Wildland Fire and Evacuation

Chief Dan Ghiorso
Deputy Chief Rob Lindner
Fire Marshal Denise Enea
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Woodside Fire Protection District

• Areas of Coverage
• Number of Stations
• Number of Personnel
What Happens When 911 is Called?

- Who does the call go to?
- How are calls triaged?
- Types of calls
  - Grassfire/Wildland Fires
  - Auto Aid/Mutual Aid/MTZ’s
Skeggs Fire

• Started evening of September 11, 2017
  Series of lightning strikes in the area

• Full Containment in 4 Days

• Agencies Involved
  WFPD, Cal Fire, SMC Sheriffs, SMC Parks, Mid-Pen, PG&E
Skeggs Fire...Lessons Learned

• Communications
• Emergency Notifications
• Evacuate?
Lessons Learned for North Bay Fires

• Not everyone is signed up for emergency alerts
• Loss of phone service
• Loss of electricity early
• Loss of internet early
• Loss of cell sites early
• Ham Radios worked if power was available
FIRE MAP

- Skeggs Fire - 2017
- Albion Fire - 2002
- Palo Alto/Arastradero Preserve Fires
Personal Responsibility

• Heed early warnings, i.e. Red Flag or Weather alerts
• We will not ask everyone to evacuate at one time. (Oroville)
• County pop 700,000+ people, gridlock if uncontrolled evacuation
• If time permits, evacuations should go in order of
  • Area to evacuate (advisory/voluntary, then mandatory)
  • Direction to evacuate
  • If available, shelter to go to
If you ask yourself, “should I evacuate?”, you probably should have already done so.
Communications

How Do You Receive Emergency Notifications?

SMC Alert

Used by both Towns, the Fire District, and SMC
New Platform - Re-Register
Capabilities
“DO NOT DISTURB”

WE CAN’T REACH YOU IF YOU DON’T REGISTER
Setting up your iPhone to receive notifications from SMCAalert while your phone is on “Do Not Disturb” mode
### Emergency Bypass

Emergency Bypass allows sounds and vibrations from this person even when Do Not Disturb is on.

### Vibration

#### STANDARD
- Accent
- Alert
- Heartbeat
- Quick
- Rapid
- S.O.S.
- Staccato
- Symphony

#### CUSTOM
- Create New Vibration
- None

### ALERT TONES

- Note
- Aurora
- Bamboo
- Chord
- Circles
- Complete
- Hello
- Input
- Keys
- Popcorn
- Pulse

### Tone Store

**Download All Purchased Tones**

This will download all ringtones and alerts purchased using the "tenebris@mac.com" account.
Do Not Disturb

Setting up your Android to receive notifications from SMCAalert while your phone is on “Do Not Disturb” mode

(not always the same for all Android phones)
YOU MUST MAKE THE SMCAlert Contact a Favorite in order to receive a notification on DND Mode
Communication - Stay Informed

• TV, Internet, Radio, PV Radio (1680am)
• CERPP or Ham Radios
• Mass notification (sirens)
P.L.E.A.S.E. Prepare - Leave Early & Save Everyone

THERE IS AN INCREASE IN FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY OF FIRES
What Can We Do As a Responsible Homeowner?

Prevent Ignitions
What Can We Do As a Responsible Homeowner?

Build with ignition resistant materials
What Can We Do As a Responsible Homeowner?

Maintain Roofs
What Can We Do As a Responsible Homeowner?

Landscape Smart
What Can We Do As a Responsible Homeowner?

Maintain Access & Evacuation Routes

Keep brush off roads
What Can We Do As a Responsible Community?

BEFORE & AFTER
What Can We Do As a Responsible Community?

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BEFORE & AFTER
Woodside Fire - What Are We Doing to Help?

- Using grant funds to mitigate overgrown evacuation routes.
- Working with Open Space/County Parks on defensible space near homes.
- Removal of tree hazards near power lines.
- Collaborating with HOAs for difficult fuel mitigation projects.
Woodside Fire - What Are We Doing to Help?

- Annual Chipping Program; May - Nov
- Property Fire Safety Inspections
- Working with the Towns to increase required use of ignition resistant materials in building construction.
Where Do We Go From Here?

• Should we change what type of materials we build are homes with?
• Should we focus harder on hazardous fuels management around our homes?
• Should we stop planting trees under power lines and remove the ones that are hazards?
• Should we work with Open Space and County Parks to conduct more fuel reduction?
• Should we work on mitigating fuels encroaching on our evacuation routes?
• Should we make wildfire a more talked about topic in our community?

The answers to these questions can only be answered by you!
Residents - What You Can Do Now...
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- Make a Plan
  Communications, Evac Routes
- Go Kit
  All family members, pets
- Evac Buddy
During A Fire - In Your Home
During A Fire - In Your Car
During A Fire - On Foot
GET INVOLVED

Citizens Emergency Response and Preparedness Program
Situational Awareness

- Before
- During
- After
Stay Informed, Utilize Your Resources

www.WoodsideFire.org - Woodside Fire

www.CERPP.org - CERPP

www.PortolaValley.net - Town of Portola Valley

www.WoodsideTown.org - Town of Woodside


www.NFPA.org - National Fire Protection Association

Questions?

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