

# **Dear East Bay Regional Park** District Neighbor,

A year-round fire season is now the "new normal" in California, and we must work together to prevent a catastrophic firestorm in our neighborhoods. You, too, can help by following these tips to protect your own property. Our collective efforts can have a large impact on our region's fire safety.

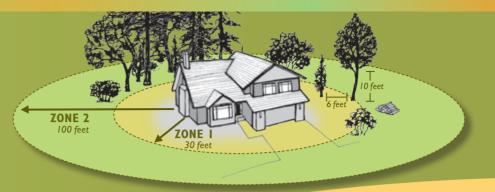
Sincerely,

#### **Aileen Theile**

Fire Chief

East Bay Regional Park District

For more information on wildfire safety. visit www.ebparks.org/about/fire.



### WHAT WE ASK YOU TO DO:

When working to protect your own property or offering advice and assistance to neighbors, it's helpful to divide your property into two zones:

#### ZONE I:

30 feet of Lean, Clean and Green

- Remove all dead plants, grass, weeds and overgrown brush.
- Clear away leaves, needles, and debris from roofs and rain gutters.
- Keep tree branches 10 feet away from chimney, roof and other trees.
- Move firewood and fuel tanks 30 feet from house.
- Remove all items from under deck. Do not use this space for storage.
- Fire harden your home. Install fine wire mesh over roof, eave and foundation vents.

## ZONE 2:

30-100 feet of Reduced Fuel

- Mow grass to a maximum of 4 inches. Mow before 10 a.m. and never on a hot, windy, or red flag day.
- Create vertical spacing between grass, shrubs, and trees. Trim trees 10 feet from the ground and 6 feet from other plants. Large trees do not need to be removed if the blants beneath them are removed. This eliminates the vertical fire ladder.
- Create horizontal spacing between trees and shrubs.
- Plant fire resistant native plants.

## WHAT THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT IS DOING TO PROTECT NEIGHBORS FROM WILDFIRE:

- Maintaining a professional fire department with more than 50 full-time and on-call firefighters, eight fire deployment stations, and specialized wildland firefighting equipment.
- · Clearing heavy brush and thinning dense forests.
- Reducing vegetation with grazing cattle, sheep, and goats.
- · Removing hazardous trees.
- Partnering with 25+ local and state agencies, such as CAL FIRE and EBMUD.
- Providing mutual aid, including use of Park District helicopters.









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