



Pliocene Ridge Community Services District

100 Pike City Road
Pike City, CA 95960

plioceneridge.org

plioceneridge@gmail.com

Firewise Community Effort Underway

- Firewise USA ® is a voluntary program that provides a framework to help neighbors get organized, find direction and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community.
- The Nevada County Firesafe council assists in the formation of Firewise communities and they have offered to take the Pliocene Ridge area under their wing.
- District Fire Chief Chris Dorn initiated this effort partly because of the huge increase in his fire insurance cost last year. Firewise Certification can help with insurance premiums and the ability to get insurance. Certification is issued by Firewise USA ® after a series of steps are completed.
- To-date the following steps towards certification have been taken:
 - Two informational meetings were held last fall (one in Pike and one in Alleghany). If you were not aware of the meetings, rest assured; there will be more. Meeting attendance is not required to participate.
 - Chris Dorn toured the district with Fire Scientist Jo Ann Fites, to do a preliminary fuel hazard assessment, delineate practical boundaries and start the mapping process.
 - The Pliocene Ridge CSD board of directors passed a resolution to support the Firewise effort, as it aligns with the district's mission.

Based on Jo Ann's expertise it has been recommended that Pike and Alleghany form separate Firewise Communities. This does not preclude working on the Ridge Road corridor between Pike and Alleghany. Improving escape corridors is a sanctioned Firewise activity.

OVER

Pliocene Ridge CSD mission: to respect its heritage and natural resources while striving to protect lives, property, and the environment from natural and man-made disasters. Also, to provide the level of services supported by the community in the areas of fire protection, emergency medical, search & rescue, parks & recreation, and street lighting.

What are the next steps?

- Pike and Alleghany each need to form a Firewise Committee with at least 3 members.
- The Nevada County Firesafe council will assist with the Firewise application process, including....
- The mapping (this is in the works)
- A fire hazard analysis with a team of experts, resulting in a Hazard Report for each community. (this takes time)
- Action goals will be developed with input from all involved parties based on the results of the Hazard Report.
- A website portal on NFPA will be provided for tracking the actual work

What can you do to participate?

- Let us know of your desire to participate via email: plioceneridge@gmail.com or phone: (530) 287-9844 or regular mail: PRCSD 100 Pike City Rd. Pike CA 95960 (be sure to include the best way to contact you).
- Use the enclosed form to start tracking any work that you do (or have done) around your house. More blank forms are available in the outside boxes at the Pike Firehouse and the Alleghany Post Office.
- Notify us if you are interested in serving on the Firesafe Committee for your community. So far, we have one person from Alleghany and one from Pike.
- Besides committee members, certified defensible space advisors are needed to help homeowners identify what they can do to harden their homes. Training to become an advisor is free and takes about 12 hours to complete.

More Information:

Nevada County Firesafe Council website: AreYouFireSafe.com

Firewise USA ® website: firewise.org

Further questions? Please email plioceneridge@gmail.com or leave a phone message at 530-287-9844. Phone messages are retrieved on weekday mornings.

District website: plioceneridge.org