



Volume 1

Spring 2014

Greetings from your Carmel Views Board of Directors. The purpose of this newsletter is keep you informed about issues and events that affect our neighborhood. This first newsletter is the only one that will be printed. Subsequent newsletters will be sent electronically unless you request otherwise *in writing. We hope you find the information useful and informative.

MAKE YOUR HOME FIRE SAFE

A Defensible Space of 100 feet around your home is required by law. The goal is to protect your home while providing a safe area for firefighters. Clearing an area of 30 feet immediately surrounding your home is critical. This area requires the greatest reduction in flammable vegetation.

Spacing between plants improves the chance of stopping a wildfire before it destroys your home. You have two options:

- a. Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants. For more information on this and other fire-related safety issues, go to: www.fire.ca.gov. Click on **Newsroom**, scroll down to **Fire Safety Education** and select "**Are You Ready?**"
- b. Large trees do not have to be cut and removed as long as all of the plants beneath them are removed. This eliminates a "vertical fire ladder."

Remove all build-up of needles and leaves from your roof and gutters. Keep tree limbs trimmed at least 10 feet from any chimneys and remove dead limbs that hang over your roof or garage.

CARMEL VIEWS CHIPPER DAY

Our spring clean up day will be held on Monday, May 19. A chipper crew will start circulating the area at 8:00 a.m. This is an opportunity to remove dead branches and shrubs around your house and the common areas.

Bring any brush or branches that *will not fit into your yard waste can* to the curb in front of your house by 8 a.m. on Monday, May 19.

MAKE SURE THAT THE BUTT END OF THE BRANCHES ARE ALL FACING THE SAME WAY SO THAT THEY ARE EASILY LOADED INTO THE CHIPPER. Maximum diameter: 12 inches.

Piles of yard waste, dirt, rock, grass and pine needles will not be picked up!

GRANT UPDATE

We know you have been hearing about this grant money for a while, but work cannot commence until the completion of a CEQA (CA Environmental Quality Act) analysis. This study identifies endangered plant and animal species and archaeological sites. Our CEQA is hopefully near completion.

The grant period officially began April 1, 2014. The grant is for work done in phases over a two-year period. The CA. Dept of Forestry and Cal Fire determine which areas are the most vulnerable and what treatment is appropriate in consultation with the Home Owners Association board.

Homeowners are responsible for dead trees and growth on their properties. Cal Fire might ask you to sign a permission form to allow them to enter your property in order to work in common areas. Any fire abatement work that you or hired crews perform on your property should be logged using a form that will be provided soon.

PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING PROBLEM DRIVERS

It is our responsibility to drive safely and at the designated speed of 25 mph on our neighborhood roads. If you wish to report a dangerous driver:

- 1) Do not contact the CVCA board.
- 2) Dangerous driving issues in Carmel Views are the responsibility of individual residents to report to the California Highway Patrol: **1-800-TELL-CHP**
- 3) Take a photo of the problem car if possible and report it at once. Don't wait.
- 4) **1-800-TELL-CHP is for non-emergencies. If you suspect a drunk driver, or in case of an emergency, call 9-1-1**

The CVCA Board has no jurisdiction in this issue. It is the responsibility of the individual to call the CHP.

PLEASE PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES and donate to FIRE FUND

Annual dues are now past due. Our nominal dues help to keep our neighborhood clean and safe. It also covers costs such as insurance, legal fees, taxes, mailings, the annual picnic and the annual meeting. Because of the drought, there are more than the usual number of dead trees in our canyons. Your additional voluntary contributions for Fire Abatement can help us remove some of these trees while at the same time help us to meet our match obligation for the California Fire Safe Council and Cypress Fire District grants. Please consider making a contribution to this fund.

CC&R GOOD NEIGHBOR REMINDER

Each newsletter will contain a provision from the Carmel Views Covenants, Codes and Restrictions as a reminder to keep our neighborhood looking its best in order to keep property values at

their optimum. Let us know if you have any reminders you would like to see in future newsletters. Article V, Section 1f: "Except as hereinafter set forth, no trailer, boat, truck, motor home, recreational vehicle, tractor or commercial passenger vehicle (other than a pickup truck or commercial passenger vehicle used as a regular means of transportation by a resident of a dwelling on the Lot) shall be parked on any street or driveway with in the Properties. All such trailers, tractors, boats and other vehicles shall be stored in an enclosure on a Lot or screened so as to not be visible from the public street or from neighboring dwellings with the Properties, except while loading or unloading or during construction activities."

REVERSE 911 NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Our local fire district has an automated telephone, cell phone and email notification system referred to as "Reverse 911." This

rapid delivery of information provides important information of potentially lifesaving instructions in times of crisis such as wildland fires, gas leaks, tsunamis or other hazardous conditions. Residents who may be in need of special assistance during an emergency are noted on a special list. All CV residents are encouraged to sign up. Send your name, address, home and cell phone numbers, and email to: Cypress Fire Protection District, ATT: Emergency Preparedness, 73 Fern Canyon Rd, Carmel, CA 93923.

GET INVOLVED!

You don't have to be a CV Board member to help your neighborhood. We need volunteers for the newsletter, our annual picnic, the annual meeting, mailings, and to help with tasks related to the fire safety grant.

**Simply email us at cvcaboard@gmail.com or send a note to CVCA, P.O. Box 22052, Carmel, CA 93922-0052.*

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carmelcellogal@sbcglobal.net
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