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Subject: July Update
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July Update

Dear neighbors,

As we enter the 2020 fire season, I have some important announcements and reminders.

Defensible space: Thanks to all PRE residents participating in the IRA summer chipping program. As I write Inverness Gardening Service (IGS) is in the community chipping close to 55 piles. And thanks to everyone working to maintain defensible space on your properties.

Very soon IGS will weed whack “flashy fuels” along PRE roadsides. PRERAB appreciates all of you who have gone ahead and weed whacked the roadside along your property. Because funds are limited this year, your doing so will enable them to cut all remaining important and vulnerable areas along the roads.

Please see <http://invernessridge.info/homeowner-information> for additional steps you can take to improve safety of your home, defensible space, and the community. FIRESafe Marin has an excellent, comprehensive webpage full of helpful preparedness information at <https://www.firesafemarin.org>. Taking these fire safety steps protects you, your family and all of the rest of us, a critically important community role that every one of us must play.

Burn piles along Inverness Ridge Trail: No doubt many of you have noticed the more than 100 burn piles that were built a couple of years ago along the trail between Sunnyside and top of DVD when Marin Fire cleared a fire break space at the top and thinned the young Bishop Pines growing along the trail. Because just about all of the piles are under canopy and surrounded by combustible fuel, many residents have been concerned about the department’s expressed intention to remove them with a prescribed burn. Based on this concern many of us have been in communication with the department and the Park to try to find a different, non-burning approach to removing the material. After concerted effort by residents Maury and Bonnie Wolohan, they, Ron Bennett and I were able to tour the site and discuss the situation with Greg Jones, head of Fire Management for the Park Service in the SF Bay region and The Pinnacles, and two other staff members earlier this week. As a result though he could make no commitment at this time, Greg promised to investigate non-burning options and funding with the hope that removal can be done soon. When he lets us know what he comes up with, I will pass it on. We owe much thanks to Maury and Bonnie for keeping focused on finding a solution to this problem.

Sustainability webinars: Kellen Damman of the County Community Development Agency Sustainability Team has asked me to pass on the following information on two webinars coming up:

Harnessing Home Performance: Ways to Improve Home Health and Comfort

When: Saturday, July 25 from 10am to 11am

Description: Learn about how energy efficiency is tied to indoor air quality and home comfort, projects that can solve common home health and comfort issues, and programs

provide technical and financial assistance.

Sign up: https://marin_county_home_health_and_efficiency_webinar.eventbrite.com

Solar + Batteries for Homeowners

When: Saturday, August 8 from 10am to 12pm

Description: This free class is designed for homeowners interested in learning about using solar power generated at your home coupled with an energy storage system (battery) to potentially lower your utility bill and help you become more resilient during a power outage. You will also learn about energy efficiency and energy storage incentives, particularly for low income and baseline medical customers and those in high fire risk areas.

Sign up: <https://pge.docebosaas.com/learn/course/external/view/webinar/517/solar-batteries-for-homeowners>

Attached is the County's battery and generator fact sheet, which has information on permitting, costs, and pros and cons for battery and generator (backup power) projects. Kellen hopes this information will be useful for folks who are looking at power backup solutions for PSPS/fire season.

Finally, if you haven't yet paid your Inverness Ridge Association dues for 2020, please do so now. Send \$25 to IRA, P.O. Box 342, Inverness, CA 94937. Dues must rise soon.

Thank you and keep well,

Tim Stanton

President, IRA Board of Directors



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Battery...eet.pdf