



951-659-6208

Newsletter

Shela Boynton, Editor

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Winter 2011

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HAPPY, FIRE-SAFE NEW YEAR!
Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council Comes to Anza
Mike Esnard, President

We are working now with homeowners in Anza! As of December 1, we have 14 homes in various stages of abatement. This is an important milestone and marks the beginning of what we hope will be many projects to protect people in the Anza Valley from wildfires.

Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council (MCFSC) Project Manager Mike Kellner has been working with homeowners and reports that all the people with whom he has spoken have been happy to get help reducing the fire threat around their properties. USFS/Cal Fire Station 29 and Captain Bill Bryant have been working hard to inspect properties,

which makes for more awareness concerning the need for abatement.

People have been discouraged for some time about fuel reduction on private property in Anza, but I think it will turn out to be something like the experience we had in Pinyon. For years, we heard that Pinyon homeowners would never allow abatement on their properties. But, over the last two years, they have been terrific about partnering with MCFSC to do just that.

We're very hopeful that in the next couple of years we will see more fuel reduction and a much safer Anza.

MCFSFC HOURS
MON-FRI
9:00-12:00, 1:00-4:00



Before and after photos of private property fire abatement in Anza.

The Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council Newsletter is funded by a USDA Forest Service grant through the California Fire Safe Council, sponsors, and donations. Donations to Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council are used to further public awareness and support fire prevention and hazard fuels reduction objectives.



How to Kill a Stubborn Stump

Deborah Geisinger
ISA Certified Arborist

In this article, we will focus on thinning smaller, less desirous trees to provide an existing stand with more resources.

When thinning oaks and some other species, if the stump and roots are not killed, they grow back almost immediately, and the roots continue to grow and strangle nearby desired trees. They use water and other resources as well. Further, they are more of a fire hazard than the original tree that was taken out.

Another classic example is the poplar or cottonwood cut down to protect a septic leach line system or new driveway. Even though the stump is ground and removed, if not treated with something, small roots start to put up sprouts, even pushing through the new asphalt. And, yes, these will turn into big trees if you let them grow back.

There are safe and effective ways to apply herbicides to help correct this problem. "Stump Kill" is a simple procedure you can read about on the label of concentrated Glyphosate. Some have told me to use diesel fuel for the same results, but I'm not convinced. Besides, using diesel for this purpose is illegal in California.

While Glyphosate is rated low on toxicity to humans and other mammals, it is still a concentrated chemical and must be handled very carefully. Always read the label and always wear personal protective equipment.

WOODIES JUST WORKIN' IN THE RAIN

In a recent drizzle, MCFSC's intrepid volunteer Woodies work their magic with chainsaws, splitters, wheelbarrows, strong backs and generous hearts. This group works about 4 hours every week to help residents abate their properties and provide firewood for families in need.



This is teamwork and community spirit at its best! If you have a few hours a week and would like to help your community, give us a call. 951-659-6208 Mon.-Fri.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM — Winter 2011

(\$10 per person or \$20 per family)

NAME:

PROPERTY ADDRESS:

MAILING ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:

PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

MCFSC

PO BOX 507

IDYLLWILD CA 92549

If you would like to receive a newsletter by email, please send your email address to exec-dir@MCFSC.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Help make the community of Aguanga

FIRE SAFE!

Contribute your ideas for actions and solutions for the

SAN JACINTO MOUNTAINS COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN C.W.P.P.

Wednesday, January 19, 2011
6:00- 8:00 PM (doors open at 5:30 PM)
Cottonwood School

Sponsored by Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council, CalFire, Riverside County Fire, U.S. Forest Service and MAST (Mountain Area Safety Task Force)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL: 951-659-6208


The Community Foundation
Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties

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The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the California Fire Safe Council or the U.S. Government. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the California Fire Safe Council or the U.S. Government.