



WRHA NEWS

YOUR ANNUAL DUES SUSTAIN THE WORK OF THE ALL VOLUNTEER BOARD AND COMMITTEES OF THE WRHA. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR \$50 ANNUAL FEE TO:

WOODSIDE RANCH
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION (WRHA)
61141 S. HWY 97, #616
BEND, OREGON 97702

CHINA HAT ACTION TEAM (CHAT) NEWS:

CHAT members will be busy writing letters of public comment when the Deschutes National Forest releases its Draft Environmental Assessment for the Cabin Butte Vegetation Management Project, expected to be released this March. This is a 25,000 acre fuels reduction and forest restoration project that will run right up to our property lines and, if we sway their decision making process enough, could ultimately serve as an effective management tool against uncontrolled dispersed camping and illegal motor vehicle use in our area.

To learn more about this project visit https://www.fs.usda.gov/nfs/11558/www/nepa/112442_FSPLT3_4874435.pdf

We will also once again send a crew of hardy volunteers to help out with the Central Oregon Landcruiser's annual China Hat clean-up this spring. If you are not physically able to help out with a clean-up effort, consider a donation to Discover Your Forest, a local non-profit promoting wise stewardship of our public lands. Their funding helps offset some of the costs associated with this clean-up. <https://discoveryourforest.org/>

If you would like more information about any of these topics or want to join the China Hat Action Team, email Caroline Marks at ccmrks@gmail.com.



A goodbye and big THANK YOU to Lavonne Broadbent and Pat McCabe! Both ladies recently sold their Woodside properties. Lavonne and Pat were an immense help to the WRHA over their tenure as homeowners in Woodside Ranch, most recently with Lavonne serving as Treasurer and Pat as Vice-President. Thank you ladies and we wish both of you the best!

Currently, your Board is made up of:

Ray Miao-President
Mark Marshall-Vice President
Caroline Marks-Secretary/
Treasurer
Ray Lakey-Member at Large

WRHA email:
woodside.ranch.board@gmail.com

We'd love to hear from you!

What: FireFree Fuels Cleanup May 2-6, 2022

WRHA has contracted with 4 Brothers Tree Service for our fire fuels debris removal program [May 2-6](#). This is a great opportunity for all homeowners to do the necessary annual maintenance. Additionally, there are high hazard “hot spots” still evident in Woodside. There are numerous areas, especially along the front and China Hat sides of Tall Pine, with thick stands of brush. There are also home sites that have many thin trees that need clearing out. Now is a good time to address these problems while you have help.

In this time of COVID-19 it is more important than ever that you have a home to come back to after a wildfire. We may experience a perfect storm with COVID-19 and wildfires straining fire department resources. **Creating and maintaining defensible space around your house will help to increase the chances it will survive even if no one is there to protect it.**

Participating homeowners should bring debris to the roadside, off of the asphalt, as soon as weather permits. It is very important to have debris piles easily accessible for front loaders and bobcats so that the equipment will not damage your property including fences, trees, mailboxes and driveways. The contractor will collect pine needles and cones, brush, shrubs, tree limbs and trunks. Trunks should be less than 8” diameter and less than 5’ long. Fewer large piles of needles, cones and brush are better than long or small piles because the contractor can pick these up faster and we are paying by time. Pile trunks and limbs separate from needles etc. with butt ends facing the street. Knott Landfill will not accept sod, dirt, rocks or construction materials and will reject any loads that include them. If these are present in any piles, the contractor will not pick-up your debris piles.

The last day to sign up is [April 18](#). The last day to bring debris out is April 25. Due to increased costs, the cost is \$175 for WRHA members or \$250 for non-members. We encourage everyone to fill out and send in the form in this newsletter. Homeowners who need assistance with cleanup can call James Hatley, owner of 4 Brothers at 541-815-2342 to meet and discuss options.

How: To Best Protect Your Home

Scientific and post-wildfire research shows that homes burn mainly due to embers that land, smolder and ignite flammable material on or near the home. One of the most important and easiest things you can do is remove or reduce the amount of flammable materials within the first 30-50 feet of your home. It’s most important that there be no flammable material within the first 5 feet from the house. What should you do?

1. Start with the house itself: Regularly clear needles/cones and leaves from the roof and gutters. Especially under overhanging eaves.
2. Within 5 feet of the house: a) Remove and keep clear all flammable material; b) Replace bark mulch with stone or other non flammable materials; c) Remove limbs overhanging the roof; d) Remove pine needles on decks including the space between the deck and the house; e) Remove needles/cones/leaves/wood from under raised decks and steps; f) As a fire approaches, remove flammable items such as chairs, pillows, door mats, etc.
3. From 5 to 30 feet of the house: a) Keep lawns and other grasses mowed to 4 inches or less; b) Remove vegetation under trees (ladder fuels); c) Prune tree limbs up 6-10 feet, for shorter trees do not exceed 1/3 of the tree height; d) Thin trees and brush into small clusters; e) The distance between brush (or clusters) and other vegetation should be 2-4x the height of the brush. It’s often easier to trim or remove brush; f) The distance between trees should be at least 10 feet between the ends of lowest limbs. On a slope such as Ridgeview Dr. it should be 20 feet; g) Firewood should be stored at least 30 feet from the house and other structures.

Please use the included form to sign up!