Earth Day**

NEXT MONTH

- **May 2 – Firewise Preparedness Day**
Community event is postponed
- **May 8 – CMWC Board Meeting**
4:00PM Location to be determined
- **May 23 Memorial Day Weekend**

FROM THE EDITOR

We hope you enjoyed The Woods Newsletter. Send submissions for the May Newsletter by Apr. 24, 2020 to Carol Eggink at egginks@netptc.net.

Railey's Market in Oakhurst is offering drive up service. You call in your order at 559-683-8300. Follow directions given by the Store personnel.
Vons Market in Oakhurst is offering Tuesday and Thursday morning from 6-9AM shopping for seniors, pregnant women and other persons at high risk of infection.

Grocery Outlet in Oakhurst is offering assistance for those of you who have been laid off due to the COVID-19 virus. Go into the store and ask for Brandon or Jessica. Their phone is 559-683-2400. You can message them on facebook as well.

STAY SAFE EVERYONE.



NEED FOOD?

Californians are experiencing hardships as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. There are many resources in your community that can help.

Resources:



Ask a neighbor, family member, or friend for help

Reach out and request assistance with grocery shopping, food delivery, or for a tutorial on using your smartphone to order food to be dropped off safely.



Apply for assistance

Contact your county social services department for resources in your area, including CalFresh food assistance and In-Home Support Services, which includes meal assistance. Visit www.GetCalFresh.org and www.cdss.ca.gov/in-home-supportive-services to learn more.



Find local organizations offering support

Older adults can contact local senior centers or Area Agency on Aging (www.aging.ca.gov) to learn about options. You can also visit www.mealsonwheelsamerica.org for information on meal delivery in your area.

Students can check with their school district to learn about meal programs during closures.

Families can visit www.calwic.org for information on available resources.



Contact a food bank

Ask your local food bank if they have resources available for pick up or delivery to your home. Visit www.serve.ca.gov or www.cafoodbanks.org to find one near you.



Order food for delivery via phone

Many grocery stores and restaurants provide delivery services and there are many apps available to order from your phone.

Visit serve.ca.gov





WILDFIRE IS COMING

ARE YOU READY???

10 Low-Cost Retrofits to Your Home

ROOF

The roof is the most vulnerable part of your home. Homes with wood or shingle roofs are at high risk of being destroyed during a wildfire. Build your roof or re-roof with materials such as composition, metal or tile. Block any spaces between roof decking and covering to prevent embers from catching.

VENTS

Vents on homes create openings for flying embers.

Cover all vent openings with 1/16-inch to 1/8-inch metal mesh. Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh because they can melt and burn.

Protect vents in eaves or cornices with baffles to block embers (mesh is not enough).

EAVES & SOFFITS

Eaves & soffits should be protected with ignition-resistant or non-combustible materials.

WINDOWS

Heat from a wildfire can cause windows to break even before the home is on fire. This allows burning embers to enter and start fires inside. Single-paned and large windows are particularly vulnerable.

Install dual-paned windows with one pane of tempered glass to reduce the chance of breakage in a fire.

Consider limiting the size and number of windows that face large areas of vegetation.

WALLS

Wood products, such as boards, panels or shingles, are common siding materials. However, they are flammable and not good choices for fire-prone areas.

Build or remodel your walls with ignition resistant building materials such as stucco, fiber cement wall siding, fire retardant, treated wood, or other approved materials.

Be sure to extend materials from the foundation to the roof.

DECKS

Surfaces within 10 feet of the building should be built with ignition-resistant*, non-combustible, or other approved materials.

Ensure that all combustible items are removed from underneath your deck.

RAIN GUTTERS

Keep rain gutters clear or enclose rain gutters to prevent accumulation of plant debris.

PATIO COVER

Use the same ignition-resistant materials for patio coverings as a roof.

CHIMNEY

Cover your chimney and stovepipe outlets with a non-flammable screen. Use metal screen material with openings no smaller than 3/8-inch and no larger than 1/2-inch to prevent embers from escaping and igniting a fire.

GARAGE

Have a fire extinguisher and tools such as a shovel, rake, bucket, and hose available for fire emergencies.

Install weather stripping around and under the garage door to prevent embers from blowing in.

Store all combustible and flammable liquids away from ignition sources.

FENCES

Consider using ignition-resistant* or non-combustible fence materials to protect your home during a wildfire.

DRIVEWAYS & ACCESS ROADS

Driveways should be built and maintained in accordance with state and local codes to allow fire and emergency vehicles to reach your home. Consider maintaining access roads with a minimum of 10 feet of clearance on either side, allowing for two-way traffic.

Ensure that all gates open inward and are wide enough to accommodate emergency equipment.

Trim trees and shrubs overhanging the road to allow emergency vehicles to pass.

ADDRESS

Make sure your address is clearly visible from the road.

WATER SUPPLY

Consider having multiple garden hoses that are long enough to reach all areas of your home and other structures on your property. If you have a pool or well, consider getting a pump.