

PRESS RELEASE

Plumas County Fire Safe Council Meeting 7/14/04

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council cordially invites interested citizens to participate in their regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2004 at the Quincy Fire Department, upstairs meeting room, from 9:00 to 12:00 AM.

At the July meeting, the Council will be discussing: progress on their grants to provide county residents with wildfire education, fire planning and hazardous fuel reduction. Following the regular business meeting, members will meet to continue progress on the County Wildfire Mitigation Plan.

Fire Safe Council members encourage residents to complete their defensible space cleanup and make their homes Fire Safe. This also gives your fire department a safer environment and fighting chance. This is especially important in rural counties like Plumas where the firefighters who respond are volunteers and often your neighbors and friends.

The video "*Wildfire Preventing Home Ignitions*" is available at video stores and libraries throughout the County for residents to check out on free loaner basis. This free 20 minute video shows why and how homes burn in a wildfire. Understanding this provides residents with the knowledge to take preventative actions. The Video is a product of Jack Cohen's wildland fire behavior research at the US Forest Service Fire Sciences Laboratory. In the video, Jack Cohen discusses why it's the little things that cause homes to burn. The film features excellent footage of a number of wildfires, including cameras setup inside a research crown fire while it is burning.

Mike De Lasaux, Council Chair, reminds residents that, "It only takes a spark, to cause the loss of a home". Research shows that homes can and do survive the intrusion of wildfires. To survive, they must have a non-combustible roof and defensible space. Mike went on to say that. "It is not a question of if, but of when; wildland fire will again threaten homes in Plumas County".

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 pre-fire activities.***" Everyone in Plumas County is welcome to become a member of the Council.

For more information on the Fire Safe Council, visit our website at www.plumasfiresafe.org