

February 28, 2020

<<Full Name>>
<<Address Line 1>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<ZIP Code>>

RE: <<APN>>
<<Property Address>>

Dear Property Owner

Collaborative efforts are key to building fire resilient communities. You play a vital role in keeping not only your property safe, but your neighborhood safe. This year, the Santa Clara County Fire Department will be hosting wildfire preparedness workshops with special presentations by The California Department of Insurance and PG&E. Please see the enclosed flyer for more information.

Creating and maintaining defensible space around your property increases the chances of your home and other structures surviving a wildfire. Defensible space is the buffer created around a structure when combustible vegetation is removed or reduced. This buffer space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and can also protect your home from catching fire - either from direct flame or radiant heat.

Your property is in the **Very High Fire Hazard** Severity Zone of the Wildland Urban Interface Area (WUI) and requires **100 feet** of defensible space from all structures. Your area's specific enforced safety regulations include:

Enforced Safety Regulations (Items A - F)

- A. Create **100 feet** of defensible space around the home, clear all flammable vegetation a **minimum of 30 feet** around structures, and create a reduced fuel zone for the remaining **70 feet**.
- B. Remove pine needles, leaves, and other dead vegetation from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.
- C. Trim tree limbs 10 feet from chimneys and stove pipes; remove dead limbs that hang over rooftops.
- D. Remove all non-fire-resistive vegetation a minimum of 10 feet on each side of a fire apparatus access road or driveway.
- E. Cover chimney outlets or flues with a 1/2" mesh spark arrester.
- F. Post a clearly visible house address, using at least 4" high numbers, for easy identification. For homes located more than 50 feet from the street, post address numbers at the driveway entrance.

Additional Safety Recommendations

- Create and maintain a 0 to 5 feet noncombustible zone around all structures. **(see below)*
- Clear 10 feet around and 15 feet above fuels (e.g. woodpiles, lumber, scrap, etc.) Move all woodpiles as far away as possible from structures.
- Clear vegetation and other combustible material from underneath decks. Enclose elevated decks with fire-resistive materials.
- Trees 18 feet or taller should be limbed up 6 feet from the ground. Provide additional vertical clearance when trees have vegetation beneath it.

**The Town of Los Gatos recently enacted new municipal codes which will enhance the safety of WUI residents. For all new construction, the Town now mandates a noncombustible area of 5 feet from structures. The Town also enacted State legislation which recognizes the importance of neighbors maintaining defensible space across property lines in certain instances. For more info. about wildfire safety in Los Gatos visit www.losgatosca.gov/2581/Be-Wildfire-Ready.*

<<APN>> <<TRA>>

<<Full Name>>
<<Address Line 1>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<ZIP Code>>

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
ATTN: FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION
14700 WINCHESTER BOULEVARD
LOS GATOS, CA 95032-1818**

Owner Responsibilities:

1. You have the option to complete the required work yourself, hire your own contractor, or you may elect to schedule the authorized contractor to perform the work. If you choose to have the authorized contractor perform the work, the charges will appear on your next property tax bill.
2. Please complete the attached information card to report the current status of your property and return before April 1, 2020.

Inspection Schedule:

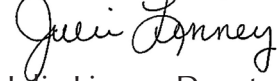
On April 1, 2020, Santa Clara County Fire Department will begin conducting property inspections. Property owners not in compliance will be notified of what work needs to be completed to comply with the Enforced Safety Regulations. Please contact us if you are unable to complete the required work due to late season rains or other special circumstance.

On June 1, 2020, we will begin conducting re-inspections of the properties that were out of compliance at the time of the first property inspection. Properties must comply with the Enforced Safety Regulations (Items A, B, C and D) otherwise the compliance work will be completed by the **Town of Los Gatos'** authorized contractor and the charges for this service will appear on your next property tax bill.

If you would like to schedule a courtesy property inspection, have questions regarding the safety compliance of your property or for more information about the upcoming wildfire preparedness workshops, please contact the Fire Prevention Division at 408.378.4010.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to establish a fire resilient community.

Sincerely,


 Julie Linney, Deputy Chief
 Fire Prevention Division

Resources and Information

- California Department of Insurance: www.insurance.ca.gov • 800.927.4357**
Provides information about all types of insurance, including insurance coverage and limits for high fire risk areas
- Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E): www.PGE.com • 800.743.5000**
Services include courtesy gas appliance inspections, energy conservation, tree management and electrical safety near power lines
- Santa Clara County Fire Department: www.SCCFD.org • 408.378.4010**
Offers community education and risk reduction programs, including fire safety, injury prevention, disaster and wildfire preparedness
- Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council: www.SCCFireSafe.org • 408.975.9591**
Protects and educates communities at risk from wildfire through fuel reduction programs, outreach and community planning efforts
- Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management: www.SCCgov.org/sites/oes • 408.808.7800**
Coordinates county-wide all hazards preparedness, including AlertSCC Emergency Alert System and ReadySCC Mobile App

Please Complete and Return

I have received the annual Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Enforced Safety Regulations letter related to flammable vegetation abatement. The current status of my property is as follows:

- I have inspected my property for flammable vegetation clearance and believe it complies with the Enforced Safety Regulations. I understand that an inspection of my property may be conducted to verify compliance.
- I will remove flammable vegetation around all structures on my property in accordance with the Enforced Safety Regulations no later than **June 1, 2020**. I understand that if the required work is not completed, the authorized contractor may complete the work and the charges will appear on my next property tax bill.
- I authorize the designated contractor to enter my property and clear all flammable vegetation to comply with the Enforced Safety Regulations. I understand the charges to complete this work will appear on my next property tax bill.
- I would like to schedule a courtesy inspection of my property with the Santa Clara County Fire Department for recommendations of the work needed to comply with the Enforced Safety Regulations.
- I am no longer the owner of this property. There are no structures on this property.

Name (print clearly): _____ **Date:** _____

Phone: (_____) _____ **Email:** _____

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOPS 2020



Learn How to Reduce Wildfire Risk and Better Prepare Your Home, Your Family and Your Neighborhood

SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

- ▶ Red Flag Warnings and Responding to Extreme Fire Conditions
- ▶ Creating Defensible Space and Fire Safe Landscaping
- ▶ Making Your Home More Fire Resistant
- ▶ Creating a Wildfire Action Plan
- ▶ Evacuation Planning
- ▶ Programs and Services to Build Fire Resilient Communities

For more information, visit www.sccfd.org

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
APRIL 1 WEDNESDAY	Los Altos Hills Town Hall 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills	6:30 - 8:00 pm
APRIL 8 WEDNESDAY	Pavillion @ Redwood Estates 21450 Madrone Drive, Los Gatos	6:30 - 8:00 pm
APRIL 9 THURSDAY	Joan Pisani Community Center 19655 Allendale Avenue, Saratoga	6:30 - 8:00 pm
APRIL 21 TUESDAY	Addison-Penzak Jewish Community Center 14855 Oka Road, Los Gatos	6:30 - 8:00 pm
APRIL 29 WEDNESDAY	Cupertino Community Hall 10350 Torre Avenue, Cupertino	6:30 - 8:00 pm

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS BY:

Understanding Homeowners Insurance in High Fire Risk Areas

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE



- ▶ Homeowners Insurance Basics
- ▶ Shopping for Insurance
- ▶ Insurance Coverage and Limits
- ▶ What to Do After a Loss
- ▶ Insurability in High Risk Areas
- ▶ What Rural Landowners Should Know

For more information, visit www.insurance.ca.gov

Community Wildfire Safety and Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)

PACIFIC, GAS & ELECTRIC (PG&E)



- ▶ Monitoring for the Threat of Wildfire
- ▶ Vegetation Management and Safety Inspections
- ▶ Infrastructure and System Upgrades
- ▶ PSPSs from Early Warning to Restoration
- ▶ How to Register for PSPS Alerts and Notifications
- ▶ How to Access PG&E Community Resource Centers

For more information, visit www.pge.com

REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE.COM OR CALL (408) 378-4010

SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT | (408) 378-4010 | WWW.SCCFD.ORG

Proudly serving Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga and the surrounding unincorporated communities.



West Valley Cities and Lexington Basin/Summit Communities 2020 Chipping Program Schedule

The Defensible Space Chipping Program
is a **FREE** service provided by the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council



To participate in the Community Chipping Program, visit www.SCCFireSafe.org and select the **PREPARE** menu tab. Please complete and submit the online application when piles are stacked and ready to be chipped.

Due Date	Community	Project Type
April 13	Hutchinson Rd/ Summit Rd — West of Hwy 17	At Home
April 13	Summit Rd/ Melody Ln / Mountain Charlie Rd	At Home
April 19	Montevina Rd/ Brush Rd/ Hillside Dr	At Home
April 19	Redwood Lodge Rd/ Summit Woods Dr	At Home
April 25	Redwood Estates — Day 1	Drive-up
April 26	Beardsley Rd/ Black Rd/ Thompson Rd/ Gist Rd	At Home
April 26	Highland Rd/ Longridge Rd/ Stetson Rd	At Home
May 10	Chemeketa Park	At Home & Community Pile
May 11	Aldercroft Heights/ Lupin Lodge/ Soda Springs Rd	At Home
May 11	Los Gatos – Below the Dam	At Home
May 17	Bear Creek Rd/ Bear Creek Stables	At Home
May 17	Summit Rd — Near Loma Prieta/ Villa Del Monte	At Home
May 24	Saratoga/ Cupertino/ Los Gatos Foothill Areas	At Home
June 6	Redwood Estates — Day 2	Drive-up
June 7	Gillette Dr/ Call of the Wild/ OSCH — Between Holy City & Summit Rd	At Home
June 7	Oakmont Dr/ Wright Dr / OSCH — Between Holy City & Hwy 17	At Home & Community Pile

Project Types

Drive-up: Bring cut fuel to a designated location and chipping is done on the spot.

At Home: Chipping is done house to house. Chipping application must be submitted & piles must be ready by the due date. Chipping will occur within 3 weeks of the due date; **do not** place additional material in piles after the due date.

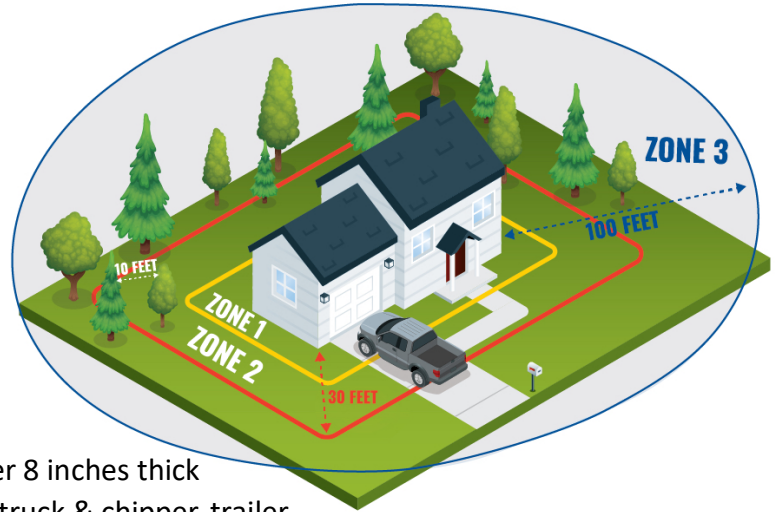
All hazardous fuel reduction programs are supported by local donations, which are greatly appreciated!

Donations are accepted @ www.SCCFireSafe.org or by mail:
Santa Clara County FireSafe Council 14380 Saratoga Avenue, Saratoga CA 95070

CHIPPING PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

DO

- Maintain Defensible Space
 - Zone 1:** 5 ft. non-combustion zone from house
 - Clear 10 ft. around chimneys
 - Remove limbs overhanging on roofs
 - Zone 2:** 30 ft. clean & green zone
 - Reduce fuel 30 ft. from roads
 - Clear 14 ft. above & 12 ft. wide on driveway
 - Zone 3:** 100 ft. reduced fuel zone
- Piles must be located on the uphill side of the road or driveway
- Piles must be hand stacked & limbs must be under 8 inches thick
- Pile location must be safely accessible for a large truck & chipper trailer (narrow and/or steep driveways may not be serviceable)
- Piles must be within 5 ft. of the chipper location & less than 4 ft. in height
- Cut ends must face the same direction and point out toward the chipper location
- Chips will be blown back onto the property or hauled away at the contractor's discretion
- Make sure street address is clearly visible from the road (min. 4" high numbers)
- Notify SCCFSC if you have dogs, loose dogs may prevent chipping



DO NOT

- No timber harvest debris, vineyard or orchard waste
- No poison oak, ivy, or blackberry vines. No broom or acacia with seed pods or other invasive plant materials
- No piles of leaves, pine needles or yard clippings. Only woody brush/branches
- No non-compostable materials (painted or preserved lumber, trash, metal, wire, etc.)
- No palm fronds, roots, stumps, rocks or mud

Note: 100 ft. reduced fuel zone required by law in State Responsibility Areas, and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in Local Responsibility Areas. For details about 30 ft. zones, go to www.SCCFireSafe.org

PG&E Services



When clearing trees, check for power lines on or near your property. PG&E's qualified tree contractors may be able to prune or remove trees near high voltage lines for free.

To request this PG&E service, call: [800.743.5000](tel:800.743.5000)

Note: Cal/OSHA requires certified line clearance tree workers to perform any tree work within 10 ft. of high voltage power lines.



For more information about Santa Clara County FireSafe Council's Defensible Space Chipping Program, service availability, or for further assistance, please visit: www.SCCFireSafe.org or call 408.975.9591



ENFORCED SAFETY REGULATIONS

FOR WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI) ZONES:

HIGH OR MODERATE FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY WUI ZONES:

Cupertino, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga and unincorporated County areas

- 🔥 Create **30 feet** of defensible space around your home. To accomplish this, you must clear all flammable vegetation a **minimum of 30 feet** around structures.
- 🔥 Clear dead leaves and branches from shrubs and trees.
- 🔥 Remove pine needles and leaves from roof, eaves and rain gutters.
- 🔥 Trim tree limbs 10 ft. from chimneys or stovepipes and remove dead limbs that hang over rooftops.
- 🔥 Cover chimney outlets or flues with a 1/2" mesh spark arrestor.
- 🔥 Ensure address numbers are at least 4" tall and clearly visible from street. For homes located more than 50 feet from street, post address numbers at the driveway entrance.

IN ADDITION, VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY WUI ZONES MUST:

Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Saratoga and all unincorporated County areas in State Responsibility Areas

- 🔥 Create **100 feet** of defensible space around your home. To accomplish this, create a Green Zone by clearing all flammable vegetation **30 feet** around structures and create a reduced fuel zone for the remaining **70 feet** or to your property line.

FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Complete this form and place it where it is accessible by every household member. Keep duplicate copies of this information in your vehicles and emergency supply kits.

IN CASE OF EVACUATION, WE WILL MEET AT:

OUT-OF-AREA EMERGENCY CONTACT:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

www.sccfd.org/rsg

Learn more about Ready, Set, Go:

www.sccfd.org/rsg

Contact Us:

Register for AlertSCC
Emergency Notifications at
www.alertscc.com

Email us at
info@sccfd.org

For non-emergencies,
call (408) 378-4010



FOR EMERGENCIES, CALL 911

SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT



A California Fire Protection District serving Santa Clara County and the communities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno and Saratoga.

BE READY for a wildfire with...



READY, SET, GO.



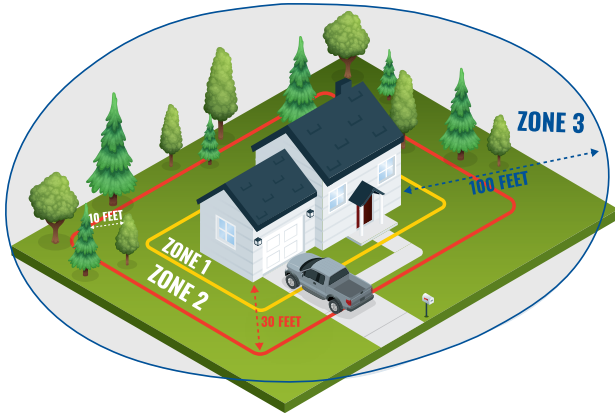
www.sccfd.org/rsg

READY

Being ready for wildfires starts with maintaining a good defensible space and hardening your home to fire risks. **READY, SET, GO** is a national campaign to help property owners like you prepare for threats of wildfires.

THREE-ZONE DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Create a three-zone defensible space by removing dead plants, grass and weeds from your property.



Zone 1 extends 0-5 feet out: Remove all plants and vegetation, especially those touching your home.

Zone 2 extends 30 feet out: Remove all dead vegetation from your yard and keep branches at least 10 feet away from your home.

Zone 3 extends 100 feet out: Keep at least 10-feet of spacing between shrubs and trees.

HARDEN YOUR HOME

Flying embers can destroy homes up to a mile away from a wildfire. Harden your home by using ember-resistant materials.

- Roof:** Build your roof or re-roof with materials such as composition, metal or tile.
- Windows:** Install dual-paned windows with tempered glass to reduce the chance of breakage in a fire.
- Deck:** Use ignition-resistant and non-combustible materials, and ensure all combustible items are removed from underneath your deck.

SET

Before wildfire strikes, it is important that you prepare yourself and your family for the possibility of having to evacuate.

WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN

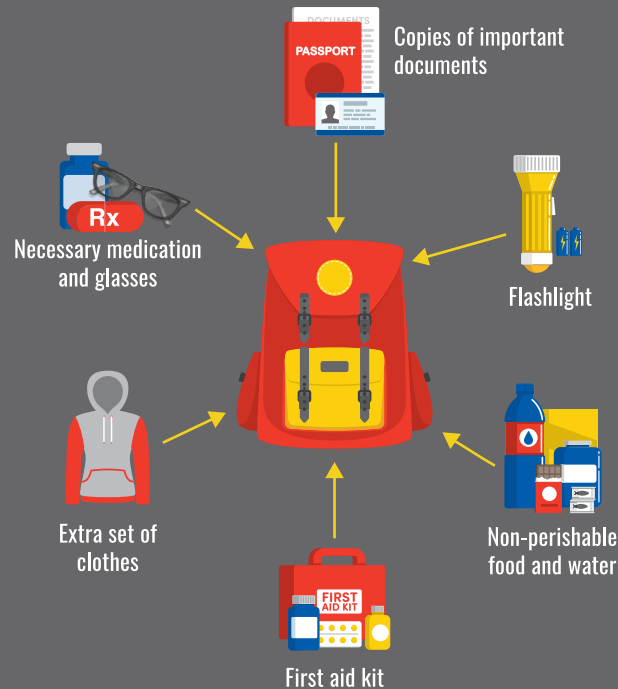
Wildfire action plans include several elements that define how to get out of dangerous areas, where you and your family will meet if separated, and how you will stay in contact.

Simple plans should include:

- ▶ Designating an emergency meeting location outside of fire or hazard areas.
- ▶ Identifying several different escape routes from your home and community.
- ▶ Developing a family communications plan that designates an out-of-area friend or relative as a single point of contact.

EMERGENCY KIT

Prepare an emergency kit to grab and go when needed. Below are essential items that should be in your kit.



GO

Be ready and act early. Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your household the best chance of surviving a wildfire or disaster. Stay informed and leave early to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Don't wait to be ordered by authorities to leave.

STAY IN CONTACT



If you evacuate, notify your out-of-area contact to give them a status update. Let them know what route you're taking and where you are planning to go. Provide updates as routes and plans change.

IF YOU ARE TRAPPED...

- 🔥 Stay calm and keep your family together.
- 🔥 Call 911 to let them know where you are and what your situation is.
- 🔥 If you're at home, stay inside, keep doors and windows closed and unlocked.
- 🔥 If you're in a vehicle, park it in an area clear of vegetation.
- 🔥 If smoke is around you, stay as close to the ground as possible and cover your face with a mask, bandana or breathable clothing.

