



6B & Friends

A Firewise Community

Spring 2024 Newsletter

Welcome to the Spring Edition of the 6B and Friends Quarterly Newsletter!

After a pleasantly mild winter that spared us from significant challenges, we find ourselves on the brink of an energetic spring. As we welcome this season of renewal, we're also mindful of the impending fire season and the need to stay vigilant in safeguarding our community. Let's unite to ensure our homes and surroundings receive adequate protection. It's time to revisit evacuation plans, clear defensible spaces, and educate ourselves on fire prevention measures. Together, we can protect our cherished community and maintain its natural beauty for future generations.

In the spirit of rejuvenation, we're excited to reveal our updated appearance and the introduction of a new logo. This revitalized emblem reflects the dynamic essence of our community, echoing our shared dedication to enhancing and conserving our natural environment. Accompanying this visual transformation, we're delighted to welcome Faith Yamamoto and Jim Richards as the newest members of our committee team. Their steadfast commitment and expertise in community stewardship and fire safety advocacy will undoubtedly enhance our collective efforts.

Update on Fire Hydrant Pipe Repair



Residents can breathe a sigh of relief as the recent hydrant pipe repair has been successfully completed. Upon the revelation of a damaged pipe in the pond at Thoroughbred Loop and Khalid Court, concerns emerged regarding possible water supply issues to the hydrant. Swift action and prioritization by our firewise committee led to the hiring of Big Valley Divers. They quickly diagnosed and fixed the pipe ensuring the restoration of water flow to the hydrant and the safety of the community. Special thanks to our neighbors; Bill Athow, Chris Cidonio, Lauren Drutz, Jim Delwiche, Mary Lascheck and Jim Walters! (Please note that this pipe is not related to the overflow drain pipe and culvert)

Help Us Continue with Fire Protection Efforts

In 2019, our community united to refurbish three neglected fire hydrants, aiming for Firewise Community certification. Generous donations of \$15,120 from 28 neighbors funded the project. Skilled contractors and dedicated volunteers tackled issues like broken hydrant valves, damaged pipes, electrical systems and essential upgrades, including a new water level monitoring device for the Ponderosa water tank. After the most recent fire hydrant pipe repair, approximately \$3,300 remains in the account.



We're always seeking volunteers to contribute their time and expertise to these vital tasks. Whether it's maintenance work, pond monitoring, or assisting with grant applications, every contribution helps enhance our community's safety and infrastructure. We invite anyone interested in volunteering or providing financial support to reach out. Your involvement is key to our ongoing efforts to improve the safety and resilience of our community. Let's work together to make a positive impact!

Nevada County Firewise Festival Fundraiser

Please join us at the
**Nevada County
Firewise Festival
Fundraiser!**
Proceeds benefit Firewise Communities

**FIRE SAFE
COUNCIL**
<https://www.areyoufiresafe.com>

- Dinner by Bill's Chuckwagon ▪ Live Music
- Guest Speakers ▪ Vendor Booths ▪ Recognition
- Educational Demonstrations ▪ Awards ▪ CAL FIRE
- NevCo Consolidated Fire ▪ Fire Safe Council
- NevCo Sheriff's Office ▪ Live and Silent Auctions

Tickets on Sale NOW on Fire Safe Council website!

FREE Parking!

**SATURDAY
JUNE 1, 2024
4PM – 9PM
LAKE WILDWOOD**



The upcoming Firewise Festival on June 1st at Lake Wildwood presents an opportunity for our community to raise funds for firewise projects. We encourage you to consider purchasing tickets and attending this enjoyable fire resiliency event.

The event includes dinner, two drink tickets, live music, vendor booths, live and silent auctions, as well as participation from CAL Fire, Animal Evacuation, and Nevada County OES officials. Tickets are priced at \$50 each until May 15th, after which prices will increase to \$65. All net proceeds from the Festival directly benefit Firewise Communities of Nevada County.

For more information and to purchase tickets go to:
<https://www.areyoufiresafe.com/events-1>

Spring Burn Piles: Tips for Safe Management

As spring unfolds and the weather warms, many of us are eager to tackle outdoor projects, including clearing away winter debris. However, when it comes to burn piles, it's essential to prioritize safety and responsible management practices. Here are some guidelines to help you manage your burn pile safely this spring:

Check Burn Day Status: Before igniting your burn pile, always verify if it's a designated burn day in your area. Visit [MyAirDistrict.com](https://www.mylasvegas.com/MyAirDistrict.com) or call 530-274-7928 to ensure compliance with local regulations.

Prepare the Area: Create a safe zone around your burn pile by maintaining a 10-foot diameter area cleared down to bare soil, free of any flammable materials.

Burn Only Dry, Dead Material: Limit your burn pile to dry, dead materials such as leaves, pine needles, and tree trimmings. Avoid burning anything that is green or moist.

Have Safety Equipment on Hand: Keep a water source and shovel nearby at all times to quickly extinguish any unexpected flare-ups.

Monitor the Fire: Never leave your burn pile unattended. Ensure that an adult is present to tend to the fire and monitor its progress at all times.

Consider Weather Conditions: Check the weather forecast before burning and avoid igniting your pile on windy days. Burning between 9 am and 3 pm helps maximize smoke dispersion and minimizes potential impacts on air quality.

Extinguish Properly: Once you've finished burning, fully extinguish the coals with water to prevent any smoldering embers from reigniting.

By adhering to these guidelines and exercising caution, you can enjoy the benefits of burn piles while minimizing the risk of accidents and environmental harm. Let's work together to ensure a safe and responsible approach to managing burn piles this spring. For more information see "Practice Safe Burning" below or go to: <https://www.nevadacountyca.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=4336&ARC=7311>

Fire Preparedness Activities to Consider Before Fire Season

As we approach fire season, it's crucial to undertake preparedness activities to ensure the safety of our community. Here are a few initiatives you can take part in:

Utilize the Fire Safe Council's Free Chipping Program: Take advantage of this free program financed by CAL Fire to reduce fire hazards around your property. Visit www.oneyoufiresafe.com/programs/chipping-program for more information.

Practice Safe Burning: Cover burn piles during rainstorms to keep them dry and minimize smoke when burning. Remember to check for "permissive burn days" by calling 530-274-7928 before burning. Details are available at www.nevadacountyca.gov/2753/Burn-Permits.

Attend a Free Burn Workshop: Nevada County Resource Conservation District offers free burn workshops to educate the community on safe burning practices. Check out their events calendar at <https://www.ncrcd.org/events-calendar?month=2024-04>.

Ongoing Educational Resources

Stay informed with these ongoing educational resources:

Free Advisory Visit: Landowners interested in natural resources management can benefit from free advisory visits. Learn more at <https://www.ncrcd.org/advisory-visit-program>

Defensible Space Advisory Visit (DSAV) program provides a one-on-one consultation at your home with a trained Volunteer Advisor from the Fire Safe Council. The Advisor will walk around your home with you and provide friendly, knowledgeable advice on what you can do to reduce the threat of losing your home in a wildfire <https://www.areyoufiresafe.com/programs/defensible-space-advisory-visit-dsav>

Wildfire Prevention Talks: Tune in to [KNCO 94.1 FM](#) or [830 AM](#) every third Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. to hear retired CAL Fire chief, Jim Mathias, discuss wildfire prevention.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our community safe and resilient against wildfires!

The 6B and Friends Firewise Committee:

Lauren Drutz • Stephen Senatore • Jason Rowe • Jim Walters • Lynn Forbes

Allison Rapp • Roger Miller • Faith Yamamoto • Jim Richards

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