

The Fire Plug



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Fire Prevention Week 2018

Get ready for Fire Prevention Week! It's a great way to rally our community to take action to prevent fires and reduce loss of property and lives. While Fire Prevention Week provides a central focus for prevention, the need to promote fire safety all year long is critical in California's current fire environment.

The National Fire Protection Association has adopted this year's theme as "**Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware—Fire can happen anywhere.**"

Look for places fire could start (take a good look around your home for fire dangers and address the problems).

Listen (working smoke alarms will let you know that you need to escape).

Learn (two ways out of every room).

This is an excellent time to teach yourself and your family about safety both in the home and out.

Come by the Kensington Fire Station (217 Arlington Avenue) on **Saturday, October 13th** between the hours of **10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** to learn more about fire



safety, emergency preparedness, Community Emergency Response Team training, evacuations and more. KFPD will also be displaying graphics on the new fire-wise demonstration garden we are sponsoring in Kensington Park.

In addition, you can meet your local firefighters and become familiar with our firefighting apparatus. Cookies and drinks will be provided!

Since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.

KFPD Board Meetings

Effective immediately, the Kensington Fire Protection District's monthly Board of Directors meetings have moved to the Kensington Public Safety Building (217 Arlington Avenue) and will take place in the fire apparatus room. We plan to move back to the community center once renovation for that facility is complete.

The KFPD Board meets on the second Wednesday of every month at

7:00 p.m. (with a recess in August). Board packets are posted to the District's website (www.kensingtonfire.org) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. You can also sign up for Board meeting notifications on the District's website.

We welcome you to attend our monthly public meetings as we address many important topics of interest to the Kensington community.

Pharmaceutical Drop Off on 10/27/18	2
CPR and First Aid Training Schedule	2
CERT Training Schedule	2
Fall Shredding Event on 10/27/18	3
Subscribe to Nixle	3
Holiday Toy Drive	3
KFPD New Website	3
Chief Maples' Retirement	4

KFPD BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Unable to list current individuals per Fair Political Practices Commission rules—60 days before an election

KFPD STAFF:

- **Lance Maples, Chief**
- **Brenda Navellier, Manager**



Pharmaceutical Disposal Event

KFPD and KPPCSD will once again partner together to bring the residents of Kensington a pharmaceutical drop off on **Saturday, October 27, 2018**. This *free* event will take place at the Kensington Public Safety Building (217 Arlington Avenue) from **10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** This program is possible through the United States Drug Enforcement Administration's "Got Drugs?" campaign to safely dispose of unnecessary/unwanted medications.

Fire and Police personnel will be available

to accept all unused or expired medications including narcotics, pills, syrups, inhalers, etc. We do not accept any household hazardous waste.



It is important not to flush your unwanted medications down the toilet as they will pollute our drinking water and ground soil. Unwanted medications left in your medicine cabinet put children and teens at risk. Call (510) 215-4450 or (510) 526-4141 with any questions regarding this event.

CPR/First Aid Classes

KFPD is offering CPR/First Aid classes this fall on **Saturday, October 20th** and **Saturday, November 17th** at the El Cerrito Community Center in El Cerrito (7007 Moeser Lane).

All classes are taught to American Heart Association Heart Saver standards.

Space is limited and priority registration is given to Kensington and El Cerrito residents.

Cost for residents is \$42 for CPR and \$84 for both CPR and First Aid.

Registration is required. You can sign-up by emailing fire@kensingtonfire.org or calling (510) 215-4450.



CERT Training

The Kensington Fire Protection District continues to offer on-going training opportunities to prepare yourself, your family and our community for a major disaster through the Community Emergency Response Team Training (CERT) program.

Training opportunities include the certified eight-week evening course plus all-day Saturday drill, offered three times a year, *or* the non-certified one day "boot camp" offered twice a year.



Our first full eight-week session for 2019

begins on Monday, January 7th at the Arlington Community Church in Kensington. Sign up now.

The entire 2019 CERT schedule is posted on our website at www.kensingtonfire.org or we can email you a copy.

Kensington is divided up into six CERT Areas and each has a volunteer coordinator to help neighbors connect. Once you have attended CERT training, we are happy to put you in touch with your CERT Area Coordinator.

To sign up for any of the CERT training opportunities, please contact Kensington Fire at (510) 215-4450 or email fire@kensingtonfire.org.

Get prepared today. During a disaster, you can make a difference in your neighborhood and our community!

Fall Shredding Event

The Kensington Fire Protection District will be holding its popular bi-annual shredding event on **Saturday, October 27, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.**

This *free* event for Kensington residents takes place in the library/community center parking lot directly across from Arlington Community Church (52 Arlington Ave).

This service is offered to assist residents in clearing out excess combustible materials from their

homes. All shredded papers will be recycled and go to paper mills.

It is not necessary to remove staples or paper-clips from your documents; however it is helpful to remove items like large binder clips. Please remove papers from binders or from plastic binding. There is no limit to quantity of paper from Kensington residents' homes.



Subscribe to Nixle

By early October, the Kensington Fire Protection District will be kicking-off its partnership with Nixle alerting systems. Nixle is an emergency alerting system that specializes in working with public safety agencies. You can sign up to receive alerts from KFPD via Nixle by signing up on their

website (www.nixle.com). You can also text your zip code to 888777. Anyone that has already registered to receive alerts from KPPCSD will automatically receive KFPD's alerts unless you opt out of them.



Holiday Toy Drive



Beginning November 1, the Kensington Fire Protection District will be collecting new, unwrapped toys, books, games

and sports equipment for our annual partnership with the U.S. Marine's Toys for Tots program. Please note, we do not accept stuffed animals or toy weapons of any kind. You may drop off your donation at any El Cerrito or Kensington fire station up until December 15.

KFPD Has A New Website

The Kensington Fire Protection District debuted its new website in July. You can find us at www.kensingtonfire.org. The site has been completely redesigned to comply with upcoming legislation and is also completely searchable.

The website calendar is one new feature that can be helpful and assist residents in finding out about events such as

our CPR/First Aid classes, public education events, Board meeting dates and more.



You can also sign up to receive Board of Directors meeting notifications on our website.

Our website will be an on-going work-in-progress as we strive to keep the information relevant to the residents of Kensington and the mission of the KFPD.

**KENSINGTON FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Kensington Public Safety Building
217 Arlington Avenue
Kensington, CA 94707

Admin Phone: (510) 527-8395
Fax: (510)527-8396
Fire Dept. Dispatch: (925) 941-3330
Emergency: 911
E-mail: fire@kensingtonfire.org

*When in Doubt—
Call Us Out!*

We're on the Web!
www.kensingtonfire.org



Best Wishes Chief Maples

El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Chief, Lance Maples, will be retiring at the end of 2018.

Chief Maples has worked for the El Cerrito Fire Department for over 27 years. Chief Maples rose through the ranks from Firefighter to Engineer to Captain and then Battalion Chief prior to spending the last 12 years as Chief of both the Kensington and El Cerrito communities.

A west Contra Costa County native, Chief Maples has been an active member of the Kensington community helping to guide the Kensington Fire Protection District and attending monthly Board meetings. He has been involved with the Hills Emergency Forum, the



Diablo Fire Safe Council, the Contra Costa County Executive Chiefs Association (serving as Chair in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2016) and a member of the East Bay Incident Management Team.

Chief Maples says the thing he will miss most about the job is “the positive morale and camaraderie within the El Cerrito-Kensington Fire Department”. He adds “I am proud to have served with such highly dedicated, well trained professionals and I have greatly enjoyed serving the residents of the Kensington community.”

The KFPD congratulates Chief Maples on his retirement and extends best wishes for all his future endeavors.