

## Douglass September 2018 Vol. 57 Ranch News

## 2018 Firewise Activities By Tom Washburn

This year Douglass Ranch held two neighborhood slash chipping days. The first chipping day in May focused on private drive roadside mitigation and included homeowner mitigation. The second chipping effort in August/September focused on homeowner defensible space.

Some residents have made tremendous progress in improving their defensible space. Kudos to all who helped with roadside mitigation and who made the effort to improve their property's capability to resist a wildfire.

As of this writing 54% of residents have worked mitigation efforts this year. Over 700 hours of effort have been put in and nearly \$7000 has been spent on mitigation. There can be no doubt that the majority of residents are actively working toward a safer future.

The DR Firewise on-line tool will close on November 1st in preparation for our annual submission to the Firewise Organization to maintain our Firewise status.

A Forest Management Plan is being written that is designed to guide our neighborhood forest management and mitigation efforts in accordance with our CC&Rs.

At the annual meeting a number of Firewise discussion topics are planned:

- Defensible Space
- Fuel Breaks
- Alternate escape route
- Forest Management Plan
- Funding our mitigation efforts

## From the President

As we move from summer to fall, I wanted to update everyone on a few of the items that the board has been working on.

We are in the process of updating our neighborhood directory to include information for our new neighbors.

Randy Jensen is in the process of collecting information and bids to do a combination of crack sealing, seal coat, and patching on the private roads. The goal is to do this late fall after the weather cools or at least get a feel for the cost, so we can budget for 2019.

We also have been able to complete the pond outlet this summer and repair the leak. In doing the work we did lose a considerable amount of water but feel we have things repaired so that with the spring run-off we can be back at capacity next year. Fortunately, we were able to come in under what was budgeted. The pond remains our #1 water supply in case of fire.

The DRPOA annual meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday Nov. 7th. This year we do not have any members leaving the board as Randy Jensen has agreed to stay another year. However, if any of you have an interest in serving on the board or any committee, please let me know. This year we will have a report on the DRPOA Forest Policy and discussion on fire mitigation by the Firewise Committee.

Best Regards,

Gary Lenhart President, DRPOA 303-816-5491

## **Quick Reference**

Annual Meeting: Wednesday Nov.7 (Meadow Creek B&B 6:30-8:30 PM)

More information about Douglass Ranch can be found on our website:

http://www.douglassranch.org/