

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 2

SPRING 2020

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FIREWISE
COMMUNITY
UPDATE

The preliminary work to become a certified Firewise Community is complete and we expect certification within – fingers crossed - two months. We will let you know!

In the meantime, please keep track of the hours and money you spend on wildfire preparedness in 2020. No receipts are required. Tracking money and hours spent on fire safety work is a yearly requirement to maintain our certification.

[Click here](#) for examples of work and expenses that can be counted.



Ceanothus

6B AND FRIENDS FIREWISE COMMUNITY



Manzanita

HELLO SPRING

Although almost everything is on hold right now (are you bored yet?), don't tell that to Spring. Our beautiful neighborhood is bursting with life and color. To celebrate the positive, we'll skip the photos of fire hydrants, tractors and water tanks in this edition of the 6B and Friends newsletter and delight you with photos by Lauren Drutz of native birds, flowers and our neighborhood in all its Spring glory.

Of course, this *is* a fire prevention and education forum, so let's get down to it. Fire season does not care about the corona virus. It does not care about the hours at Raley's, DoorDash logistics or whether you're washing your hands properly. It is marching toward us regardless of what we humans are dealing with right now. So, let's get ready. Read on for information and inspiration.

ON HOLD

- McCourtney area fire drill: CalFire officials have not decided whether to conduct the multi-agency fire drill originally scheduled for June 28. Stand by for more information.
- 6B and Friends Firewise general meeting: Scheduled for May 17 at Wild Eyed Pub. We will keep an eye on health advisories as we get closer to the date.
- Defensible Space Advisory Visits: Suspended.

IT'S A GO

- Free Green Waste Drop Weekends: Six are scheduled from May 17-June 23. More info to come.
- 6B Road Committee workday— end of July. Hopefully, this annual event will still take place

BOB'S CHECKLIST

Bob Long, chair of the Nevada County Coalition of Firewise Communities, has some wise advice about what you can do now to move forward in your fire protection efforts:

1. Make sure all vents are screened in with

EVACUATION ROUTES POSTED



The 6B and Friends Firewise Committee has finalized evacuation routes out of our neighborhood in the event of an emergency. They are posted on our website [here](#).

The most important thing to know about these routes is that they are suggestions contingent upon the advice of authorities and the physical conditions at the time of evacuation. Wind, smoke, time of day and other realities will inform how you evacuate.
Redbud

The best way to prepare for an evacuation is to become familiar with these routes and others you may discover - in advance. We've said it before: Take a Sunday drive and get lost. Explore, plan and be prepared.

- Sign up for [CodeRed](#).
- Don't wait to be told to evacuate. If you suspect a fire, leave!
- Keep supplies such as wire cutters, flashlights and a Go Bag with food (human and pet), water, protective clothing and sturdy shoes in your car.
- If you have animals, plan how you will evacuate them.

IF YOU NEED A PRO

Note that vegetation management is considered an essential business that is still allowed under the law. Tree and brush-clearing services are still operating.

[Click here](#) for the latest corona virus information in Nevada County.



Trillium

1/8th-inch wire mesh.

2. Clean out underneath your decks, and if your deck is low to the ground (3 to 4 feet), screen it in.

3. Begin the chore of clearing a 5-foot zone around your home, deck included.

In a wind-blown fire, embers will blow up against your home and fall to the ground, igniting any debris build-up around the foundation.

Current National Fire Protection Association guidance is to harden a 5-foot non-combustible zone around your home. This means no leaves, only non-combustible mulch. Shrubs are discouraged, but a well-irrigated lawn and low-growing herbaceous (non-woody) plants are OK.

4. Limb up all trees to 15 feet and be sure to clear limbs from trees within 10 feet of your chimney. For short trees, limb up 1/3 of the tree.

5. Clear your gutters and blow the leaves from all valleys and overhangs on your roof.



Anna's hummingbirds

LEAN ON ME

These are strange times and we need each other more than ever. If you are able to help a neighbor with fire protection work, or anything else for that matter, maintaining the safe distances and practices we all know about, fantastic.

If you have an urgent fire safety issue, please contact one of the committee members listed below.

If you would like to receive occasional emails about other happenings in the neighborhood, please email Lynn Forbes at lynnfrbs1@yahoo.com.

6B AND FRIENDS FIREWISE COMMITTEE

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