



SPARKS of Interest

Newsletter # 4



SEPTEMBER 24 COMMUNITY GATHERING

About a dozen people attended the gathering at the Sheridan Fire Station.

JoAnn Alcon-Ortiz, Farm Bureau Financial Services Agent, spoke to those present. It is important to ascertain if your current homeowners insurance company will RENEW your coverage. Many are canceling because of the recent wildfires.

Daniel Atencio, Captain of the Sheridan Fire Station spoke of individual safety. If you have a fire, do not fight it yourself, call 911, leave your property and let the firefighters do their job. Keep your property manicured. Currently owners are responsible for keeping their property cleared.

Attendees broke into groups and discussed 3 questions: where they were vulnerable; what they needed; and how would they make their homes defensible (see following boxes).

Gertrude and Eugene Johe won the \$50 Big R gift certificate.

QUESTION 1: WHERE IS YOUR HOME MOST VULNERABLE TO WILDFIRE?

- tall grasses and weeds
- trees and ridge
- wooden deck
- deck furniture/cushions
- mulch
- roadside grass
- scrub oak
- grass under propane tank
- flower garden
- pine needles
- wind
- neighbor's slash/weeds

QUESTION 2: WHAT WILL YOU NEED?

- Tools: chainsaw, weed wacker, rakes, shovels, helpers
- home assessment (neighbor/forester)
- HOA roadside weed control responsibility for easements
- communal roadside clearance
- dead tree on Roadrunner removed
- identify high combustible trees & shrubs
- make a personal defense plan
- place to take slash, etc.
- develop community compost pile
- MONEY

**QUESTION 3: WHERE (HOW) WILL I
BEGIN TO MAKE MY HOME
DEFENSIBLE, STARTING
IMMEDIATELY?**

- 30 ft clearance of trees and shrubs around house and other structures
- remove flammable materials from around house (i.e. wood piles)
- thin trees
- remove branches up to 5ft from ground
- clean gutters
- use weed wacker
- clear 10ft area around propane tank

E911 Reflective Road Signs

E911 numbers are for Emergency first responders and **are still available for purchase**. (This may or may not be your actual postal address). Numerals indicate the distance from the beginning of each road, (i.e. 26 on Mirasol means .26 miles from its beginning at CRA20).

Call (707) 462-1085 to get your E911 reflective sign. Only \$6.

We want to acknowledge all our neighbors who have put up their reflective signs, cleared their easements and are starting to cut down trees, shrubs, etc



Also, many thanks to those homeowners who have made a donation to the HOA Fire Safety Committee. This will enable us to continue our work of meeting with local officials, gathering resources and helping to prepare our sub-division against future wildfires.

FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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