



Amador Fire Safe Council

Amador County, California

MARCH 2023

Amador Fire Safe Council Seeks Funding for Community Fuel Breaks



The Amador Fire Safe Council is working on developing several community fuel breaks that will serve to protect county residents from the threat of wildfire and serve as strategic locations for emergency personnel to fight potential future fires. The value and purpose of these types of fuel breaks can be seen in an example close to home; the Pine Acres Fuel Break was instrumental in protecting Amador County from both the Butte and Electra fires. The AFSC is currently writing a grant to CAL FIRE's Wildfire Prevention grant program. Grant funds, if awarded, will be used to establish two fuel breaks to enhance protection of several local communities from catastrophic wildfire. The Volcano Hill Fuel Break will be a 7.5 mile fuel break covering 270 acres. This proposed fuel break system would provide increased wildfire protection to Volcano and communities to the west of Stirnaman Mine Road from easterly wind events. Along with the Mitchell Mine Fuel Break, this proposed fuel break system may assist in the protection of Upcountry residents, those in Pioneer and further east, from wildfires driven by the prevailing southwest winds. The proposed Ohio Hill Fuel Break is located outside the City of Jackson and surrounded by residential, agricultural, commercial and industrial lands.

The 2015 Butte Fire footprint is 2 miles south and the 2021 Caldor Fire footprint is 6 miles to the northeast. Construction of the Ohio Hill Fuel Break leverages the Mitchell Mine Fuel Break, completed in 2021, as well as other fuels reduction activities in the general area. As part of our strategic plan, the AFSC initially focused on communities that have secured, or are in the process of securing, Firewise community designation. These funds will also allow AFSC to work with additional communities to develop more strategically planned fuel breaks. A goal of this grant is to inspire true grassroots effort throughout the county.

Website

The AFSC has refreshed their website and it is now "live" and available for everyone to visit. The address is the same, however, more information is offered in regard to projects, mapping, resources, the NFPA Firewise program in Amador County, and much more!

Please visit:

www.AmadorFireSafe.org

Sign up using the "Join Our Mailing List" tab to receive Newsletters, Board Meeting Agendas, Program Updates, etc.

Disaster Relief Center

Amador County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services will be hosting a disaster recovery center for Amador County citizens affected by the late December 2022 and early January 2023 storms.

This service is open to all community members with losses as a result of these qualifying storms.

Location:

Amador County
Administration Center
(Conference Rooms A & C)
810 Court St. Jackson, CA
95642

Duration:

March 2nd - March 16th,
2023

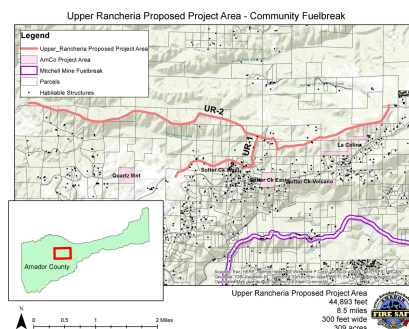
Monday - Saturday
(8:00am - 5:00pm)

These disaster recovery services through FEMA, CalOES, and SBA will offer residents the ability to apply for aid and have questions answered by onsite staff relative to damages as a result of the storms, referred to as atmospheric rivers. If you are unable to attend, you may apply online at disasterassistance.gov

EXCITING NEWS!

The Amador Fire Safe Council was in the midst of preparing a grant proposal for CALFIRE to fund the Upper Rancheria Community Fuel Break when CAL FIRE announced its decision to directly fund the Upper Rancheria project—outside the grant process—because of the extensive work already done by the local Firewise communities, residents, and the AFSC. AFSC staff is working with CAL FIRE on finalizing the contracting for the direct award. It is anticipated that environmental compliance planning work and site visits will start in Spring 2023 and implementation will begin as early as fall 2023.

The Upper Rancheria Fuel Break is a 8.5 mile fuel break that covers 300 acres. This project will provide increased fire protection for residents and structures in the Upper Rancheria and Quartz Mountain Firewise communities. The fuel break provides some protection from a fire moving from west to east (moving upstream along Rancheria Creek) and more protection from a fire moving north to south, as was the case of the Caldor Fire.



Workshops:

Volcano Hills Fuel Break

Town Hall:

March 8th 6:30-7:30pm
Volcano Armory Hall
For Virtual Meeting link,
please visit AFSC
website calendar

AFSC Board Meetings

The Amador Fire Safe Council Board Meetings take place on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. These meetings are open to the public and we encourage the community to attend, ask questions, and get involved!

Time:

3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location:

Volcano Communications
Tech Center
19888 Church St. Pine Grove