

Yosemite West Property & Homeowners, Inc. (YWPHI)

http://www.yosemitewest.org/

Summer 2022

Dear Yosemite West,

We hope September finds you safe and healthy, whether you have recently visited Yosemite West or whether you have been away for some time. We're writing to update on our activities over the past year, and ask for your support in keeping Yosemite West safe and prepared for fire. Please reach out at <u>grants@yosemitewest.org</u> if you have questions or want to help.

Forest Health Grant

Last fall, we were excited to announce that Yosemite West had been included in a <u>Forest Health Grant</u> that would fund hazard fuel reduction in and around the community, notably targeting down trees. Well over 100 of you signed up for the free services, administered by the Mariposa County Resource Conservation District, which allowed this much-needed work to take place at unprecedented scale this summer.

As of the end of May, the grant has removed over **300 tons of biomass** from Yosemite West. With the Washburn and Oak fires a stark reminder of the reality of fire season, this critical effort is making our community safer and more defensible for our property owners, residents, guests and fire fighters.

The initial phase of work on private properties is mostly complete, although more work may be considered for the fall, pending sufficient grant funds. The grant is now targeting 4,000 dead trees in the YW wastewater treatment facility area. Additional removals along fire lookout roads and Eleven Mile Road are also possible later in the fall, although work for some YNP areas is temporarily paused.

Firewise Renewal Status

In order to maintain our status as a Firewise community, we have to report the number of hours and dollars spent on fire prevention each calendar year. As of mid-July, we have spent 185.5 hours and \$5,190 on fire prevention, well short of last year's 331 hours and \$33,206. Please report your hours by the end of November using the Firewise self-submit online form (the <u>link</u> can be found on the <u>http://yosemitewest.org/</u> homepage, or email <u>grants@yosemitewest.org</u> to ask for the link). This year's form asks you to report the work in four categories (landscaping, home hardening, miscellaneous, and vegetation removal) and you can skip or enter '0' into any category that is not relevant.

What else can you do?

- 1) Cover wood piles can be covered with any type of fire resistant tarp
- 2) Remove pine needles on roofs these can be hosed off if you don't have a ladder
- 3) Remove plants, particularly dead ones, near or above propane tanks
- 4) Remove branches overhanging chimneys
- 5) Don't store flammable materials under decks

Katie and Adar