

PRESS RELEASE

Plumas County Fire Safe Council Meeting 10/8/09

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council cordially invites interested citizens to participate in their regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2009 at the Plumas County Planning and Building Services office, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. The Planning & Building Services office is located at 555 Main Street in Quincy.

At the October meeting, Mark Steffek of the North Cal-Neva Resource Conservation and Development Area will make a presentation of the current progress in developing portable pyrolysis plants. A pyrolysis plant converts woody biomass into syngas, bio-oil and bio-char. Products derived from this process can provide fuel (syngas) for the plant to process the material, bio-oil that can be used directly or further refined and the bio-char can be used as a soil supplement. There will also be status updates of PC FSC grant funded wildfire mitigation activities that provide for implementation of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

PC FSC members want to remind residents that with fall in the air and falling needles and leaves that now is a good time to reassess your defensible space, especially in light of the recent Silver fire which threatened the community of Meadow Valley. Now is a good time to insure your roof and gutters are still clean and that your home could survive an ember blizzard from firebrands that may come from up to a mile away. 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." Brian went on to say, "creating a Fire Safe home can not only improve the chance of your home surviving a wildfire, but will provide your fire department a safer environment to work in".

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