Thank you for joining us!

Attendee controls appear at the bottom of your screen.

Questions will be addressed at the end of the presentations.

- Please **raise your hand** if you’d like to ask a question during the question and answer portion of the webinar. Be sure your audio controls are enabled.

- You may also use the **chat feature** to ask a question to the panelists.
Welcome and Overview of the Town Hall Meeting
Presentations

- El Dorado County Vegetation Management Program
  Kristine Guth, Program Manager
- Diamond Springs - El Dorado Fire District
  Casey Randsdell, Fire Prevention Officer
- CAL FIRE – Amador- El Dorado Unit (AEU)
  Sherry Moranz, Division Chief
- El Dorado Hills Fire Department/Rescue Fire Department
  Ron Phillips, Fire Marshal/Division Chief
- Questions
EDC Presentation Outline

- Defensible Space
- Why Vegetation Management?
- Shifting Gears
- Understanding our Ordinance
- Compliance & Monitoring
- More Information
What is it?

Area around a structure where combustible vegetation has been cleared, reduced or replaced.

Space that acts as a barrier between a structure and an advancing fire **AND** between a structure fire and wildland.

Fuels should be maintained in a fire-safe condition, year-round.
Why Vegetation Management?

- Wildfire is a natural part of California’s landscape
- In recent years, California has experienced large and devastating wildfires
  - **2018 Camp Fire** (Butte County): 86 deaths; 18,804 structures destroyed
  - **2018 Carr Fire** (Shasta County): 8 deaths; 1,604 structures destroyed
  - **2017 Thomas Fire** (Ventura, Santa Barbara Counties): 23 deaths*; 1,063 structures destroyed
    - *21 deaths attributed to mudslides/debris flow in the burn scar
  - **2017 Tubbs Fire** (Napa, Sonoma Counties): 22 deaths; 5,643 structures destroyed
- **El Dorado County fires**
  - **2014 King Fire** (Pollock Pines, North County): 12 homes destroyed
  - **2014 Sand Fire** (South County): 19 homes destroyed
  - **2007 Angora Fire** (Meyers and South Lake Tahoe): 254 homes destroyed
Collective Efforts

- Vegetation Management Projects
  - Fire Adapted 50
  - Utility work
  - Shaded Fuel Breaks
  - Public/Private Partnerships
- Road Brushing
- Tahoe Basin
- Fire Safe Councils
- Homeowners Associations
- Community Ordinances
- City of Placerville
- And more...
Understanding Our Ordinance
El Dorado County Ordinance 5101, Chapter 8.09
EDC Ordinance 5101, Chapter 8.09*

Provides for the removal of hazardous vegetation and combustible materials situated in the unincorporated areas of the county to:

- Provide enforcement of existing state law (PRC 4291)
- Build upon the existing grassroots efforts being done Countywide (e.g. Fire Safe Councils, FA 50, SOFAR, etc.)
- Reduce the potential for fire, and
- Promote the safety and well-being of the community

*Effective May 30, 2019; revision approved February 25, 2020
The Ordinance...

- DOES NOT require “clear cutting” or “moonscaping”.
- DOES NOT address fences.
- DOES NOT address clearing on public lands (e.g. BLM, Bureau of Reclamation, US Forest Service, etc.)
- DOES NOT address unimproved parcels/vacant lots unless some clearance is required based on the good neighbor policy.
- DOES NOT address roadways* and easements unless it is the parcel owner’s responsibility and within the required 100 ft.
- Applies in the unincorporated areas of El Dorado County (the City of Placerville and South Lake Tahoe have their own ordinances). Additional regulations also apply in Cameron Park and El Dorado Hills.
Vegetation management is an ongoing, long-term activity.

- Involves presence and dialogue with residents and landowners.
- Encourage and promote proactive removal and voluntary compliance.
- Community meetings.
- Information and on-site education (CEAs).
- Partner with local fire safe councils, fire districts and others.

Measuring Progress
What does the Ordinance Address? How do I comply?

- **Applies to** habitable structures
- **Within 30 feet of all Habitable Structures:**
  - Maintain a roof free of leaves, needles or other vegetative materials.
  - Remove any portion of a tree that is within 10 feet of the top of a chimney or stovepipe on a roof.
  - Remove all dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds, etc.
  - Remove flammable vegetation & items that could catch fire which are **next to or below** combustible decks, balconies, and stairs.
  - Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs.
You are the Defensible Space Inspector – What do you see?

- Combustible deck
- Dead shrub
- Flammable items (chair cushion, bench, plastic containers, etc.)
- Tree branches adjacent to building/overhanging
- Live, flammable shrubs need to be separated or removed
What does the Ordinance Address? How do I comply?

Within 30 – 100 feet of all Habitable Structures:

- Cut annual grasses and forbs (e.g.) to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- All exposed woodpiles must have a minimum of 10 feet clearance, down to bare mineral soil in all directions.
- Remove dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels (e.g. tree branches).
- Loose surface litter (e.g. fallen leaves, needles, cones, twigs, branches, etc.) permitted to a maximum of 3 inches.
- Thin vegetation to create space between clusters of trees (Horizontal spacing).
- Remove fuel ladders (Vertical spacing).
Vertical Spacing

Large trees do not have to be cut and removed, as long as all plants beneath them are removed. This eliminates the fuel ladder.

Horizontal Spacing depends on the slope of the land and the height of the shrubs or trees.

Horizontal spacing depends on the slope of the land and the height of the shrubs or trees.
You are the Defensible Space Inspector – What do you see?

- Exposed wood pile with less than 10 feet clearance.
- Tree clusters
- Fuel ladders
- Loose surface litter
You are the Defensible Space Inspector – What do you see?

- Fuel ladders
- Construction debris
- Shrubs too close together
What does the Ordinance Address? How do I comply?

- **Within 100 feet of all Habitable Structures:**
  - Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from other vegetation.

- **Other Requirements**
  - Outbuildings and Propane Gas storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior.
  - Address numbers shall be displayed in contrasting colors (4” min.) and readable from the street or access road.
  - Chimney and stovepipe openings with a screen between 3/8” and 1/2”. 

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![Diagram](image-url)
You are the Defensible Space Inspector – What do you see?

A cleverly disguised propane tank

Flammable Vegetation
Many homes do not have 100' of space between structures and parcel lines.

Property owners are required to maintain defensible space to their property line.

Work with neighbors to help provide defensible space for their homes, and ask neighbors for help if their property threatens yours.

In most cases, the most effective solution is a cooperative approach between neighbors.
2020 Defensible Space Inspections
Defensible Space Inspections Conducted Annually in El Dorado County

- CALFIRE does annual 4291 inspections Countywide
- Local Fire District defensible space inspections
- CSD Ordinance inspections (e.g. El Dorado Hills and Cameron Park)
- HOA requirements
- Tahoe Basin requirements
- City of Placerville Ordinance*
- El Dorado County Community Emphasis Areas*

* New in 2020
County Emphasis Areas (CEA)

An area designated by the County for focused, proactive inspections.

The County works with CAL FIRE to identify these areas annually.

Methodology and criteria used to determine CEAs

- Call volume to a specific area
- Structural density of an area
- Ingress/egress
- Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone rating
- Fire history/ignition history
- Prevailing weather patterns
- Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)
- Topography
- Existing PRC 4291 data
FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES IN SRA
Adopted by CALFIRE on November 7, 2007
2020 Defensible Space Inspections

NOTICE OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTION

An El Dorado County representative has inspected your property for the hazards.
You are hereby notified to correct the violations indicated below. Failure to correct these violations may result in a citation and fine.

OWNERSHIP/MAIL/CONTACT NAME:__________________________
INSPECTION ADDRESS:__________________________
INSPECTION NO.:__________________________

ZONE 1: Within 30 feet of all habitable structures (Refer to illustration below):
- A. Remove all branches within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe outlet, pursuant to RIC § 2491 (a)(6) and 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(2).
- B. Remove ladders, needles or other vegetation on roofs, gutters, decks, porches, attics, etc., pursuant to RIC § 2491 (a)(6) and 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(1).
- C. Remove all dead and dying trees, branches and shrubs, or other plants adjacent to or overhanging buildings, pursuant to RIC § 2491 (a)(5) and 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(2).
- D. Remove all dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds and needles, pursuant to 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(1).
- E. Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs, pursuant to RIC § 2491 (a)(7) and BOF General Guidelines Item 1.
- F. Remove flammable vegetation and items that could catch fire which are adjacent to, or below, combustible decks, balconies, and stairs, pursuant to 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(4).
- G. Retrace exposed wood piles outside of Zone 1 unless completely covered in a noncombustible material, pursuant to 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(3).

ZONE 2: Within 30–100 feet of all habitable structures (Refer to illustration below):
- H. Cut annual grasses and low bushes down to a maximum height of 4 inches, pursuant to 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(2)(B).
- I. Remove fuels in accordance with the Fuel Separation or Continuous Tree canopy guidelines (see local), pursuant to BOF General Guidelines item 5.
- J. All exposed wood piles must have a minimum of 10 feet clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions, pursuant to 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(2)(C).
- K. Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerosol fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be permitted to a maximum depth of 3 inches, pursuant to 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(3)(B).

Defensible and Reduced Fuel Zone: Within 100 feet of all habitable structures (Refer to illustration below):
- L. Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from other vegetation, pursuant to BOF General Guidelines item 3.

Other Requirements:
- M. Creosoted and Liquid Pregen Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior, pursuant to 1d CCR § 1299.03(a)(1).
- N. Address numbers shall be displayed in contrasting colors (at least 1 inch) and readable from the street or access road, pursuant to 2016 CBC § 505.1.
- O. Equip chimney or stovepipe openings with a metal screen having openings between 3/8 inch and 1/2 inch, pursuant to 2016 CBC § 2113.9.2.

COMMENTS:

IMPORTANT: All violations marked must be addressed by the owner/tenant. A re-inspection of the property will occur on or after ___________________.

LEARN MORE: 720-935-7664
2020 CEA: Garden Valley
Johntown/Garden Park

- Beehive Drive
- Chrysler Circle
- Garden Park Drive
- Hancock Court
- Hancock Road
- Hollow Oak Court
- Hood Court
- Johntown Creek Road
- Kahala Road
- Lazy Brook Trail
- Lynx Ridge Road
- McKinley Drive
- Olympus Drive
- Pyramid Court
- Pikes Peak Circle
- Providence Hill Road
- Rainier Drive
- Roller Coaster Road
- Sailor Ridge Road
- Shaker Lane
- Shasta Road
- Tamalpais Road
- Tedlo Court
2020 CEA: Pollock Pines
Sly Park Area

- Aerie Road
- Agate Court
- Bela Vista Drive
- Bushwacker Lane
- Diamond Court
- Diamond Drive
- Diolinda Court
- Garnet Court
- Garnet Road
- Gold Ridge Trail (partial)
- Jenkinson Circle
- Lakeridge Drive
- Lakewoods Drive
- Lava Lane
- Mountain Lake Drive
- Nordic Lane
- Opal Trail (partial)
- Parkwoods Drive
- Pearle Road
- Pine Cone Drive
- Pine Forest Drive
- Retreat Lane
- Sly Park Road (partial)
- Starkes Grade Road (partial)
Compliance & Monitoring: Today through 2020

**Community Education**
County staff, in coordination with Fire Safe Councils, CAL FIRE and local Fire Districts, will provide education to the public and property owners on the ordinance.

**Notification Letters**
Properties in the identified areas will be mailed a notice that vegetation must be removed by June 1, 2020. A sample inspection checklist will be included with the letter and posted on the web.

**Compliance Inspections**
Inspections will begin in the identified areas:
- County Emphasis Areas (CEA)
- Target Hazard Areas (TRA)
- Wildfire Risk Areas (WRA)
Complaints reviewed and assessed, as appropriate.
Defensible Space Inspections

**Enforcement and Investigative Officials**
- **Enforcement Official:** Chief Administrative Officer or Designee
- **Investigative Official:** CAL FIRE, Fire Chief of any district in the County or Designee

**Inspection(s)**
A “Notice of Defensible Space Inspection” report will identify if the property is in compliance with the ordinance or if violations need to be corrected and a date for re-inspection. Multiple failed inspections will result in a Hazard Abatement Notice.

**Enforcement**
Violations of the ordinance, may initiate the following:
- Meet and confer
- Hazard Abatement Notice
- Appeals hearing
- Forced abatement for repeated non-compliance
Where do I start...

...A few options
Clear Pine Needles from Roofs & Gutters
Limb Up and Thin Out Smaller Trees
Chipping and Masticating
Goatscaping or Targeted Grazing
Mowing and Trimming
Other Options for Land Clearing

- Burn piles (in compliance with AQMD rules and dates and CALFIRE permits. Never leave unattended)
- Eco-friendly sprays or mulching
- Fire Safe Councils
- Neighborhood co-op
- Contractors (ensure they are licensed and insured)
Equipment Use Reminders

- Mow and use equipment before 10 am
- Never mow on a hot or windy day
- String trimmers are safer options than lawn mowers
EL DORADO COUNTY
BURN INFORMATION LINE
LEARN BEFORE YOU BURN

Placerville:  
(530) 621-5897  
(866) 621-5897

So. Lake Tahoe:  
(530) 621-5842  
(888) 332-2876

El Dorado County
Air Quality Management District  
(530) 621-7501
www.edcgov.us/AirQualityManagement

THANK YOU FOR WORKING WITH US TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY!
Frequently Asked Questions

How do I get my neighbor to comply with the Ordinance? What if my neighbor is a Local or State Agency?

How do I figure out who my neighbor is?
- EDC Assessor: 360 Fair Lane, Placerville, 530-621-5719

What about vacant parcels?

Can the County enter my property at any time?

What resources are available?

What is the County doing to clear roads?

Could you explain that again, maybe using real words?
El Dorado County
Ready Together
Vegetation Management
El Dorado County

(530) 621-4663
Vegetation@edcgov.us
www.facebook.com/edcpreparedness
www.edcgov.us/government/CAO/VegetationManagement
Diamond Springs – El Dorado Fire Protection District

2020 Wildfire Mitigation Plan
Emphasis Areas & Expectations

Partners with El Dorado County Vegetation Management and Defensible Space Ordinance No. 5101

Phone: (530) 626-3190  www.diamondfire.org
Timeframes

• Notification of Wildfire Risk Area Investigation efforts prior to June 1\textsuperscript{st}
  • The County Ordinance refers to inspections as investigations

• Initial Investigation: commencing after June 1\textsuperscript{st}

• Education and reasonable plan of actions per property

• Effective communication between property owners and Investigators

• Second Investigation: an evaluation of efforts made, and what has been accomplished
Kingvale Road Area

- Roughly 15 Parcels
- Sizing 5+ Acres Each
- Lack of Ingress / Egress
- Overall topography allows for the heavy potential of wildfire
- Fire History
Church Mine Road Area

- Roughly 25 Parcels
- Sizing 5+ Acres to 10+ Acres Each
- Lack of Ingress / Egress
- Overall topography allows for the heavy potential of wildfire
- Fire History
Finch Road Area

- Roughly 29 Parcels
- Sizing ranging from 1+ Acres to 10+ Acres Each
- Lack of Ingress / Egress
- Overall topography allows for the heavy potential of wildfire
- Close proximity structure to structure
Objectives and Goals

• Educate, assist, and gain compliance with property owners
• On site investigations
• How the Ordinance applies and effective efforts to meet it
• Plan of action with reasonable timeframes
• Goal: Achieve safety with each property
• Community effort to prevent and prepare for wildfires
• Encourage property owners to reach out and schedule an inspection

Phone: (530) 626-3190      www.diamondfire.org
Cameron Park Fire Department
What’s the latest?

Ordinance (No. 2020.03.18) updated in March 2020

• Notable Items:
• 1. This is Cameron Park’s third year enforcing the ordinance.
   2. February notices will no longer be sent out to property owners.
   3. Improved and unimproved parcel clearance requirements are clearly identified.
   4. Ordinance does not include the good neighbor policy.

   Improved Parcels
   • Inspections occurred on 530 lots in April and May, and 30 letters were sent out for non-compliance.

   Vacant Parcels
   • First inspections occurred early April. Over 300 parcels were inspected and 200 letters were sent out for non-compliance.
   • Second inspections occurred early May and 115 letters were sent out for non-compliance.

• If, by June 1, any improved or vacant parcel remains non-compliant, the hazardous vegetation and rubbish may be abated and the owner will be responsible for all abatement-related costs incurred by the District.
El Dorado Hills Fire Department

• Wildfire Risk Analysis Completed in Spring 2020
• Six Areas Identified for Defensible Space Inspections (DSI)
• 400 +/- Parcels Identified for DSI by EDH/Rescue Fire Departments
• DSI Scheduled to Begin in June 2020
• Property Owners to Receive Written Notice in Late May Regarding DSI
• Property Owners Encouraged to Contact Us to Schedule the DSI

916-933-6623 or www.EDHFire.Com
• Six Wildfire Risk Areas
  Scheduled for Defensible Space Inspections

• Latrobe Hills North Community
• Latrobe Hills South Community
• Ryan Ranch – Beaver Pond Community
• Salmon Falls Community
• Salmon Valley Community
• Kanaka Valley Community
Questions?
Panel Members

- El Dorado County Vegetation Management Program
  Kristine Guth, Program Manager
- Diamond Springs - El Dorado Fire District
  Casey Randsdell, Fire Prevention Officer
- El Dorado Hills Fire Department/Rescue Fire Department
  Ron Phillips, Fire Marshal/Division Chief
- CAL FIRE – Amador-El Dorado Unit (AEU)
  Sherry Moranz, Division Chief
- CAL FIRE – Amador-El Dorado Unit (AEU)
  Nate Barcklay, Battalion Chief
- City of Placerville
  Pierre Rivas, Director, Development Services
El Dorado County Vegetation Management
Fire Agency Partners

- CalFire, Amador-El Dorado Unit, 530-683-5229
- Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire, 530-626-3190
- El Dorado County Fire, 530-644-9630
- El Dorado Hills Fire, 916-933-6623
- Garden Valley Fire, 530-333-1240
- Georgetown Fire, 530-333-4111
El Dorado County Vegetation Management
Fire Agency Partners

- Lake Valley Fire District, 530-577-3737
- Mosquito Fire, 530-626-9017
- North Tahoe & Meeks Bay Fire, 530-584-2344
- Pioneer Fire District, 530-620-4444
- Rescue Fire Department, 530-677-1868