

**FIRE PREPAREDNESS UPDATE #17**  
*from the CVCA Firewise Team*

The late rains and cool temps have kept things lush and growing. But we all know that warmer dryer weather is coming. So, it's time to take stock, reduce fuels in our yards, undertake home hardening steps, and prepare for wildfire emergencies.

**1) Act Now: Time-limited Offer for DISCOUNTED FOUNDATION & SOFFIT VENT RETROFITS**

You can now buy small-mesh vent screens that meet state requirements for reducing risks of ember intrusion at a **20% discount!** *(The company is currently offering a 10% online discount, so this is 10% in additional savings.)*

This offer is good only through **May 31** and has been made available to Firewise Communities in Monterey County through a partnership between the Fire Safe Council for Monterey County & Wildfire Defense Mesh™.

Use discount code – **MontereyCountyFSC5x4** – when you shop at the Wildfire Defense Mesh online store, which you can access through [this link](#).

**2) Review this GREAT EVACUATION PLANNING SUMMARY from the Monterey County Department of Emergency Management**

The Monterey County Department of Emergency Management has developed an excellent and easy-to-follow guide for how to prepare for emergency evacuations. You can access and download the guide through [this link](#).

It includes practical guidance on assembling supplies, creating an evacuation plan, signing up for alerts, when and how to evacuate, and when and how to return to your home after an evacuation order has been lifted. It also includes links to many useful online resources.

*Of particular importance:* To receive area-specific emergency information, including evacuation orders and street closures, you can register for alerts by signing up through [this link](#) (Alert Monterey County, the county's official emergency alert and warning system) or by texting your zip code to 65513. The guide also includes QR Codes that you can scan to sign up for alerts.

### **3) Participate in our next CHIPPER DAY period starting June 10**

Our next Chipper period will run from June 10 through June 21. That means you will need to have your piles neatly stacked along the roadside by **8AM on June 10**.

For newcomers to Carmel Views – Chipper Days are a great way to have excess fuels removed from your property for FREE. All you need to do is neatly stack limbs and branches trimmed from your yard by the roadside. A contractor from Cypress Fire will visit our community sometime during the chipper period to chip and remove qualifying materials.

BUT there are rules you MUST comply with to have your piles removed. The contractor will NOT pick up yard debris, raked piles, piles that are poorly stacked or too big, or whole trees or tree trimmings that are larger than 6 inches in diameter. Other prohibited items include Genista (French broom), poison oak, bamboo, vines, rocks/stones, metal objects, coyote brush, foxtail plants, building materials, thorns, rotten or dirty wood, or wood cut into firewood length. These requirements are to ensure the contractor's safety, prevent the chipper machine from jamming, and to keep the chipped materials free of noxious weeds and contaminants.

To learn more about how to participate, follow [this link](#) to the Cypress website, or read the Cypress guidance about Chipper program requirements that was mailed to homeowners and is available on the [Carmel Views website](#).

### **4) Say THANK YOU to Victor Lourenco, our new CVCA Board VP/Fire Abatement**

This year, Victor has gamely, and very effectively, stepped up to the demanding task of maintaining fuel load breaks in our community's common areas. This

involves setting priorities, identify and managing numerous contractors, and working with the Carmel Views Fire Team. We are all grateful for your terrific efforts Victor!

To learn more about our HOA's important work in the common areas, follow [this link](#) to a list of projects underway for 2024.

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*Please email Liz Chornesky, the current Carmel Views Firewise Lead ([CarmelViewsFirewise@gmail.com](mailto:CarmelViewsFirewise@gmail.com)), and copy your message to the Board ([cvcaboard@gmail.com](mailto:cvcaboard@gmail.com)), if you have any questions or comments about this or future **CVCA Fire Preparedness Updates**.*