



Yosemite West Property &
Homeowners, Inc.
www.YosemiteWest.org

Chipping Program

May 29, 2012

YWPHI is again proud to offer free chipping to everyone in the community. This is the eighth consecutive year that YWPHI is facilitating fuel reduction inside the community. YWPHI funded chipping programs from 2005 to 2008 in conjunction with the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council. For the following three years, 2009-2011, National Fire Plan grant funding awarded to YWPHI paid for fuel reduction and chipping.

However, National Fire Plan grant funding is no longer available for defensible space work and chipping inside the community, so YWPHI will pay for one day - and one day only - for a chipper and crew to chip owner-made, curbside piles. The chipping crew will make just one pass through the community. Time will be limited, so the process needs to be efficient.

YWPHI decided, in part, to incur the expense for chipping because the storm the last weekend of winter brought heavy, wet snow and strong winds that broke many tree limbs. When the snow finally melts, property owners may find large broken limbs on the ground that are suitable for chipping and otherwise would be difficult to dispose of.

The chipping program is scheduled *after* Memorial Day to enable those owners who only come on Memorial Day weekend to participate.

The free chipping program is available to every property owner in Yosemite West.

We hope that everyone will take advantage of this program and continue to increase community-wide defensible space. Property owners do *not* have to be present when the chipper comes. The chips will be blown back and dispersed onto your property as determined by the crew. Chips reduce the growth of weeds and unnecessary seedlings, keep soil in place preventing erosion, and decay slowly forming a nutrient-rich mulch.

To Sign Up for Free Chipping

Participation takes three easy steps:

1. Make your curbside pile by 7 a.m., Tuesday, May 29th.
2. Flag you pile(s) using the pink flagging tape provided in the mailbox shed.
3. Email firesafety@yosemitewest.org no later than May 15th to inform us that you have a pile; if you do not contact the YWPHI Fire Safety Committee, your pile will *not* get on the work list and will *not* be chipped.

Chipping Pile Guidelines

Chipping Do's

- ✓ Hand pile brush and branches with cut ends pointing in the same direction towards the street.
- ✓ Generate substantial-sized piles; consolidate piles with your neighbors where possible, which will speed up chipping.

Chipping Don'ts

- ✗ No piles in the street.
- ✗ No rocks, pine needles or cones, or garbage.
- ✗ No limbs greater than 8" in diameter.
- ✗ No machine-made or dozer-made piles.
- ✗ No "kindling-sized" piles; which wastes the crew's time (i.e., if it looks like kindling, it is).

www.yosemitewest.org/firesafe.htm