



# CELEBRATING 10 YEARS 2014-2024

**Publication #136.** 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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## OAKLAND VEGETATION INSPECTIONS VIDEO 2024

The Oakland Fire Dept/Vegetation Management Unit's annual vegetation inspections are planned to start June 10th in Oakland's Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones – mainly the hills and some foothill areas.

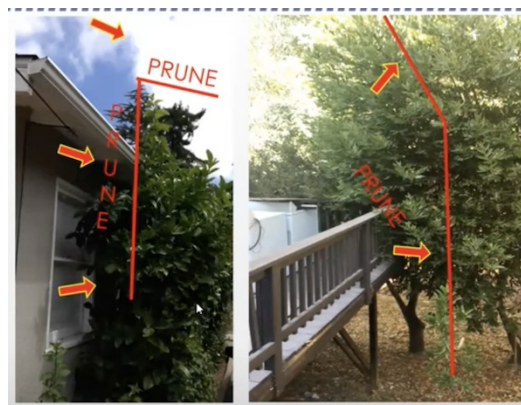


Adam Ball, Fire Inspector Supervisor (VMU) in the Fire Prevention Bureau was kind enough to record a “Town Hall” video for us last year to explain the inspection criteria and process.

The only change from the 2023 video is to the first slide - our Fire Chief is now Damon Covington.

**To confirm: all the vegetation inspection criteria and process information noted in Adam's 2023 video are the same for 2024.**

Even if you aren't located in an inspection area, this is great information to review and incorporate so that we're ALL more fire-safe as we head into the higher “wildfire season.”



**City of Oakland Wildfire  
District Inspections Website**

**Oakland Firesafe Council's  
Wildfire Safety Programs**

## INSURANCE NON-RENEWAL RESOURCES



"My office has received many calls from community members across the district who have shared troubling news that their home insurance will not be renewed as companies like State Farm announce new restrictions and limitations amid a changing insurance market. During this stressful time, I want to ensure you have the proper information to know your rights and make the best decision for you and your family.

Non-renewals are expected to impact homeowners' policies, rental, and other property insurance, and official notices are expected over the coming months. In California, an insurer must notify policyholders at least 75 days before a policy expires. If you learn you are impacted, my office has compiled some helpful tips as you navigate the next steps:

- If your insurer fails to provide 75 days' notice, contact the California Department of Insurance at 1-800-927-HELP or visit [insurance.ca.gov](https://insurance.ca.gov).
- **If you feel the non-renewal notice is unfair, file a complaint** with the California Department of Insurance.
- Contact your insurer and ask if you could take any specific actions to mitigate your risk and retain your coverage.
- Shop for a new homeowners' policy using the California Department of Insurance home **insurance finder tool**.
- Use the homeowner's **insurance comparison tool** to compare policies from different insurers.
- Visit the **California FAIR Plan** for basic fire and smoke coverage.
- Learn about **Difference in Conditions (DIC)** policies.
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Please do not hesitate to utilize the protections and resources available to you, and know that for any additional information or questions, you can visit my [website](#) or contact my district office at (510) 286-1670."

~ excerpted from email "Did You Receive a Notice of Non-Renewal From Your Insurance Company?" sent May 10, 2024 from Mia Bonta, Assemblymember, 18th District

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**>>> Review Oakland Firesafe Council's Guide on  
Home Insurance**

## FIRST MEETING OF THE WPCG!

Wildfire Prevention Coordinating Group



Councilmember Ramachandran with members of the Regional Wildfire Prevention Coordinating Group

## From Councilmember Janani Ramachandran, Oakland District 4, May 2024 Newsletter:

"I am honored to represent Oakland in the newly-formed East Bay Regional Wildfire Prevention Coordinating Group! We held our first meeting this month - where I was elected to serve as Vice Chair. This MOU/Coordinating Group effort launched thanks to dedicated efforts of numerous wildfire prevention advocates over the past few years, including the Oakland Firesafe Council. This is the first time that leaders of multiple East Bay cities have come together to address wildfire prevention in a comprehensive and nuanced way. Wildfire knows no boundaries and it's imperative now more than ever to address the dangers given the urgency of climate change and vegetation overgrowth. We will be meeting publicly as a regional body regularly so follow along for updates on how you can get involved in the efforts."

Learn more about **The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

## ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF NOTE

### UC ANR FIRE NETWORK WEBINAR SERIES




"Hot Topics in Fire Science and Stewardship Webinar Series" features some of the latest research in fire science and stewardship. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) Fire Network explores a diversity of fire science topics with colleagues from all over the world. Next up:

### How Can We Assess Plant Flammability?

June 5, 2024 / Wednesday / 3:00-3:45pm **MORE**

## ECA BAY AREA SPRING 2024 WORKSHOP • IN-PERSON




**ECA Bay Area Spring 2024 Workshop**


Join us in Walnut Creek to learn about faults in the area and their earthquake hazards, life after a “HayWired” earthquake, Rossmoor’s emergency preparedness efforts, and how to get free earthquake education and mitigation resources.

June 11, 2024 | 9am – 12:30 pm PT

**Register Now**  
[EarthquakeCountry.org/basp24](https://EarthquakeCountry.org/basp24)

**Guest Speakers**

-  Fran Gibson  
Rossmoor Emerg. Prep. Org.
-  Dr. Austin Elliott  
USGS
-  Monika Stoeffl  
California Resiliency Alliance
-  Mark Benthien  
SCECEA



Join Earthquake Country Alliance Bay Area learn about earthquake hazards in the area, key issues for life after a “HayWired” earthquake, an overview of Rossmoor’s emergency preparedness efforts, and how to get free earthquake education and mitigation resource. June 11, 2024 / Tuesday/ 9:00-12:30PM **ATTEND**

## CITY OF OAKLAND PEP CLASS



**Personal Emergency Preparedness [PEP] Class**  
June 20, 2024 / Thursday / 6:00-7:30pm  
**REGISTER**

## WILDFIRE-RESILIENT LANDSCAPING CONTEST WINNERS



**Wildfire Prepared Home** held a wildfire-resilient landscaping contest designed to produce ideas for homeowners that emphasize wildfire defense while preserving attractiveness.

See the top landscape designs from UC Berkeley that highlight the importance of wildfire resilience for Wildfire Awareness Month **HERE**

## SAVE THE DATE



**OCTOBER 5, 2024 / SATURDAY / 10 AM - 2 PM**

Join Alameda County District 5 Supervisor Keith Carson and Oakland Firesafe Council for a day filled with great information & resources at **Alameda County Emergency Preparedness Day** at Ed Roberts Campus, Berkeley. Stay tuned for details!

## COMMUNITY KEEPS US GOING

Working together contributes to the well-being and safety of each other, our neighborhoods and our communities in Oakland (and beyond). OFSC continually strives to help everyone be prepared and





ready for disasters. In addition to continuing the Firewise USA® for Oakland program, your **tax-deductible contributions** help us

- Provide free workshops
- Develop new wildfire safety programs
- Nurture connections with other East Bay partners in preparedness

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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