

May 2021 Update

Dear Neighbors,

May greetings to you all ...

- **REMINDER - IRA 2021 Defensible Space Chipping Program coming up** – IRA has scheduled its first chipping day for right after Memorial Day weekend. The deadline for making your payment is June 3. To ensure that your pile(s) is chipped, submit your payment via PayPal/Venmo or by mail right away. The instruction form with coupons for mail payments is attached. It may also be found on our website (invernessridge.info), scroll down on the front page. Hard copies will be available at the bulletin board on DVD next weekend.

As in 2020 chipping this summer will be shared both by both IRA and FIREsafe MARIN. We fund the IRA program with fees determined by debris pile numbers subsidized by IRA membership dues. FIREsafe chipping is funded by the Marin Wildfire Protection Authority (MWPA) with the Measure C parcel tax. FIREsafe chipping days will be July 12th and October 11th, details to come. Depending on need the IRA may schedule a second chipping day around Labor Day.

We expect a very dry summer and fall and hope everyone will contribute to community safety by ensuring that their property is fully compliant with defensible space requirements. See the FIREsafe Marin website for further information.

- **IRA Fire Task Force** – IRA Fire Task Force members are working with Marin County Fire Department staff on long-term plans for fire mitigation-vegetation management throughout PRE, all supported with Measure C funds. (PRE is represented by resident Tamia Anderson.) Project work will comprise eliminating overhead vegetation canopies, limbing up mature, healthy trees, removing dead material, and thinning other vegetation within fifteen feet of both sides of PRE roads. Work will start later this summer on Sunnyside between Behr Lane and the Fire Road gate, a key evacuation route. Some work may require property owners' permission, which will be requested prior to any work taking place.

- **Cigarette butts** - Related to **fire prevention** and with red flags upon us I wish to remind you of an ongoing concern – cigarette butts on our roadsides. My wife and I have observed these recently along DVD, Sunnyside and Douglas. it's possible that this cigarette litter comes from a contractor crew member working at one of our properties, delivery people and others doing business in PRE. Please inform any people working for you that they should not smoke this time of year unless indoors or in their vehicles, and especially that they should not toss cigarette butts out of their cars and trucks. On windy, warm, dry days these can ignite catastrophic fires. All of us will appreciate your cooperation in this regard.



• **PRERAB annual weed whacking** - This summer, PRERAB will again cut flashy fuel along PRE roads. They are pleased to note that many property owners have already cut flashy fuel along their road frontage. That is much appreciated as it both helps protect the community and allows PRERAB to focus on areas of most need. Therefore any of you who are able to eliminate flashy fuels along your road frontage, please do so in the next few weeks with our deep thanks. PREAB is aiming for the end of this month or early June for their work.

• **PRE road signs** – At its IRA meeting the IRA Board voted to re-construct the “private road” sign at the bottom of DVD that was damaged and eliminated earlier this year. Final design is forthcoming, and construction will begin soon. No decisions have been made regarding signage at the top of DVD and end Sunnyside related to parking and emergency vehicle access.

• **2021 membership Dues** – If you have not paid your 2021 membership dues, please do so very soon. You must be a paid-up member to qualify for the \$35 discount on chipping fees. If you are not a member, now is the time to join! If you have questions, contact Treasurer Patty Wimpfheimer at 415-722-9355 or at invernessridge37@gmail.com. You may make payments via Venmo or Paypal (see website for details) or by sending a check to: IRA, P.O. Box 342, Inverness, CA 94937. Thank you for your ongoing support.

IRA website URL address - Please note that the Inverness Ridge Association (IRA) website address is: <https://invernessridge.info>. Soon it will contain extensive fire information and link to FIREsafe Marin resources.

Be safe and keep well,

Tim Stanton
IRA Board President