

PRESS RELEASE

**Plumas County Fire Safe Council Meeting 5/14/09**

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council's (PC FSC) regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14, 2009 at the Plumas County Planning & Building Services office, located at 555 Main Street in Quincy, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

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

Fire Safe Council members are encouraging residents to create and maintain their defensible space and make their home Fire Safe. Homeowners need to also assess their home's ability to survive an ember blizzard from firebrands that may come from up to a mile away as demonstrated by the recent wildfire in Santa Barbara. According to Brian West, Council Chair, "the best way to evaluate your home's preparedness for an ember blizzard is by walking around your home and thinking about what would happen if you just started throwing matches everywhere and anywhere." Flying firebrands will blow into and around the home attempting to ignite any available combustible material. Homes with firewood next to the structure, needles in the gutters and on the roof, unscreened vents, material stored under decks and even patio furniture can place your home at risk. Brian went on to say, "creating a Fire Safe home can not only determine your home's ability to survive a wildfire, but will provide your fire department a safer environment to work in".

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council invites residents with an interest in preventing and mitigating impacts from wildland fires, to their homes or communities, to become members. The Council is a coalition of citizens, businesses, fire departments, and representatives of local, state and federal government agencies. The mission of the Council is: ***"To reduce the loss of natural and manmade resources caused by wildfire through Firewise Community programs and pre-fire activities."***

For additional information on Council activities and "Defensible Space" visit our website at [www.plumasfiresafe.org](http://www.plumasfiresafe.org).