

## PRESS RELEASE

### **PC FSC Encourages Residents to Create their Defensible Space**

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council's (PC FSC) regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, May 10, 2012 at the Plumas County Planning & Building Services office, located at 555 Main Street in Quincy, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

Fire Safe Council members are encouraging residents to create and maintain their defensible space and make their home Fire Safe. Homeowners need to assess their home's ability to survive an ember blizzard from firebrands that may come from up to a mile away. According to Mike De Lasaux, 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." Flying (match like) firebrands will blow into and around your 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. Mike went on to say, "creating a Firewise home cannot only determine your home's ability to survive a wildfire, but will provide your volunteer fire department firefighters a safer environment to work in".

Jerry Hurley, Council Coordinator, also wants to remind senior and disabled citizens that PC FSC offers a "Defensible Space Assistance Program" for more information call 283- 0829 and leave a message or visit our website.

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

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).