

Mitigation Volunteerism – 07-12-25

Upcoming events:

Saturday mornings - from 8:30 to noon. This may seem like a short time, but physical exertion takes its toll. We would rather have shorter sessions that will ensure we do not burn people out.

We are starting with Owner volunteers and will be assessing what we are accomplishing and will look at supplementing with contactors if that makes sense. The problem is that we do not have unlimited funds for mitigation and the only option is Owner's volunteerism.

What are you going to get out of it:

Your benefits:

1. Comradery and getting to know your neighbors – some may become new friends
2. Exercise and getting in the outdoors
3. Improve your health
4. Immense satisfaction with what you have been able to accomplish

Benefits to the Ranch:

1. Improved safety on the roads – less blind spots, expanded width of the roads for emergency ingress and egress
2. Improves the beauty of our homes and the Ranch
3. Improve overall safety on the roads by removing overhanging trees that may impact the powerlines. (Yes, San Isabel Electric is responsible for this, but they are not very timely).

Options for mitigation volunteering if you are physically not able to cut, mow or chip:

1. Hand out snacks and water to the volunteers. Be there to show support – sometimes when people get tired, they need someone to talk to.
2. Anyone with medical experience can be there as a support person to assist with anything that might happen – cuts, scrapes, medical issues.
3. Data entry and review for FireWise reporting.
4. Be a resource to owners on FireWise to ensure that we get things done correctly with the least amount of frustration for everyone.

Next events:

Saturday July 26th – meet at the MOC at 8:30 (David Moore Lead)

Group 1 – 6 people – focus on cleaning up already cut debris using the chipper

Group 2 – 6 people – cut new areas to be identified and prepare cuttings for chipping

Saturday August 9th – meet at the MOC at 8:30 (Mark Thomas Lead)

Group 1 – 6 people – focus on cleaning up already cut debris using the chipper

Group 2 – 6 people – cut new areas to be identified and prepare cuttings for chipping

Saturday August 30th - meet at the MOC at 8:30 (Lead TBD)

Group 1 – 6 people – focus on cleaning up already cut debris using the chipper

Group 2 – 6 people – cut new areas to be identified and prepare cuttings for chipping

Saturday September 20th - meet at the MOC at 8:30 (Lead TBD)

Group 1 – 6 people – focus on cleaning up already cut debris using the chipper

Group 2 – 6 people – cut new areas to be identified and prepare cuttings for chipping

Saturday October 11th – meet at the MOC at 8:30 (Lead TBD)

Group 1 – 6 people – focus on cleaning up already cut debris using the chipper

Group 2 – 6 people – cut new areas to be identified and prepare cuttings for chipping

More days to be added

We will be focusing on the main ingress and egress routes for the Ranch such as Mountain View, Cottonwood, Fishers Peak, Gallinas and the like.

Other Items:

The POA will not be chipping branches you cut and drag out to the road, as this is your responsibility. Think about it, you are asking your neighbor to volunteer to do work on your property, when they have their own properties to maintain – how fair is that?

Understanding the Right-of-Way (ROW). The POA has a 60-foot Right-of-Way that runs 30 feet from the center of the road on both sides. This is the area where the POA Mitigation Committee can decide to do mitigation work and the Owners do not have a say on what can or cannot be done in this area. If you have specific concerns about this area that borders your property, the best course of action is to be proactive and take care of this area yourself and communicate (with your name, email address, Lot # and address) to the Mitigation Committee about what you have done. If not, the Mitigation Committee will do what it believes is necessary.

We will not cut beyond this point (ROW) and we may never cut within this area – it is completely at the discretion of the POA Mitigation Committee.

Conclusion:

We need your help, and we have sign-up sheets at the FireWise table that we would like to add your name to. There is a section that you can check the box if you have special talents such as chain saw skills, mowing skills, medical training, equipment maintenance experience, data entry experience, project coordination experience and the like.

Forest Health and Wildfire Mitigation Committee Contact Information

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