



Yosemite West Property & Homeowners, Inc.

Volunteers-in-Prevention Program

Volunteers-in-Prevention (VIP) is a program of Cal Fire (previously known as CDF). It has been operating for almost thirty years and its goals are to prevent and reduce loss of life and property from wildland fire through community education. Citizen volunteers donate as many or as few hours (there's no minimum) to work with their neighbors in their community. Cal Fire's fire chief would like Yosemite West to join their VIP program.

Two components of the VIP program would be beneficial for Yosemite West.

- The WILDLAND OCCUPANT FIRESAFE PROGRAM is for neighbors to help neighbors by discussing **how to make their homes fire safe** and assisting with preliminary wildland homeowner property inspections for fire safety as required by PRC 4291.
- The second component are the RED FLAG, HOLIDAY AND ARSON PATROLS where volunteers **patrol during “declared critical fire weather and on holidays”** and help alert people to heightened fire danger and act as additional eyes and ears for the fire department.

Please visit http://www.fire.ca.gov/communications/communications_volunteers.php to read more about the VIP program, to download the VIP Fact Sheet, and watch a video about the program.

A Fire Prevention Specialist from Cal Fire will visit Yosemite West on two dates in May to conduct initial VIP trainings.

- The **first training, Thursday, May 8 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, will include an overview of the VIP program and its benefits to our community and a detailed explanation of the WILDLAND OCCUPANT FIRESAFE PROGRAM. Cal Fire will also issue burn permits to participants at the first training, which will save you a trip to the Cal Fire office in Mariposa. It's a good opportunity to ask any questions about annual hazard clearance inspections and compliance with PRC § 4291.
- The **second training, Wednesday, May 21 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.** will focus solely on the RED FLAG, HOLIDAY AND ARSON PATROLS. We especially invite rental operators and their employees who regularly drive through the neighborhood to participate in this training.

You are welcome to attend either or both of the trainings.

The meeting place for both trainings is Kay Pitts' house, 7509 Henness Circle.

If you have any questions, please email firesafety@yosemitewest.org.

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7585 Henness Ridge Road, Yosemite National Park, CA 95389

www.YosemiteWest.org