

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Structure Protection Video Featured on Plumas County Fire Safe Council website <http://plumasfiresafe.org/>.**

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council's (PC FSC) July meeting is taking place on Thursday July 10, 2014 at the Plumas County Planning & Building Services office, located at 555 Main Street in Quincy, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Their meetings occur on the second Thursday of each month. The Council invites you to attend these meetings in order to get a sense of local activities that are happening to increase awareness and preparedness for wildland fires in Plumas County. The PC FSC is a coalition of citizens, business owners, fire departments, and representatives of local, state and federal government agencies. The mission of the Council is: ***“To reduce the loss of natural and human made resources caused by wildfire through Firewise Community programs and pre-fire activities.”***

Their website: [www.plumasfiresafe.org](http://www.plumasfiresafe.org), is currently featuring a short video that shows structure protection efforts during the Black Forest Fire in Colorado. This fire burned from June 11<sup>th</sup> to June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. During that time it consumed 14,280 acres of forest land; destroyed at least 509 homes, and killed two people. Over \$9 Million was spent on fire suppression efforts and over \$90 Million of damage to homes resulted from the blaze. This fire is considered to have been the most destructive fire in Colorado history surpassing the 2012 Waldo Canyon Fire.

This video was recorded by a member of the Colorado Springs Fire Department; they had been dispatched to protect structures as the fire spread through this neighborhood. The footage gives a first-hand look at firefighters providing structure protection; we hope that this video will help to illustrate the importance of creating an area around your structures that is free of combustible material, also known as “Defensible Space”.

In the video you will see how this wildfire burns through an area that had received fuels reduction treatments; the surface fuel bed was comprised of forest litter and grasses. The defensible space seen around the house drastically reduced the potential for crown fire as most of the brush and small trees (ladder fuels) had been removed.

Creating defensible space around your home and other structures not only reduces the chances that your buildings will burn during a wildfire, it also makes your home safer for the fire fighters that will be protecting your property. To learn more about creating defensible space around your home and other activities that can protect your property from damage by fire, check out the PC FSC website (<http://plumasfiresafe.org/>).