



NOTES

Countywide Firewise Community Leaders Meeting

April 7, 2023 | 10am-2pm | Goodtimes Pizza, Palo Cedro

Gene Randall – FM Alert

- The Sheriff is very committed to getting the program working
- PG & E awarded a \$50,000 grant to support the purchase / training / implementation of devices
- They need to be programmed to each specific area
- Approximately 10 areas currently have the devices
- It does not work like a scanner
- The Sheriff department wants to hand the system over to FireWise, so there will be two training days in May
- Dustin Warren is the main contact for this program
- Questions:
 - Can the volume be increased? That is a manufacture issue
 - How does the testing happen? Announcements will be made on Facebook
 - How do people sign up / how many residents already have them?
 - Who gets financial assistance? Low income or those without cell phone service
 - Do devices report back information / results? No
 - How to deal with power / holding charge issues? Contact the manufacturer
 - Is the cost still \$99? Probably but may have increased some

Jesse Penland – USFS

- Received a grant for \$2,500 to provide fire prevention education
- Shasta – Trinity National Forest Day
 - May 6th, 2023
 - 10am – 4pm
 - Visit each booth, mark it in passport, that enters you for drawing of power tools

Grants – John Livingston, Richard Karem, Dennis Possehn

- 3 grants have been submitted and 1 \$5,000 request
- The hope is to have more funding to promote FireWise and their events
- 2 Cal Fire grants
 - Curbside chipping – 6 yrs, approx. \$563K
 - Dusty Oaks and Happy Valley egress / ingress - \$1.89 million
- Chipping program
 - Currently have \$12,000 which covers 6-8 chipper days (2 days per community)
 - FW helps organize the days in coordination with SCFSC
 - Applications will be both paper and online
 - Strongly suggested to have a representative from the community be with the chipping crew all day to help with traffic control, talking with residents, mapping, etc.
- Mapping, fuels reduction
 - Create a map to show past, present, and future areas
 - Show location of each FW community
 - Members can send existing maps to Richard (either paper or digital)

WSRCD

- Currently the fuel break areas remain clear for 4 or 5 yrs but then the vegetation becomes thick again
- There now are maintenance programs in conjunction with the removals so the areas stay clear longer
- Currently working on 200 acres in China Gulch
 - Initially started in 2018, now have 5 yr extension in coordination with Cal Fire
- Projects are listed on Builders Exchange and website for contractors to bid
- When the program is using federal funds it must be awarded to the lowest bid
- Contractors must be bonded, etc
- Currently have a small amount of money for Zogg, Salt, and Fawn fire areas
 - Small projects, fuels breaks, erosion control
- Working on a wildlife and pollinator habitat program
- RCD is available to evaluate areas for fuel reduction needs

SCFSC Reports

- Contact Dennis for project requests
 - Location, type of project, type of fuel, size of project, map
- Project Evaluation Template
 - Get it from Doug Young
 - Put it on website
 - Show progress reports and pictures
- County Coordinator
 - Grant for \$175K
 - Coordinates projects with Cal Fire, etc
 - Identifies perspective resources and grants

- Community outreach education grant
- County coordinator capital walk to show legislation the support of FireWise communities
- Trailer / Education
 - Has contracted with someone to haul the trailer to events
 - Current grant includes funds for more banners, tents, AV and PA systems
 - Increasing library of videos
 - Working to create awards from SCFSC for successful homeowners

Needs of the communities

- Fall River would like an online map that could be interactive / have different layers based on information needed, provided, levels of fuel intensity, locations of communities
- Whispering Woods has an online time investment program
 - Maybe Lassen or Plumas could provide a countywide training about their online form
- Happy Valley would like education programs for K-8
 - UC cooperative extension has \$20K grant
 - Project Learning Tree
 - Day of Forestry Institute for teachers
 - Butte County has a good kids program
 - Jesse Penland is involved with school programs
- Dusty Oaks reviewed how they have been so successful
- Have more video links on the website (ex. Paul Durland)
- Are there grants available to help homeowners with costs incurred due to insurance company demands
 - RCD is working on this
- Shasta Forest Village would like weather resistant signs
 - Can communities be linked through the website?
 - Send accomplishment reports to the insurance companies as a group for more impact
- Dusty Oaks – ISO sets standards for neighborhoods
 - Don Watt 530-225-2401
- Group wants quarterly meetings