



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS 2014-2024

Publication #127. OFSC free services and communications are received by thousands in Oakland and the East Bay. We are only able to continue doing this with the help of supportive donors like you. **SUPPORT**

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NEW OFSC PRESIDENT

With the start of a new year (which happens to be OFSC's 10th!) we're excited to announce that Elizabeth Stage is now the president of Oakland Firesafe Council. Read her message and see why she chose to share this beautiful photo...



This is the view from my home in Claremont Canyon where I moved when I was working on a one-year contract as a lecturer in science education at nearby UC Berkeley. **It inspires me every day and gives me perspective about what's important.** When I retired from the university in 2016, having seen firsthand the devastation from the 1991 fire that was stopped two houses uphill from mine, I became active in the wildfire prevention community. Carolyn Burgess reached out to involve me in the North Hills Community Association and then took me to a meeting of the Oakland Firesafe Council at Ken Benson's home, chaired by Sue Piper. I never imagined that I would be its third president, am somewhat daunted by the challenge since I have so much to learn. One thing that I know for certain is that I want to follow their lead by welcoming the expertise and

enthusiasm in our community, from veterans and newcomers alike; as Ken says, “We’re all in this together!” And I’m grateful that Doug Mosher has assumed the role of Vice Chair, that Michael Killian will continue as Treasurer, Ken Benson will serve as secretary, and that most of our current board members are continuing to serve.

OFSC has established relationships and partnerships with Oakland’s city government and elected officials, with some other cities and the county, and with several organizations that focus on their neighborhoods and broader areas.

I’d like to expand our reach throughout Alameda County and to bring more organizations that share our goals for wildfire prevention and emergency preparedness into our thinking. I’ll work with our team to raise the funding we need to keep their invaluable education, outreach, and organizing moving forward.

~ Elizabeth Stage, January 2024

AAAAND WE'RE BACK – OFSC MEETING 1/17



OFSC MEETING (ONLINE)
Wed., January 17, 2024
7:00-8:30pm

Details and registration [**HERE**](#)

MLK DAY OF SERVICE 2024

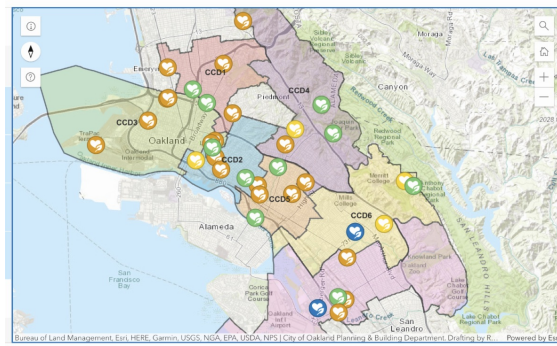


Sign up for some veg management / Adopt-a-spot projects

Use the interactive map of sites to
find a project that speaks to you

(bonus points if it's related to wildfire safety and preparedness).

NOTE that some projects happen on dates other than Monday the 15th.



MORE ITEMS OF NOTE

FIRE-SMART LANDSCAPING TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR PROFESSIONALS

Tuesday
January 23, 2024
2:00 - 6:00 pm

REGISTER ONLINE:



The training is hybrid in-person and virtual via Zoom, with a limit of 40 spaces for in-person.

1682 Novato Blvd, Suite 201
Novato, CA 94947

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

www.ucanr.edu/FSLtrain

Learn techniques and application from landscape professionals that specialize in fire smart principles

Differentiate your company as knowledgeable & skilled to design and maintain fire smart landscapes

Learn best fireproofing practices by experts in fire science, defensible space, and horticulture

Protect your clients' homes and neighborhoods with fire smart landscape design and maintenance

FIRE-SMART LANDSCAPING TRAINING COURSE WITH UC ANR

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024
2:00-6:00 PM, In-person or by Zoom

- Learn techniques and application from landscape professionals that specialize in fire smart principles
- Learn best fireproofing practices by experts in fire science, defensible space, and horticulture
- **REGISTER**



THE CITY OF OAKLAND IS HIRING

One of these positions will be assigned to the Oakland Emergency Management Services Division (EMSD). **APPLICATION**



THE LAST FIRE SEASON: A PERSONAL AND PYRONATURAL HISTORY

Manjula Martin's 'The Last Fire Season' Reflects on Living with Wildfire

KQED Forum, 1/3/2024 – Martin fled her West Sonoma home in the summer of 2020 with wildfire raging around her, she realized her go bag was packed for an apocalypse, not a sleepover. She had flashlights, but no toothbrush. Books, but no shampoo. In her debut memoir, "The Last Fire Season," Martin reflects on how Californians are simultaneously preparing for the end of the world, while also going about their day-to-day lives. "I had little capacity to navigate the everyday experience of living inside a slow decline," she writes. We talk to Martin about living life in the Pyrocene, the age of fire. **LISTEN** to the show. **REQUEST** a copy of the book from Oakland Public Library.

BETTER TOGETHER IN 2024



Working together contributes to the well-being and safety of each other, our neighborhoods and our communities in Oakland (and beyond). By working together we can meet the present and future wildfire preparedness and prevention needs. Despite losing major grant funding last year from the City of Oakland, OFSC is still striving to help our communities be prepared and ready for disasters. We're seeking financial support to help fund activities in 2024 such as:

- Providing free workshops
- Offering Firewise USA® support
- Developing new wildfire safety programs
- Nurturing connections with other East Bay partners in preparedness

Your **tax-deductible contribution** would help us to continue on with these and other important, potentially **life-saving endeavors**.

THANK YOU for all that you have done so far in supporting OFSC's work and thank you for ANY donation you are able to make now.

SUPPORT

Oakland Firesafe Council is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Donations are tax-deductible.



Oakland Firesafe Council (OFSC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to reducing the risks of wildfire danger to people and property through preparedness education, programs and materials, outreach, advocacy and volunteer opportunities.

CONTACT

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