



1st Quarter 2024
Newsletter

Community Wildfire Protection - A Perspective for 2024 Planning

The Ridge at Eagle Crest: “Living the Dream While Existing In A Moderate-High Wildfire Threat Reality”

Hello to you all. Fortunately, the 2023 Wildfire Season has concluded. Although it was again a very active four months, it passed without a major incident in the Ridge at Eagle Crest area. Thanks to all for your threat awareness and vigilance.

So, it's timely to consider a perspective for sustaining wildlife abatement planning for 2024. In 2024, your Community Wildfire Protection Committee (CWP) will continue defensible space implementation and maintenance on our prescribed Commons and Ridge Golf Courses un-irrigated areas. Related, we have just completed the update of the Ridge Community Wildfire Protection Program (RCWPP) adopted by the Board of Directors on 23 October 2023: For this document, refer to the RECOA Ridge Owners website: RCWPP (Ridge Community Wildfire Protection Program)

For YOUR planning, CWP encourages all to actively plan for actions YOU can take to enhance your wildfire protection situation on your property, Specifically, we hope that you will take action, consistent with current permitting protocols and guidelines, to improve your Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) out to 30 Feet from your residential structure or platted property line, whichever occurs first. The Wildland Firefighters and Redmond Fire professionals school us on the 30 Foot envelope from the structure as being the “sweet spot” for best protecting you home. Refer to this link for the current visualization and guidance on the HIZ: “Are you prepared for wildfire?” <http://www.projectwildfire.org/resources/> Brochure was produced by FireFree.org.

When planning your wildfire protection activities, plan to take advantage of the Ridge-wide Community Fire Free campaign that occurs annually from late April to early May 2024. You do the work; we remove the prescribed debris for you when staged at the roadside.

Once you have improved your lot, you may want to reestablish some fire resistant vegetation. We call your attention to the very recently published document available at Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes (2023), an Oregon State University Extension Service Publication may be found at the website; <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/pnw-590-fire-resistant-plants-home-landscapes>

Your CWP thanks you for the continuing support, and we wish you the very best for the Christmas and Holiday Season. Further, we wish you a Happy New Year!

JOIN NOW - RECOA MEMBER DIRECTORY



GET ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS -

RECOA has a voluntary Member Directory on the website. This is an excellent way to connect with neighbors. This information is password protected and only visible to other RECOA owners.

IT'S EASY TO DO – HERE IS HOW -

The **default** will “Hide” your information. To make your information visible to other RECOA owners, you must select “No” under Privacy in your profile. Go to this link and select “No”: <https://ridgeowners.org/account/privacy/>.

PERSONALIZE YOUR SHARED PROFILE -

You have a profile, now make it your own! In the “Edit Profile” menu, you can add a photo, change your display name and “tell us about yourself...”. Go to your Profile Account (<https://ridgeowners.org/account/>), then select “View Profile” under your name. Select settings – Edit Profile.

REMEMBER TO CHANGE YOUR DEFAULT -

Don't forget you must select “No” under Privacy in your account (<https://ridgeowners.org/account/>) to make your information visible to other RECOA owners.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS -

Check out other profiles and interests in the Member Directory at <https://ridgeowners.org/members/>. Owners must be logged in to view.

New RECOA Website is online now!

Use the QR code or go to <https://ridgeowners.org/>. If you are looking for a quick summary of current or important HOA happenings, check out the news articles on the homepage.

If you have any trouble logging into the website or accessing any information, please contact the webmaster at webmaster@ridgeowners.org. Have any suggestions for website improvements? Contact the Communications Committee at: cc@ridgeowners.org.



Let's Talk Trash!

Recently a single-family homeowner got a visit from the deputy sheriff after being caught by cameras illegally dumping in a managed neighborhood. **DUMPSTERS ARE ONLY FOR RESIDENTS OF THE MANAGED NEIGHBORHOOD.**

TRASH DUMPSTERS ARE FOR BAGGED AND TIED GARBAGE ONLY. All garbage must fit INSIDE a tied off garbage bag. ALL tied bags must fit INSIDE the dumpster and the LID MUST CLOSE fully. These things should not be in view:

- Wood Debris, trims, and flooring from construction projects
- Plant materials like shrubs, small trees, or limbs
- Chairs, small tables, lamps, ironing boards, TV's, microwaves, and umbrellas
- Mattresses, pillows, bedding, and foam
- Wine, beer, and pop bottles as well as household glass in boxes or recycling bins
- Cardboard leaning next to recycling bins, but not in the bins.
- Styrofoam and beads
- Old light fixtures, mirrors, or plumbing equipment
- Laundry basket, plastic tubs, and bins
- Garbage next to or behind dumpsters

PLEASE DO NOT PUT THESE THINGS IN RECYCLING:

- Bags or dumpsters of trash
- Pizza boxes
- Plastic and candy wrappers
- Unwashed tin cans
- Glass of any kind (It is no longer recycled here)
- Boxes placed besides, rather than in, bins and not broken down.

Recycling often gets contaminated due to varying rules in different localities. Additionally, it is common to see glass and bags of trash (recently a full trash dumpster) left at the common recycling enclosure in the Eagle Creek neighborhood. Please arrange trash pick-up for your residence with Republic Services and make guests aware that glass cannot be recycled in our community. Recycling must be clean and broken down or our garbage service charges extra. All glass, dirty cans, wrappers, and soft plastics are considered garbage. If in doubt, throw it out!

The fine for illegal dumping can be up to \$8500 for the first offense in Oregon. Illegal dumping includes not putting garbage into receptacles. Republic Services defers to the sheriff for enforcement. Any resident can call the sheriff if they see illegal dumping or have evidence through security footage or other proof.

If you have excess, please take it to one of our local recycling and dumping centers. You can find these online under Deschutes.org/solidwaste. Most things are less than \$50 to take into town.

Because this is a quieter time in neighborhoods, garbage pick-up will go to once a week starting soon saving the neighborhoods a substantial amount of money. Please be mindful and take care of any garbage you create that is above and beyond normal amounts. If you see that a second pick-up is required, please email or call a director who can arrange a second pick-up of that particular dumpster.

Dark Sky Oregon Speaker Forum

Dr. Bill Kowalik recently spoke to a group of RECOA owners at the River Run Event Center about Dark Sky Oregon. The presentation covered the definition of light pollution and causes, the impact of light pollution on people and wildlife as well as how to choose lighting that provides a safe, vibrant environment while minimizing light pollution.

You may have heard that light pollution can cause issues with bird migration patterns. It can also interfere with production of melatonin in the human brain and ultimately impact our Circadian Rhythm and sleep patterns. Dr. Kowalik shared data that indicates that our ability to see the stars is diminishing in Oregon. It is estimated that 80% of Americans can no longer see the Milky Way from their home. Taking steps to preserve the night sky not only benefits the natural ecosystem but can also contribute to local economies through Astro tourism.

So, what can we do?

- Use light only if it is needed
- Direct light so that it falls only where needed using shielded lighting fixtures
- Choose amber color temperature bulbs when possible
- Use bulbs of an intensity that is just bright enough
- Minimize outdoor lighting by using motion sensors, timers or dimmers

If there is interest in making Eagle Crest a Dark Sky Community, forming a group of volunteers would be a proactive step. The mission of such a group would involve advising and informing the community about the importance of reducing light pollution and ways to go about that. This could include educational programs, community outreach, and collaboration with Eagle Crest Management to implement responsible lighting practices.

Those interested in getting involved should reach out to Meg Voedisch at megvoedisch@gmail.com. Additionally, the website, <https://www.darkskyoregon.org/>, offers more resources and information on the Dark Sky initiative.

RECOA HOA Contact Information

Eagle Crest Management - Owner Services

(541) 548-9300, option 4 - ownerservices@eagle-crest.com

For after hour emergencies please contact – (541) 548-9300