



Amador Fire Safe Council

Amador County, California

OCTOBER 2023

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Fuel Breaks & Vegetation Clearing

The Amador Fire Safe Council has wrapped up and completed Phase 2 of the Ingress/Egress clearing projects, which was comprised of 13 roads throughout the county. The AFSC is reviewing all community submitted project forms. We're currently in the process of reviewing 6 new community fuel breaks, planning 5 community fuel breaks, planning 5 ingress/egress projects on private roads, and preparing to implement over 56 miles of vegetation treatment along county roads. With so many great projects being submitted, the AFSC is working hard to keep up! The AFSC Projects Committee and staff are in the final stages of developing a streamlined internal process that will help us keep these projects moving forward and we remain full steam ahead in implementing and completing these projects. Resident participation in the Project Proposal process of identifying roads and areas throughout the county that are in need of clearing is strongly encouraged. If you have any suggestions you'd like to bring to our attention, please utilize the link below to submit a proposal:

www.AmadorFireSafe.org/project-proposals

MITCHELL MINE MAINTENANCE



In September, several partners came together to provide workshops to the community on forest management maintenance techniques. The workshop covered basic pesticide application safety and calibration techniques, and also provided some unique insight via a study being conducted by University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE). Through the Amador Resource Conservation District (ARCD) and funding from CalFire, UCCE has been testing the results of 33 different types of maintenance strategies on the Mitchell Mine Fuel Break. The goal is to provide landowners insight on the efficacy of each treatment, the cost, and time spent on each maintenance practice. During the workshop, participants could see the results of hand thinning, flaming, multiple types of herbicide application, and even goats on maintaining the fuel break. We'll be hosting more of these workshops in Spring 2024. Be sure to sign up for the ARCD Newsletter to get updates. www.AmadorRCD.org

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Gordon Long

Forestry Project Manager



The Amador Fire Safe Council would like to introduce our newest member to the team, Gordon Long. Gordon has been hired as the ARCD/AFSC Forestry Project Manager, and has hit the ground running!

Gordon is a graduate of Cal Poly SLO, possessing a degree in Environmental and Systematic Biology. He was one of the founding members of the Calaveras RCD in 2016, and became their first Executive Director in 2018.

Gordon is an avid hiker, angler, camper, photographer and adventurer. He has traveled all over the world, including places such as South Africa, Canada, Argentina, Spain, New Zealand and Australia, to name a few.

We are very excited to be working with Gordon and welcome him to the community!

Firewise USA



This time of year is very busy for the Firewise Communities in our county, state, and throughout the country. The recertification process for each community established and recognized prior to the current year happens annually in November. Amador County continues to see growth in this program and now has 33 active communities in good standing, as well as 6 in the application process.

Congratulations to our newly certified neighborhoods: Sierra Highlands South, Butte Mountain #5, Woodland Road, and Andrews Lupe Ridge.

Every quarter, the AFSC hosts a Firewise Forum in which various partners and Neighborhood Leads get together to review any new information on local resources and discuss items/topics/updates within the Firewise USA program. A year ago in October, we held our very first Firewise Forum, featuring guest speaker Deputy Commissioner Julia Juarez from the CA Department of Insurance. This October, we are excited to receive an in-person update from the Department of Insurance's Outreach Analyst, Mary Beth Bykowsky. We strongly urge not only the Neighborhood Leads and Firewise Community members, but any member of the public to attend, gather information, and ask questions!

Upcoming Events:

FALL FIREWISE FORUM
Thursday, October 26
6:00pm
Volcano Communications
Tech Center
19888 Church St. Pine Grove
 Guest Speaker:
 Mary Beth Bykowsky-
 Outreach Analyst,
 Community Relations and
 Outreach Branch
 CA Dept of Insurance

AFSC Board Meetings

The Amador Fire Safe Council Board Meetings take place on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. These meetings are open to the public and we encourage the community to attend, ask questions, and *get involved!*

Time:

3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location:

Volcano Communications
 Tech Center
 19888 Church St. Pine Grove