



Yosemite West Property &  
Homeowners, Inc.  
[www.YosemiteWest.org](http://www.YosemiteWest.org)

**Chipping Program**  
June 2-3, 2008

YWPHI is sponsoring the fourth annual spring chipping program in collaboration with the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council. A chipper and crew will come to Yosemite West for two days to chip all yard debris that property owners cut and pile at the curb.

The past three chipping programs were a huge success - chipping more than 30 tons of yard debris each year. This program promotes creation of community wide defensible space, facilitates compliance with PRC 4291 (the 100-foot defensible space law), and reduces the amount of debris that goes on the community burn pile each year.

The chipping program is scheduled *after* Memorial Day so the chips are not blown on top of pine needles, and to enable those owners who only come on Memorial Day weekend to participate.

**The chipping program is available to every property owner in Yosemite West and is not limited to YWPHI members.** The cost of the chipping program is free to YWPHI members and \$25 per property for non-members. We encourage non-members to not only participate in the chipping program, but to also join YWPHI whose annual membership dues are \$25 per household. We hope that everyone will take advantage of this program and create more defensible space. Property owners do not have to be present when the chipper comes.

You can make a difference in whether or not your home and community survive a wildland fire. Your actions will make it safer for the firefighters who risk their lives to protect your property.

The chips will be left on your property at the recommendation of the Mariposa County Fire Department. Chips reduce the growth of weeds and unnecessary seedlings, keep soil in place to prevent erosion, and decay slowly forming a nutrient-rich mulch.

#### **Do's**

- Gather dead and downed wood from ground
- Limb trees at least 15 feet above ground
- Remove branches within 10 feet of chimneys and roof
- Remove *all* trees less than 6" at chest height
- Hand pile brush and branches with cut ends pointing in the same direction towards the street
- Make separate piles for each type of shrub or tree (e.g., separate manzanita from pine, etc.)

#### **To Sign Up for Chipping Program**

Participation in the chipping program requires advanced sign up by May 25th.

#### **For YWPHI members**

➤ Simply email [chipping@yosemitewest.org](mailto:chipping@yosemitewest.org) with your local address or lot number/street name, or call John Mock (☎ 209-372-4325), chair of the YWPHI Fire Safety committee; the chipping program is free.

#### **For non-members**

Choose one of the following two options:  
➤ I/we want to participate in the chipping program and also join YWPHI for \$25.  
➤ I/we want to participate in the chipping program only for a fee of \$25 per property.

Complete the sign-up form and mail it with your check to YWPHI by May 25th.

You can download the form at:

[yosemitewest.org/signupchipping2008.pdf](http://yosemitewest.org/signupchipping2008.pdf)

➤ Pile yard debris on your property near the curb in easily accessible piles by June 2nd

#### **Don'ts**

- No yard debris in the street
- No rocks
- No dry pine needles or fallen pine cones
- No decaying wood or bark
- No branch/tree greater than 8" in diameter in piles
- No machine-made or dozer-made piles

[www.yosemitewest.org/firesafe.htm](http://www.yosemitewest.org/firesafe.htm)