
Request and update from Wildcat Firewise Community

1 message

Alan Siegel <alansiegelphd@outlook.com>

Mon, May 6, 2024 at 5:48 PM

To: "public.comment@kensingtonfire.org" <public.comment@kensingtonfire.org>, "wildcat.firewise@outlook.com" <wildcat.firewise@outlook.com>

I am Alan Siegel, 31 year Kensington Resident and the RESIDENT COORDINATOR OF WILDCAT FIREWISE COMMUNITY. Here are a few of our concerns from Wildcat Firewise: **In light of the brush fire on August 8, 2023, that was caused by a ground transformer box that exploded, it is crucial that PGE trim and maintain very low fuel loads in the open space under the towers**

- 1) In the PGE right of way, under the powerlines above Arlington, PGE refuses to cut the tall grass, dangerous foliage, including juniper hedges, bamboo, echium, etc. Also, there is a dead tree at the top of the right of way.
- 2) PGE refuses to cut or trim the pine trees on Terrace that overhang the high voltage lines and overhang the PGE easement behind the homes. We believe this violates PGE's foliage safety guidelines and is an extreme danger related to both fire and blocked evacuation.
- 3) Juniper hedges along the sidewalk on Kensington Road under the towers appear also to be on PGE property.

Thanks for any ideas or assistance to prevent a repeat of last year's dangerous grassfire and to insist that PGE protect our homes.

Also

- 4) We have extreme danger linked to poor evacuation options and continue to be concerned that there has never been a formal evacuation drill for either the Kensington or the El Cerrito part of our Firewise Community. We have established a few evacuation routes but need more help and a formal drill.
- 5) We are concerned about the lack of funding options for 2024 for our zone from the Diablo Firesafe Council or Measure for clearing of the Right of Entry (first 100 feet) behind our homes in Wildcat Canyon Regional Park. I have obtained cost share funding for fuel reduction over the last 10 years but was told there is no funding for this year. This is an area of extreme danger due to dense foliage overgrowth and exposure to the Diablo Winds.

Any suggestions would be appreciated.

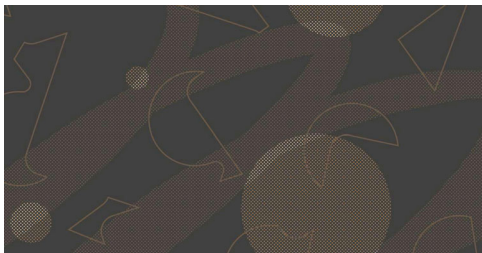
THANKS VERY MUCH!

Alan Siegel

Wildcat Firewise Community

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