

PRESS RELEASE

Plumas County Fire Safe Council Meeting 11/12/03

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council cordially invites citizens to participate in their regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2003 at the Quincy Fire Department, upstairs meeting room, from 9:00 to 12:00 AM.

At the November meeting, the Council will be discussing a number of issues including: a) the status and implementation progress on funded Council projects, and b) what additional grants will be sought to assist County residents with wildfire education and hazardous fuel reduction. The mission of the Plumas County 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 Fire Safe Council.

While this was a below average year for the number of acres burned in Plumas County, the threat does not go away. It is still present and will be back next year. With wildfires in Plumas County, it is not a matter of if, but when. Therefore, Council members are continuing their efforts to better educate residents on protecting their homes, and assist communities in their efforts to lessen the threats from wildfire. With our County’s history of wildfire we need to keep working at making our communities safer. To that effort, the Council is working aggressively for funding to provide for planning, education, and fuel reduction.

Plumas County Fire Safe Council would like to remind community members that with the onset of fall burning they should: 1) burn in a safe location with tools and water on site, 2) avoid burning on days of strong winds, 3) burn only on a permissive burn day; 4) burn only dry materials and piles, 5) don’t burn tires, processed wood, painted wood or other garbage, and 6) extinguish all piles before leaving home. Unfortunately every year, some residents don’t follow these simple rules and their fires escape threatening others, or they create smoke conditions that are a nuisance. For more information on burning, permits, or regulations, you can contact your local US Forest Service, CDF, or fire department office.

The Council continues to offer programs in community education, homeowner consultations, hazardous fuel reduction and creation of defensible space assistance for qualifying elderly and disabled residents. Fire Safe Council sponsored thinning projects are currently going on at Camp Layman and Plumas Eureka in cooperation with the homeowners, US Forest Service and others. Additional thinning projects will be started in November.

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