



SSOA Newsletter

March 2023

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 am to 3 pm (Except Holidays)

PHONE: (530) 644-2182

EMAIL: info@sierraspringsowners.org

WEBSITE: www.sierraspringsowners.org

MEETINGS:

Executive Meeting: 1st Wednesday of the month (Board Members only, limited exceptions)

Board Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month (open to all members)

Fire Safety Meeting: First Monday of the month (open to everyone)

Meetings start at 6:30 pm at the Lodge. Agendas on SSOA Website.

NOTE: ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 24, 2023

FIRE SAFETY EVALUATIONS DUE IN MAY

As advised in the March 1, 2023, *Letter of Instructions*, sent to all SSOA Residents and posted on the Website, SSOA property owners' *Defensible Space Evaluations* are to be completed a month early this year. Also, the month of May will mark the start of the Fire Safety Council Defensible Space Evaluations. There are no major changes to the evaluation process or rules; the Fire Safety Council is just getting a head start. As widely known, fire season in California is now year-round rather than a seasonal event. All residents must become more aware and proactive to ensure the Association remains fire safe! For a copy of the *Letter of Instructions* and more comprehensive guidance concerning the evaluations, please refer to the [Fire Safety Page](http://www.sierraspringsowners.org) at www.sierraspringsowners.org.

Recent change to defensible space requirements – In recognition that the area immediately surrounding a home is likely the most important for protecting a home from igniting during a wildfire, the Legislature passed Chapter 259 of 2020 (AB 3074, Friedman), which creates an “ember-resistant zone” within five feet of homes in our area. The statute requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BFFP) to enact regulations to implement the requirement for an “ember-resistant zone” and to create related guidance. The regulations are intended to provide specific information on the types of vegetation allowed in the “ember-resistant zone.” Unfortunately, the guidance has yet to be provided. What is known however, is that the “five-foot ember-resistant zone” is an important fire safety requirement which will be actively enforced once guidance is provided. Even without the designation of acceptable vegetation, residents can create a zero-to-five-foot zone around their homes now as part of the current Zone 1 requirements.

Disposal of fire combustible vegetation – Although many residents burn yard waste, which is still acceptable (with restrictions), the easiest and safest way *is* to use the El dorado Disposal green waste containers and compostable paper bags sold for this purpose. El dorado Disposal provides each of its customers with at least two green waste containers per household. The green waste containers are picked up on a bi-weekly basis. Allowable materials for pickup are leaves, lawn trimmings, garden pruning's, weeds, twigs, and pine needles. Compostable paper bags are sold at hardware stores and other such establishments. Currently, El Dorado Disposal offers a green waste voucher program in which each customer may arrange for the curbside pickup of up to thirty (30) compostable bags of allowable green waste, free of charge. This service is offered once in the Spring and once in the Fall (some restrictions apply). Customers are also given a voucher for the free disposal of green waste at the Materials Recovery Facility once a year (restrictions apply). See: www.eldoradodisposal.com.

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SIERRA SPRINGS EASTER EVENT - Saturday, April 8th at 10:00 a.m. at the Lodge. There will be egg hunts (based on age groups), crafts, and coloring for the kids. Bring your family, especially the kids, and enjoy a breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausages, and fruit all prepared by the Board Members, their families, and special volunteers. Please attend and enjoy a morning of fun with your neighbors!

SSOA Board of Directors:

Cathy Petersen — President

Jeremy Dornbier — Vice President

Jessikah Shambaugh — Treasurer

Lynda Cardwell — Secretary

Scott Wheeler — Director



SSOA Chipping Program - Through grants received by the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council (EDCFSC), SSOA residents who work to make their property fire safe are provided free chipping services to dispose of the tree limbs and branches that have fallen on the ground or been cut from the trees. To date, chipping services are offered twice a year. NOTE: it is important for the residents to keep track of the time/hours they spend on clearing, cutting, hauling, dragging, bundling, and all other related work to bring their branches and limbs to the curbside for chipping. Grants received by EDCFSC include matching funds for the time spent and tracked by the residents while performing the necessary work. Yep, as you have been saying, your labor and time is money! Unfortunately, if the chipping service is not used by SSOA residents, it may be deemed unnecessary and discontinued. Information about the Chipping Program and applying is available at <https://www.edcfiresafe.org/chipper-program-fall-2020/>.

SSOA MAINTENANCE PERSON - Sadly, we have to say goodbye to James Stark who is leaving us. We wish him the best!

Now, it is time to give a hardy welcome to Mike Thomas who takes over James' position. If you see him around the neighborhood, SAY HELLO!!

Did you pay a \$10 deposit for a Tennis Court key? If so, you can get your deposit back. The courts will soon be accessed by your recreation card just like the pools. Please see Shelly to turn in your key!

The Annual SSOA Board Meeting is June 24, at 10:00 a.m. Coffee, tea, juice, and pastries will be provided! **PLEASE ATTEND!**

Wisteria Pool - The remodel of the restrooms has been put on hold until Fall. The pools open Memorial Day Weekend. Though not expected, the Wisteria pool may open a little later as the resurfacing is completed.

NOTE: Looking for part-time pool monitors! Flexible hours-\$15.50 an hour. Contact Shelly if interested.