

PRESS RELEASE

Plumas County Fire Safe Council Meeting 10/13/11

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council's regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at the Plumas County Planning & Building Services office, located at 555 Main Street in Quincy, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

At the October meeting the Council will be discussing, progress towards current wildfire mitigation projects and implementation of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Many Plumas County residents anxiously wait to begin their annual ritual of open burning in the fall, when the burn ban is lifted. Residents usually burn piles that were created over the summer from establishing or maintaining their defensible space. Unlike other counties, Plumas open burning is still permitted in most of the County. Fire Safe Council members want to encourage Plumas County residents that when burning, in the coming beautiful fall days, to do so safely and help reduce smoke impacts in your community. One of the best ways to create less smoke is to burn only dry cured fuels. It is best to cover your piles, that have cured all summer, with a waterproof material before the rains occur so that the material burns hotter and more quickly. Any plastic covering material should be removed before igniting the pile. Covering a pile insures the piles are dry and consequently will burn faster, hotter and consume more of the material, as wet wood takes longer to burn, requires additional chunking and produces more smoke. Burning during periods of wet weather will also lessen the risk of an escape and the distance smoke travels. The worst thing residents can do is to wait until it rains and then try to burn wet uncovered piles, or worse rake up wet needles and leaves and try to burn them in a pile that will smolder for hours or days.

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council is a coalition of citizens, businesses and representatives from local, state, and federal government agencies, which share a common interest in preventing loss of life and minimizing loss of property from wildland fires. The mission of the Fire Safe Council is: ***“To reduce the loss of natural and manmade resources caused by wildfire through Firewise Community programs and pre-fire activities.”***

For more information on our Council, Plumas County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan, and other fire safe information, visit our website at www.plumasfiresafe.org.